



Borough of Chambersburg

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celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service
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regional wastewater, water, and municipal solid waste utility*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chambersburg Mayor Recommends Roland Camacho as Police Chief

Chambersburg – On January 4, 2016, Town Council accepted the resignation of former Police Chief David Arnold. “During his time as Police Chief, the department had seen advancements, modernization, significant staff changes, training upgrades, and outstanding performance” said Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill. “We have one of the finest departments in South Central Pennsylvania and it stands as a tribute to his leadership.”

On January 9, 2016, Town Council saw Sgt. Richard Morrissette take the reins as Interim Police Chief. Despite his stalwart leadership during the intervening months, Sgt. Morrissette made it clear to Council on several occasions that he did not seek the appointment as Police Chief. Council President Allen Coffman noted that “Rick was an incredible professional, he served this community well during the transition, and Council will forever be in his debt for his leadership as well as his assistance in the search to find a new Police Chief.”

On January 11, 2016, Mr. David Woglom, Associate Director of the Robert B. and Helen S. Meyner Center for the Study of State and Local Government at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, was asked by Town Council to offer assistance in the search for a new Police Chief. Mr. Woglom, a local government veteran, was joined by a Committee of staff and elected officials including Mayor Darren Brown, Council President Allen Coffman, Council Vice-President Heath Talhelm, Councilman Herb Dolaway, Councilman Sharon Bigler, Sgt. Richard Morrissette, Personnel Supervisor Carol Ehrenreich, and Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill. They were tasked with a search for the most qualified individual to be Chambersburg’s next Police Chief.

As a personnel matter, and pursuant to both State Law and generally accepted practice, the search was conducted by these officials in such a way as to allow qualified individuals from across the Commonwealth to participate in a series of interviews and examinations without jeopardizing their current employment or their reputations.

Originally, there were 25 candidates. Applicants included male and female candidates, applicants were internal and external to the organization, and candidates were from South Central Pennsylvania, Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. There were three rounds of interviews and examinations including one session where outside Police Chiefs peppered candidates with technical questions and another session where every member of Town Council participated in a Question & Answer period representing their constituents in the hiring process.

In the end, Mayor Darren Brown is pleased to announce that he is recommending Mr. Roland Camacho for appointment by Town Council to the position of Police Chief of the Borough of Chambersburg. It is anticipated that Town Council will take a public vote on the Mayor’s recommendation at the Regular Meeting of Town Council on June 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall.

“Roland Camacho will be an outstanding Police Chief,” added Mayor Brown. “He was impressive in every round of the recruitment process, has an outstanding law enforcement and military background, and was clearly the best candidate throughout this process according to all the members of the recruitment committee. He will serve this community with distinction.”

“I could not agree more,” added Council President Allen Coffman. “Roland is an outstanding person, a father, a leader, a police professional, and he will be a marvelous addition to a very talented Police Department.”

Roland was for years a York City policeman (1995-2013). He is a graduate of Columbia Southern University (2014) and the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia (2009). He served his country in the U.S. Army with 82nd Airborne Division (1987-1994) as well as two overseas civilian assignments, teaching law enforcement techniques to the Afghan Army and Security Forces in Afghanistan (2013-2014) and Mexican Law Enforcement Agencies (2014-2015).

During his years with the York City Police Department, Roland served as a Sergeant, Lieutenant, Detective, SWAT Commander, and Captain. He retired from York as the Operations Captain, second in command, for the York City Police Department. After his overseas training assignments, he returned stateside where he has been serving as the Patrol Commander of the fifty-man Old Dominion University Police Department until this appointment.

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Roland is an Act 120 certified Pennsylvania Police Officer, a trained media liaison, a certified hostage negotiator, and fluent in both Spanish and English. Roland passed an extensive background and security clearance performed by a contractor for the Borough.

“I am thrilled to join the Chambersburg Police Department,” added Mr. Camacho. “The future of law enforcement leadership is having the ability to coach and mentor those under their command. Police executives must also be able to engage and connect with the communities they serve and their employees. I live by this philosophy every day. I have had a varied and successful career in law enforcement, in particular, policing in an urban and culturally diverse community. I would like to continue this journey leading the fine officers that serve the citizens of Chambersburg.”

As a Pennsylvania Borough police department, the Police Chief of the Chambersburg Police Department is supervised by the elected Mayor of the Borough. That being said, his appointment requires the advice and consent of the Chambersburg Town Council.

“Having participated in this search process,” added Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill, “I concur that Roland will be an outstanding Police Chief, and I have every expectation that he will be appointed by Town Council when they meet on June 27, 2016.”

Roland’s resume includes:

*Patrol Commander
Old Dominion University Police
August 2015 to Present*

*Deputy Program Manager, Mexico
Team Crucible
March 2014 to April 2015*

*Law Enforcement Professional, Afghanistan
Engility Corporation
July 2013 to March 2014*

*Operations Captain
York City Police Department
January 2010 to July 2013*

*Commander
York County Quick Response Team (SWAT)
January 2010 to July 2013*

*Administrative Captain
York City Police Department
August 2008 to January 2010*

*Detective Commander
York City Police Department
January 2006 to August 2008*

*Patrol Supervisor
York City Police Department
April 2002 to January 2006*

*Detective
York City Police Department
May 1997 to April 2002*

*Patrol Officer
York City Police Department
May 1995 to May 1997*

If citizens or residents have any questions about the Chambersburg Police Department or the appointment of Roland Camacho as the next Police Chief or you would like to schedule an opportunity to meet Mr. Camacho, you should call Sergeant Morrissette, Acting Police Chief at (717) 264-4131 or by email at rmorrissette@chambersburgpa.gov

Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies a wide variety of services to its citizens and businesses; more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg also is the home to more municipal utilities than any other municipality in Pennsylvania. Chambersburg is one of 35 Boroughs in Pennsylvania to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County, and the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is one of two municipalities in Pennsylvania to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is one of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and one of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but one of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg also manages a regional water system and a regional sanitary sewer system; not through an independent Authority or an intermunicipal board, but under Council control directly. Chambersburg also operates a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater. Chambersburg currently has 20,360 residents (2012). www.chambersburgpa.gov