

**Advisory Committee
February 1, 2016
Faculty Dining Room
Wellesley Middle School**

Tom Frisardi called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 6:05pm. Those present included Tom Fitzgibbons, Chad Harris, Mike Hluchyj, Mark Kaplan, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Alena Poirier, Sara Raveret, Mason Smith, Ria Stolle, Scott Tarbox, and Kathleen Woodward.

Citizen's Speak:

No one wished to speak at this time.

Discussion concerning motions for Special Town Meeting and proposed amendments thereto:

Heather Sawitsky shared her plans to bring forward a motion to amend Article 2B at the Special Town Meeting. She believes the independence of the Advisory Committee is crucial to the checks and balances of the Town Manager. She plans to move to delete paragraph 1 of the motion under Warrant Article 2.B, which would replace existing Section 11.5 in the proposed bylaw amendments, transferring the appointment authority for Advisory Committee staff from the Advisory Committee to the Town Manager. While the Advisory Committee currently has a part-time administrative assistant, it is possible that going forward the Advisory Committee might want to hire more staff, and she thinks it's important to specify now that the Advisory Committee will hire its own staff. By deleting what is being proposed, this will not come before the Attorney General, and the existing 11.5 section will remain as is. The Human Resources Department would still be involved in hiring of any staff. This amendment does not impede the Town Manager's role in the operation of the town government.

Sara Raveret made a motion to recommend favorable action on the amendment proposed by Heather Sawitsky to delete proposed changes to Town Bylaw Section 11.5 and leave the current provision as is. Mason Smith seconded; the Advisory Committee voted favorable action, 12-0.

New business/old business:

Upcoming meetings include February 3rd at 7pm in the Juliani Room of Town Hall, February 6th at 8am at the Wellesley Police Station, and the Public Hearing on February 10th at 7pm in the Juliani Room of Town Hall.

At 6:40pm, Beth Sullivan Woods and Marla Robinson, Library Trustees, arrived to address the committee. They explained a motion they plan to bring forward at the Special Town Meeting. The motion is to amend Article 2A, Section 6A.7. They do not believe that the Town Manager should have the authority to go into the Library's budget and cut specific items; they believe if cuts were needed, then the Town Manager should tell the Library Trustees the amount, and the Trustees should decide where the cuts should be taken. They asked the committee's opinion as to whether this proposed amendment should be for just the library—or for all town boards. One member suggested that they should keep the scope of the amendment specific to just the library. Copies of the motion were not made available to the committee, and the meeting needed to be adjourned for those present to attend the Special Town Meeting at 7pm. No vote was taken.

Adjourn:

Tom Frisardi adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm to be continued during Town Meeting, if needed. No further action was required.