

Board of Selectmen Meeting: January 23, 2018
Present: Gibbs, Freiman, Ulfelder, Sullivan Woods
Also Present: Robinson, Jop
Minutes Approved:

Warrants approved: 2018-028 in the amount of \$1,564,037.84

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. Agenda Background Memorandum
3. BOS Calendar
4. Background Information on Appointment of Police Sergeant
5. Draft Minutes of December 4, 2017 Meeting
6. Spreadsheet on COA Gifts – private donation
7. Spreadsheet on COA Gifts - Various
8. Email from MLP on SolSmart Designation
9. PowerPoint Presentation – Energy Audits
10. SolSmart Designation Criteria
11. Background Memo on Granite Street Petition to become a public way
12. Spreadsheet – Wellesley Parking Ticket Collections
13. Executive Director’s Weekly Report
14. Letter to the Board of Health - Chickens
15. Memo from FMD – Proposed Outdoor Lighting Bylaw
16. Letters from Various Residents – Delanson Circle 40B Project

1. Call to Order

Ms. Gibbs, Chair, called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. Executive Session

Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for all unions

At 6:31 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods the Board was polled (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs -Aye) that the Board enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. c 30A, §21(A) exception #3 to discuss strategy with regards to collective bargaining. Furthermore, that Treasurer/Collector Marc Waldman, HR Director Scott Szczebak, Blythe Robinson and Meghan Jop be invited to participate in the meeting.

At 7:11 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board was polled all aye (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs –Aye) to close the Executive Session and enter into a subsequent Executive Session.

At 7:12 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods the Board was polled (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs -Aye) that the Board enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. c 30A, §21(A) exception #3 to discuss the purchase of real estate. Furthermore, that Town Counsel Tom Harrington, Blythe Robinson and Meghan Jop be invited to participate in the meeting.

At 7:42 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board was polled all aye (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs –Aye) to close the Executive Session and enter back into open session.

3. Citizen Speak

None.

4. Appointment of Police Sergeant

Chief Pilecki provided the Board with an overview of the process and background regarding Detective Gallagher. He noted that the department conducted a promotional exam and six patrol officers passed the exam. The department conducted an assessment center on January 10th at which Detective Gallagher achieved the top rating in the assessment and then had an excellent interview. Detective Gallagher offered a few comments on his commitment to the command staff, patrol staff, and the community. The Board asked a few questions including whether he will continue to perform some of the forensic work he has been responsible for, and Detective Gallagher responded that he would, as he is in fact an instructor in this area. He also looks forward to mentoring newer patrolman.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to promote Detective Robert J. Gallagher to the position of Police Sergeant effective January 23, 2018.

5. Executive Director's Update

Ms. Robinson noted that there was one set of minutes ready for approval and two gifts for the COA to be accepted at the meeting.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2017 meeting.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to accept the following gifts to the Council on Aging:

- a gift from the Friends of the Wellesley Council on Aging of \$1,000.00 for the December Senior Lunch Program;
- a gift from Mary & George Dummer of \$1,000.00 to the client assistance fund.

6. Meeting with the MLP Board

Mr. Dick Joyce, MLP Director, Deb Healy and Suzanne Newark joined the Board to update the Board on their partnership with National Grid to enable residents of Wellesley to obtain free energy audits. They introduced Steven Wollenburg and Kim Grant from National Grid who were present to answer questions about the program. Mr. Joyce reviewed a presentation with the Board on how the program works, and encouraged residents to get in touch to obtain an audit for their home. Ms. Jop told the Board that she had taken advantage of this program for her home and spoke of how helpful it was and the appliance rebates she was able to utilize.

Mr. Joyce also updated the board on the opportunity for Wellesley to apply to obtain designation as a SolSmart Community. He reviewed the levels of designation and indicated that he believed the Town had the opportunity to attain the gold designation. He noted that at this point in time only 7-8 other communities have been awarded this designation. He pledged to work with the other Town departments to obtain any necessary information from them to support our application.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to approve an application by the Town of Wellesley to obtain designation as a SolSmart Community.

7. Discussion with Residents on Acceptance of Granite Street as a Public Way

Ms. Jop gave the Board an overview of this history of this topic which began with a request from the property owners in the summer of 2016 to make this street a public way. Although the Board voted in the fall of 2017 to rate Granite Street as a “level 2” street per the Town’s Street Acceptance Policy, the project did not go forward due to constraints with the FY18 budget. As we developed the FY19 budget we determined that it was possible to consider the project, and thus Ms. Jop had reached out to the proponents to see if they still wanted to go forward. She explained how property owners would be assessed their share of the 25% cost, and their options for how to pay the Town that sum. Ms. Sullivan Woods raised a concern about how to charge for betterments that she would like to discuss in the future. Ms. Freiman noted her preference that an equal amount of the cost be charged to each property owner, and that the Town only charge residents the same interest rate that we obtain to finance the project. A resident from Crown Ridge Road asked for clarification on the payment process and whether the Town would make repairs once it accepted the road. Ms. Jop replied that once the Town accepts the road it would make all repairs. Ms. Charlotte Sanner of 16 Granite Street asked about digging up the street and Ms. Jop answered that once the road was resurfaced there would be a moratorium on digging it up for five years unless there was an emergency as per the Town’s policy. Ms. Margaret Kenna of 4 Granite Street spoke in favor of the project. Ms. Jop reminded the Board that as part of the process to obtain Town Meeting approval we need to set up a meeting with neighbors on the street acceptance and verify that 75% of the residents are still inclined to support the project.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to recommend to Town Meeting a warrant article to accept Granite Street as a public way as a “Type 2” street and request \$195,000 to fund the Town’s share of the required improvements to the street.

8. Discuss Adoption of Massachusetts G.L. c.32B, §21-23

Ms. Robinson asked the Board to take no action on this agenda item.

9. Discuss Request to Wellesley Media to Implement AV Upgrades to the Kingsbury Room and Warren Building

Mr. Ulfelder gave an overview of the history of this topic and that he had approached Wellesley Media and the Police Chief about the possibility of upgrades to the Kingsbury Room after the project was removed from the capital budget. He noted that Wellesley Media’s calendar year budget could likely accommodate these requests upon the Board indicating they would like them to do so. Ms. Robinson noted that she had reached out to various boards to see if they would be interested in utilizing either space for their regular meetings and that the NRC, Wetlands, various boards under the umbrella of the Planning Board and SEC all expressed interest. She did point out that until some additional work to extend fiber to the Warren Building was complete, that meetings there would not be able to be shown live and would need to be taped.

Ms. Freiman thanked Mr. Ulfelder and Ms. Robinson for their work in extending the range of Town government meetings that were televised and/or recorded, noting that achieving full transparency of all board and committee work was an important objective. She also thanked Wellesley Media for their continuing financial and personnel support of these projects.

Upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board voted (4-0) to request that the Wellesley Media Corporation install equipment in the Kingsbury Room at the Police Station and the Warren Building to enable the Town to broadcast public meetings from those locations.

10. New Business/ Correspondence

Ms. Sullivan Woods indicated that she is continuing to work on scheduling the annual diversity program, coordinating with the schools and World of Wellesley and they are targeting the end of February or beginning of March.

At 9:14 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods the Board was polled (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs -Aye) that the Board enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. c 30A, §21 exception # #7 to approve the minutes of the September 11 (A&B), November 13, December 4 (A-C), and December 11 (A&B), 2017 Executive Sessions.

At 9:20 pm, upon a motion by Ms. Freiman and seconded by Ms. Sullivan Woods, the Board was polled all aye (Freiman-Aye, Sullivan Woods – Aye, Ulfelder – Aye, Gibbs –Aye) to close the Executive Session and enter back into open session.

The Board of Selectmen meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.