



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCTOBER 11, 2016**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FINALISTS SELECTED  
BY WELLESLEY SCREENING COMMITTEE**

WELLESLEY – The Town of Wellesley is pleased to announce that the Executive Director Screening Committee has selected two finalists for the position of Wellesley’s Executive Director of General Government Services.

The two finalists, in alphabetical order, are: Adam Gaudette, the current Town Administrator in Spencer, Massachusetts, and Blythe Robinson, the current Town Manager of Upton, Massachusetts.

Gaudette, a resident of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, has served as Town Administrator of Spencer since 2010. Prior to that, Gaudette served as Spencer’s Director of Development and Inspectional Services and has 17 years of experience in local government administration, planning, and community development. Gaudette holds a Master in Public Administration from Clark University, a Master in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst, and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Worcester State College.

Robinson, a resident of Upton, Massachusetts, has served as Town Manager of Upton since 2010. Prior to that position, Robinson served as Assistant Town Manager in Avon, Connecticut, and has more than 20 years of experience in local government management. Robinson holds a Master of Public Administration from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Policy Studies from Syracuse University.

The nine-member Executive Director Screening Committee conducted its work in collaboration with Bernard F. Lynch, principal of Community Paradigm Associates, an executive search consultant specializing in working with municipalities. A total of 76 applications were submitted for Wellesley’s Executive Director position.

“We were very pleased with the quality and the number of the applicants we received,” said Barbara Searle, Chairman of the Executive Director Screening Committee and a member of the Board of Selectmen. “The search process was both collaborative and efficient, and yielded excellent results.”

In June, the Wellesley Board of Selectmen and the Executive Director Screening Committee held three public forums, which were facilitated by the consultant, to gather input regarding the skills, personal and professional attributes, and experience residents feel are important for the position.

“The Board of Selectmen has a difficult decision to make” said Marjorie Freiman, Chairman of the Wellesley Board of Selectmen and a member of the Screening Committee. “The applicants for the position were all well qualified, but the two finalists stood out from the crowd. We are looking forward to moving ahead in the search process.”

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the finalists will spend the day in Wellesley, touring the community and meeting with the Board of Selectmen, various department heads, and chairs of numerous town boards and committees. A public reception will be conducted that same evening where the public can submit questions to the moderator. Additional information on the meeting time and location will be posted and released once details have been confirmed.

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