

Advisory Committee
September 23, 2014
Felix Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall

Andy Patten called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present included Mary Crown, Thomas Engels, Tom Frisardi, Chad Harris, John Hartnett, John Hussey, Lucy Kapples, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Lon Povich, Ann Rappaport, Mason Smith, Scott Tarbox and Kathleen Woodward.

Citizen Speak

No one wished to speak at this time.

Public Hearing on the Warrant for Special Town Meeting on October 27, 2014

The regular meeting was postponed at 7:04 p.m. to allow for the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing with no objections.

The Special Town Meeting Public Hearing was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Andy Patten explained the purpose of the hearing was to receive public input on the warrant items. He further explained Advisory's role and reviewed Town government structure. Mr. Patten advised those watching on Wellesley media could send their comments via email to: AdvisoryCommittee@Wellesleyma.gov.

Each article was presented individually and the public was invited to comment. Lisa Keen and Stefanie Albertson spoke to Advisory of their support of Article 6 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant which addresses funding for renovations and repairs to Schofield and Fiske Schools. Stefanie Albertson also read a statement from the Schofield PTO regarding their support for this article as well.

A motion was made by Tom Frisardi to postpone the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing to 9:00 p.m. to allow for comments by any of the public delayed by the Back-to-School Night at the Wellesley Middle School. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Advisory resumed the regular session at 7:24 p.m. with no objections.

DPW Proposed FY 16 Operating/Capital Budgets

Owen Dugan, Chair and David Donohue of the Board of Public Works presented the review. They were accompanied by Mike Pakstis, Director of Public Works and Assistant Director, David Cohen.

The capital budget was not presented at this time as noticed. An overview of the organization and staffing was given. DPW has five divisions, 11 programs and 119 employees at this time. Operating budget objectives include proactive management, as well as maintenance, of the Town infrastructure, management of solid waste recycling and disposal, responding to any engineering, operational or emergency needs of the Town including storm related issues, and support of any emerging public or private projects. The operational budget is impacted by contractual salary

increases, solid waste/recycling fees, contractual tree services as well as specialized training and licenses, equipment maintenance and operational costs, especially fuel, and weather influences.

Personal services for FY16 are estimated at \$4,120,039 with expenses of \$2,187,534 and winter maintenance of \$348,703 for a subtotal of \$6,656,276. Self-funded RDF business initiatives show personal expenses estimated at \$57,378 and expenses of \$74,655. Total DPW operating budget request is \$6,788,309 for FY16. Personal services for other sources such as the Street Permit Program, Work for Others (WFO), WFO - Enterprise, etc. are estimated at \$1,528,862 which gives a total FY16 request of \$8,317,171.

DPW is attempting to evaluate performance from a benchmarking perspective especially as it pertains to winter maintenance of roads and sidewalks. Tentative partners thus far include Barnstable, Andover and Cohasset. However, it is difficult to evaluate service performance as each Town uses different measurement metrics.

CPC Special Town Meeting Discussion

Barbara McMahon and Allan Port of the Community Preservation Committee gave the overview. The Community Preservation Act was reviewed including its role and funding as well as the CPC member composition. Changes to the Act made in 2012 were also discussed incorporating an explanation and clarification of extra available funding. Past appropriations, current and planned projects were also outlined. Explanation was given of the allowable uses for funding purchases and projects which fall under the CPA purview including acquisition, creation, preservation, support and rehabilitation and/or restoration. Objectives include maintaining appropriate distribution among the allowed uses, retaining fiscal reserves and supporting projects which might not otherwise be completed. Discussion followed regarding the financial plan for June 2013 through June 2020 including the potential purchase of the North 40 parcel of land. Appropriated funds totaling \$2.6MM for 900 Worcester Street property may be rescinded pending approval of the CPC and Town Meeting. Appropriations funded by debt were reviewed with assumptions made for the North 40 purchase of \$9.3 million borrowed at 5% for 30 years. Discussion followed regarding restrictions on the property usage if CPC funding is used.

Public Hearing on the Warrant for Special Town Meeting on October 27, 2014 - continued

The regular meeting was postponed again at 9:19 p.m. to allow for the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing with no objections. A motion was made to re-open the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing to allow for late attendees. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by a show of hands. The public hearing resumed at 9:20 p.m.

Amanda Kennedy and Melissa Mack spoke to Advisory of their support of Article 6 of the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by a show of hands. The Special Town Meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

The regular meeting of Advisory was resumed at 9:28 p.m. with no objections.

Tom Frisardi called a point-of-order regarding the adjournment of the Public Hearing as it was determined it should continue through the next Advisory meeting to allow for additional public input. He made a motion to rescind the previous motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a show of hands.

Tom Frisardi made a motion to postpone definitely the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing to 9:00 p.m. on October 1, 2014 in the Juliani Room of Town Hall. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Approval of Minutes

Lucy Kapples made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2014. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Liaison Reports

The Chair asked for liaison reports and various members of the Advisory Committee provided their reports.

New Business/Old Business

Ann Rappaport announced the Special Town Meeting Advisory Book would go to the printers on October 9th and all relevant departments and boards should be asked to provide input on the write-ups. Board and Committee Reports for the Advisory Book are due October 3, 2014.

The Advisory Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. on October 1, 2014 in the Wakelin Room of the Main Library to hear the Town Wide Financial Plan with the Board of Selectmen. They will then meet at 9:00 p.m. in the Juliani Room of Town Hall to allow continuation of the Special Town Meeting Public Hearing and followed by a short regular meeting.

Mr. Patten adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m. with no objections.