

Approved: February 10, 2020

Board of Selectmen Meeting: January 27, 2020

Present: Freiman, Ulfelder, Olney, Morgan, Sullivan Woods

Also Present: Jop

Warrants approved: 2020-029 \$4,647,028.11

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. BOS Calendar
3. Draft Motions
4. Change in Manager Application
5. Verizon Petition
6. Correspondence re: Verizon Petition
7. Presidential Primary Warrant 2020
8. Draft 2020 ATM Warrant
9. 323 Washington St. Single Building Historic District Study preliminary report
10. FY2021 Sources & Uses
11. Reserves Projection
12. Summarized Status
13. Draft Budget as of 1/7/20
14. FY21 Initial Projections
15. WPS Redistricting Presentation
16. MassBay Press Release
17. Correspondence: Registry of Deeds
18. Animal Control Report

1. Call to Order

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Juliani Room.

Ms. Freiman announced the meeting was being telecast live on Comcast channel 8 and Verizon channel 40 and streamed live by Wellesley Media and is recorded for subsequent viewing on the cable channels or at wellesleymedia.org.

2. Citizen Speak

None.

3. Announcements

Ms. Freiman congratulated Animal Control Officer Sue Webb for completing training in “All Hazards Training for Animals in Disasters”. Ms. Freiman stated the Board and the SBC would hold a joint meeting on February 6th at 5:30pm in the Great Hall.

Ms. Olney stated that on January 30th at 7pm the League of Women Voters and the Library would host a panel discussion regarding affordable and diverse housing options in Wellesley.

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the second forum regarding the redistricting information presented by the School Committee would be held on January 28th at the Wellesley Middle School.

4. Discuss and Vote Change in Manager – The Local 11 Forest Street

Mr. Santo, proposed new manager for The Local, joined the Board.

Ms. Freiman stated that staff had reviewed and approved the request for the change in manager.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve the change in manager for The Local All Alcohol License from Adam Kischel to Frank A. Santo, Jr.

5. Discuss and Vote Verizon Petition

Ms. Freiman opened the public hearing for the petition. She reviewed the Verizon petition request for the grant of location and noted that the petition was brought forward by customer request.

Mr. Morgan stated that the area was public park land and noted that the NRC had not been consulted for the request. Ms. Olney expressed concerns for underground work potentially impacting tree roots. Ms. Jop stated that all work would be performed in the right of way, not the park. She noted that abutters, including the NRC, had been notified and that the work went underground approximately eighteen inches.

Mr. Forman, representative for Verizon New England, joined the Board. He stated that any work will include full restorative work. He noted that any trimming that may need to be done would be minor. He added that the request is for only one four-inch conduit. Ms. Sullivan Woods asked that a certified arborist be present to supervise the work.

The Board discussed the potential for tree damage due to the underground work. Mr. Forman reviewed the work to be done and stated that abutters were notified and no other abutters requested work. Staff agreed to contact the NRC Director regarding Board concerns of the work impacting any trees. The Board continued the public hearing to February 3rd.

6. Discuss and Vote Presidential Primary Warrant

Ms. Jop stated that Town Counsel had prepared the primary election warrant and noted that a section had been added regarding early voting. Ms. Freiman stated that early voting had been successful previously and thanked the Town Clerk for making early voting possible.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve the Warrant for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

7. Discuss and Vote Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Ms. Jop reviewed changes from the previous draft circulated to the Board. The Board discussed the changes to various articles. Ms. Jop stated that the proposed article language regarding the mandatory taping of meetings had been revised. The Board discussed the drafted articles within the warrant. Ms. Olney reviewed the changes to the language regarding the climate resolution. She read the proposed article language for the Board.

Ms. Ostfeld, Wellesley College student, came before the Board. She stated that the Wellesley College Environmental Activism student organization supported the climate change resolution article and believed the term emergency should be included.

The Board continued to review drafted articles within the warrant.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve the Warrant for the 2020 Annual Town Meeting as discussed.

8. Presentation of Single Building Historic District Committee Report

Ms. Johnson, Planning Board Chair, joined the Board.

Ms. Johnson stated she was the Chair of the study committee. She reviewed the location of the Stanwood House at 323 Washington Street and the study committee members. She stated that the proposal would make the Town's fifth single building local historical district, and noted the others. She provided an overview of the process of declaring a single building historical district, and reviewed the history of the architecture of the home. Ms. Johnson provided an overview of Dr. Stanwood and his and his wife's contributions to Wellesley. She stated the residence was purchased in 2012 by the Historical Society to be used for archival storage, as well as offices and meeting space for the Society.

The Board discussed the report and article for Annual Town Meeting. Ms. Jop stated that the Advisory public hearing on warrant articles would be held at Town Hall on February 3rd at 7pm, while the Planning Board public hearing regarding the zoning for the articles would be held March 4th at 6:30pm at Town Hall.

9. Presentation of Citizen Petition to Ban the Sale of Fur

Ms. Oliver of 666 Washington Street and petitioner for the warrant article, and Ms. Hagen, Director of the Massachusetts Humane Society came before the Board.

Ms. Oliver stated the initiative was supported by the Human Society, the MSPCA, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund. She provided an overview of the proposed bylaw and its definitions. She noted the bylaw did not prohibit leather products but rather the sale of products that require animals to be raised or trapped and killed specifically for fur. She noted the exceptions written into the bylaw. She provided background on the statistical data used for the background of the petition. She noted the environmental impact to the fur industry and reviewed the fur farming bans throughout Europe. She discussed the fur-free movement in the United States, noting the retailers that are fur-free and the city and state initiatives to ban fur sales. She stated that she had researched Wellesley's sale of fur and noted most fur in Wellesley stores were from accessories or linings in shoes and that faux-fur equivalents were sold at the same price point for each. She stated she was in process of contacting individual retailers in town that sell fur products. Ms. Oliver continued to review the background and approach of the petition and the bylaw.

The Board briefly discussed the petition.

10. Budget Update

Ms. Jop provided an overview of the updated budget. She stated that the gap for the balanced budget was currently \$381,000. She noted that at the initial estimates for state aid would be available at the next Board meeting and the assumptions and projections may change. She reviewed the reserves projections and the appropriated free cash expenditures and anticipated Town Meeting requests including unanticipated SPED costs for FY20. She stated that free cash would be continually evaluated as would additional expenditures. She added that of the more substantial departments out of guideline was the School Department at 3.9% in addition to the funding for special education costs. She provided a brief breakdown of the School Department proposed budget and noted that the School Committee would be

discussing its budget request at its next meeting. The Board discussed the School Department budget request.

11. Executive Director's Update

Ms. Jop reviewed gifts received by the Recreation Department for the Summertime Concert Series. She stated that the Town's wayfinding signs had been installed.

12. Liaison Updates

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the Wellesley Square Merchants were very thankful for the wayfinding signs. She briefly reviewed updates from the Recreation Department, Housing Authority, COA, Health Department and Veteran's District. She stated that the NRC had asked the Playing Fields Task Force to create a subcommittee earlier this year to review lighting at Hunnewell Field and the report had been submitted to the NRC. Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the COA had worked with the library to establish a lending library at the COA for materials that relate to aging and healthy living. She added that a LICSW had been hired by the Health Department and would be starting January 30th.

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the School Committee forum regarding the redistricting analysis had been held. He added that concerns regarding the construction of the maps had been brought forward and anticipated that the concerns would be addressed by the School Committee. He added that the enrollment predictions continued to trend downward.

Ms. Olney stated that MMA had voted to change "Massachusetts Selectmen's Association" to "Massachusetts Select Board Association".

13. New Business and Other Correspondence

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Juliani Room.