

**Wellesley Advisory Committee  
Wellesley Middle School  
Faculty Dining Room  
April 2, 2018, 6:30 PM**

Those present from the Advisory Committee included Jane Andrews, Todd Cook, Rose Mary Donahue, Tom Fitzgibbons, Mary Gard, Mike Hluchyj, Mark Kaplan, Paul Merry, Lina Musayev, Alena Poirier, Betsy Roberti, Tom Skelly, Ria Stolle and Andrea Ward.

Mike Hluchyj called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**6:30 p.m. Citizen Speak**

Joelle Reidy, 60 Prospect Street, spoke regarding a proposed amendment to Article 8, Motion 2.

- Motion is to amend Article 8, Motion 2, to add funding for two School Resource Officers (SROs) to the Police Department budget
- Currently Wellesley has one SRO for over 5,000 students; studies show there should be at least one SRO per 1,000 students
- Goal is to have one SRO for the elementary schools, one for the Middle School, and one for the High School
- For once, Wellesley could be on the forefront of school safety rather than lagging woefully behind
  - Only students in grades 3-5 at Schofield have actually received training
  - Ms. Reidy founded Wellesley Action Alliance; values prevention, awareness and education
  - SROs do a litany of things, not just respond to active shooters

There was a clarifying question as to when Ms. Reidy became aware that more SROs are needed: A while ago, but have not had success bringing the issue before the School Committee; members of Wellesley Action Alliance have wanted to bring issue to Town Meeting; decided to come forward now.

There was a further clarifying question as to whether the Board of Selectmen (BOS) is also making an amendment: Yes, the BOS is proposing to add funding for one additional SRO; Ms. Reidy is proposing two additional SROs.

There was an additional clarifying question as to whether Ms. Reidy had previously gone to the BOS to seek funding for additional SROs (since the Police Department falls under the jurisdiction of the BOS): No.

A second citizen, Jared Parker, 33 Jackson Road, expressed support for Ms. Reidy's proposed amendment.

There was a comment by the Advisory Chair that this is the type of matter that really should be talked about much earlier in the budget season.

**6:35 p.m. Permanent Building Committee re: Article 22 (Town Hall exterior renovation)**

Matt King, Chair, Permanent Building Committee (PBC); Tom Goematt, Member, PBC; Joe McDonough, Director, Facilities Management Department; and Steve Gagosian, Design and Construction Manager, FMD, were present.

- Total project budget is \$5,177,239, approximately \$700,000 less than January estimate presented to Advisory (\$5.86 million); more recent projections exceeded \$6 million
- Current “in the envelope” number/bid from the general contractor is \$3,575,362, approximately \$600,000 less than January estimate
- Very robust offerings from general contractors
  - Two bids were within pennies of each other at this number; the rest were significantly higher
  - All bidders are very good contractors; thoroughly vetted; experience working on this kind of structure
- OPM (\$146,000) and Clerk of the Works (\$215,000) together represent savings of approximately \$170,000 from January estimates
- Landscaping: Needed to add line item for this (\$25,000) because of the way project will use laydown space within site; need to restore to original conditions
- Builders’ risk insurance (\$70,000) is necessary; covers losses to products that are or will become part of permanent project

There was a question why builders’ risk insurance is needed if contractors have insurance: Owner of building must obtain it. PBC actually did a “deep dive” into builders’ risk because costs have gone up considerably in the past year. Cost for this project is based on Town Hall replacement cost of \$28 million.

There was a question whether the Clerk of the Works is always staffed to a single project or whether that individual could handle two nearby projects: If there is continuous work on site for both projects and Clerk of the Works was shared, you would lose eyes on one of the projects; PBC is not contemplating doing that here.

There was a question as the warranties that will exist: Basic one-year warranty; built-in 10-month review after final completion; some variance in some of products (e.g., roof will have much longer warranty).

There was a question as to how many people the Clerk of the Works expense represents: One individual; extra costs are built into line item in case project goes longer than anticipated; actual expense will likely be lower.

There was a question why there was a \$10,000 line item for hazardous materials under the architectural and professional services category as well as \$20,000 under the primary contractor: Haz mat appears under professional services because consultant will write specifications and provide services if anything is uncovered.

There was a question as to who reports to whom (OPM v. Clerk of the Works): OPM controls all communications on job.

There was a question whether negotiations were undertaken regarding the costs of the OPM and the Clerk of the Works: Yes.

There was a question why the \$60,000 extended duration line item and the \$20,000 interior accessibility MAAB line items that appeared in January estimate are not included on current cost sheet: They were placeholders; not needed.

## **6:45 p.m. Discussion and voting on ATM Warrant Articles**

### Article 22 (Town Hall exterior renovation)

*Andrea Ward made and Mark Kaplan seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 22, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,177,238.90 to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee, for architectural and engineering administration services, construction services, including construction and reconstruction, and associated costs related to the rehabilitation, restoration and repair of the Town Hall exterior including handicap accessibility accommodations and that, for the purpose of meeting such appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

### Potential Amendments to Article 8, Motion 2, to add School Resource Officers

As liaison to the BOS, Mike Hluchyj informed the Committee that he learned earlier this afternoon that there will be at least two amendments proposed tonight to Article 8, Motion 2: one from the BOS to add funding to the Police Department budget for an additional SRO, and one from a citizen to add two SROs. Advisory will be asked to comment and give its recommendations on the amendment(s); would like to hear members' views.

An Advisory member provided some background, explaining that the issue of additional SROs had come up at a recent School Committee meeting; sentiment expressed by many parents in attendance that they would like more resources; Police Chief said he would do that if he had the budget.

An Advisory member expressed concern about why this has to be implemented right now; would want to talk to the School Committee and Police Chief and hear about the School Security project; whether kids getting trained right now; whether an existing Police Officer could be assigned to do additional SRO responsibilities, etc. In the end, Advisory may conclude that this is a fantastic idea, but feels like an 11<sup>th</sup> hour item that is the result of political pressure.

An Advisory member expressed the belief that the School Committee and Police have been unveiling training as best they can; not clear what SRO would do.

An Advisory member raised the question whether an SRO position could be funded outside of Article 8. The question was also raised whether there would be an opportunity before the next ATM to consider funding SROs, e.g., at the Special Town Meeting scheduled for June 5.

## **7:00 p.m. Adjourn to Annual Town Meeting**

### **Additional Advisory Committee Votes Taken During the Course of 4/2 Annual Town Meeting**

- Amendment to the Proposed Amendment to Article 8, Motion 2: *Andrea Ward made and Tom Skelly seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 8, Motion 2-1, as proposed by a citizen, that Article 8, Motion 2 be amended by adding a total of \$292,157.70 to the appropriate sections of the budget, said additional funds to be used to fund two additional Police Department School Resource Officer(s), said amendment to be funded from Free Cash. The motion failed unanimously (0 in favor, 13 opposed).*
- Amendment to Article 8, Motion 2: *Andrea Ward made and Tom Skelly seconded a motion for favorable action on an amendment to Article 8, Motion 2, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen,*

*that line 210 in the Police Department personal services budget be increased by \$120,579 and the Police Department expense budget be increased by \$5,500; and that line 914 in the Group Insurance Department expense budget request be increased by \$20,000 and that free cash used to balance the budget be increased by the sum of \$146,079. The motion failed (5 in favor, 8 opposed).*

- *Vote on Article 8, Motion 3: Andrea Ward made and Tom Skelly seconded a motion to rescind the vote of the Advisory Committee taken on March 3 regarding Article 8, Motion 3. The motion passed unanimously (13-0). Andrea Ward then made and Tom Skelly seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 8, Motion 3, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to transfer \$2,646,079 from Free Cash, as certified on July 1, 2017, to reduce the tax rate. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

### **Items Reviewed During Meeting**

- Permanent Building Committee Project Budget for Town Hall Construction (April 2, 2018)