



John Scruton, Nottingham's Interim Town Administrator

Meet Nottingham's Interim Town Administrator

Steve Soreff, MD

Thursday, October 6, 2022, Chris Sterndale officially steps down as Nottingham's Town Administrator (TA). Then, John Scruton, Nottingham's Interim Town Administrator takes the helm of as the good ship Nottingham. This transition occurs during budget time and preparations for Deliberative Session. And, the role of the Interim is not like a one day substitute teacher, It requires possibly at least a one year commitment. With that in mind, this reporter sat down with John Scruton noon on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the Selectmen's office. Here is what I learned.

I found that there are many facets to John Scruton. He is at 75 years old a Town Administrator, a Pastor, a family man, a person with early New Hampshire heritage, world traveler, and a man with a mission. Impressed? I was. Let's look at each aspect.

As the Interim Town Administrator, he comes to Nottingham through [Municipal Resources, Inc](#) (MRI). He has over 30 years of administrating experience. This included administrator positions in Nashua, Rochester, Barrington Goffstown, Farmington, Chester, and Northwood. He began is interim career in 2019. He lists himself a Municipal Consult. His Linkedin profile says, "Quality professional government administration. [ICMA Credentialed Manager](#) ('ICMA's vision is to be the leading association of local government professionals dedicated to creating and supporting thriving communities throughout the world'), Efficient, effective, and within budget To be a City Manager who makes a positive difference, To encourage employees to be their best Strategic planning, Infrastructure investment, Certified Public Manager, Specialties: Government Administration, City Management, City Manager, Town Manager". In other words, he is quite qualified for the job.



John Scruton and his church

However, when I asked how he identifies himself. He replied, “I am a pastor”. He has a Master of Divinity. For 25 years he has been the Pastor of the Meaderboro Community Church in Rochester, NH. As for family man, he is married for 51 years. They have 3 children and 9 grandchildren. In term of a New Hampshire heritage, he can trace his family back to Dover in 1640. His wife’s family came over on the Mayflower.

He is a world traveler. He has been to 46 countries. Most recently, he was in Italy, Germany and Austria. The reason for that trip was to attend the [42nd Oberammergau Passion Play](#) in Oberammergau, Austria. “Nearly 400 years ago the history of the Passion Play began. The plague raged in many parts of Europe and did not spare Oberammergau either. In 1633 the Oberammergau villagers promised to perform the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ every tenth year, in so far as no one was to die of the plague anymore. The villagers were answered by God and therefore in 1634 the first Passion Play took place. The promise has been kept until today. 2020 the Passion Play had to be postponed for two years due to the corona-pandemic. The 42nd Oberammergau Passion Play will now take place from 14 May to 2 October 2022.”

Putting it all together, John defines his life as service to others. He does that through being a pastor and by being a Town Administrator. Welcome John Scruton to Nottingham.

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