



Office of Selectmen
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Press Release - For Immediate Release

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Moultonborough Appoints First Town Planner

The Town Planner's position, first approved by the Moultonborough Town Meeting on March of this year, has been filled. After a search process that lasted three months, sorting through 30 applications from across the nation and untold hours of interviews, the SelectBoard announced they have appointed Mr. Daniel Merhalski of Moultonborough to be the Town's first ever Town Planner. Mr. Merhalski will be leaving his position as Director of Planning and Community Development in Farmington, NH to join the Moultonborough staff on July 15th.

The initial applications were screened by a seven member committee chaired by Ms. Joanne Coppinger who said, "The planner selection committee is extremely pleased that our efforts have been fruitful in procuring this highly energetic, highly professional, and talented individual to fill the position; we are confident that he will be an asset to the planning board and the town."

Finalists went through a one day final interview with key staff, participating in an assessment center conducted by a professional planner retained by the Planning Board, an interview with the SelectBoard and an extensive reference check. Ms. Karel Crawford, Chairman of the SelectBoard said, "The Screening Committee did a great job providing high quality candidates who made our decision a difficult one. In the end Daniel impressed us with his energy and enthusiasm and affection for our community."

Mr. Merhalski previously served as a Principal Planner in Salem, Ma and City Planner for Negaunee, MI. He earned his Bachelor's Degree, with a double major in Political Science and History, as well as his Masters in Public Administration at Northern Michigan University. He is currently completing a second Masters degree in History at Salem State College in Salem, MA.

In accepting the position, Mr. Merhalski said, "While living in the "Witch City" (Salem, MA) was a treat around Halloween, it was a bit too urban for my taste, and I was still two hours away from family. Looking to live and work closer to them, I took the position in Farmington and had a chance to move to Moultonborough. Having fallen in love with Lake Winnepesaukee and being closer to the White Mountains, I jumped at the chance to work in this incredible community. I look forward to the challenges that this newly created position offers, and to seeing the effects of the work of the land use boards and committees in my newly-adopted home."

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