

Approved April 11, 2019

**Advisory Committee Meeting
Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station
Saturday, March 2, 2019, 9:00 a.m.**

Those present from the Advisory Committee included Jane Andrews, Julie Bryan, Todd Cook, Rose Mary Donahue, Bob Furlong, Mary Gard, Jeff Levitan, Bill Maynard, Paul Merry, Dave Murphy, Lina Musayev, Betsy Roberti, Mary Scanlon, Tom Skelly and Andrea Ward.

Tom Skelly called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Citizen Speak

Tom Skelly offered a brief introduction to Citizen Speak

- Advisory has received a number of emails on, and understands there will be speakers this morning regarding, several different topics, including the School budget and Indigenous Peoples Day; would like to try to group speakers by topic
- Emails received have been forwarded to the full Advisory Committee
- Advisory welcomes additional information beyond what the Committee has heard in prior presentations, from prior speakers, and in prior emails; however, if information this morning becomes repetitive, Advisory may ask to move the discussion forward given the very full agenda
- Regarding the emails Advisory has received concerning one particular position within the School budget (the proposed Director of Diversity position), Advisory would like to remind everyone that Advisory does not vote on individual positions/line items within departmental budgets; Advisory will conduct a supportive/unsupportive vote on a particular departmental budget as a whole if it is over guidelines and/or adds full-time employees (FTEs)
- Further reminder that, as always during Citizen Speak, Advisory will listen but will not engage in discussion/debate, though clarifying questions may be asked of the speakers
- This meeting is not being televised

Betsy Komjathy, 35 Radcliffe Road

- 20-year resident who moved to Town for the public schools; reputation of the schools draws people to the Town and keeps people here
- Has attended School Committee (SC) meetings and has followed the budget process; feels it is a rigorous and careful process
- Urges approval of the School budget as proposed by the SC, with a 3.65% increase over last year
- 2.9% of the 3.65% requested budget increase is for level services; if we stay at that level, we won't have the kind of school system that Wellesley wants
- Although recognizes that Advisory is not voting on a specific item in the School budget, notes horrible racial incident that occurred recently at Wellesley High School (WHS)
- If only the 3.5% budget is approved, then the proposed Director of Diversity position is at risk; Town and school system need this
- Asks that Advisory respect the rigorous and thoughtful process the SC has gone through and their commitment to public education

Victoria Ostler, 115 Great Plain Avenue

- Parent of two children in Wellesley Public Schools (WPS)
- Volunteer in WPS who has helped develop District progress report and is member of Strategic Planning Committee
- Echoes previous speaker that the gap between 3.65% and 3.5% is a minimal one

- Town can still balance the budget with the requested 3.65% increase
- School budget was thoughtfully prepared and reflects strategic investments through multi-year planning initiatives
- Incremental spending above level services reflects shared priorities, including investment in STEM curriculum and more teaching time; diversity, equity and inclusion; closing the achievement gap between students of color; completion of the Spanish foreign language instruction; and other supports for student wellness, including mental health
- Encourages Advisory to support the School budget at the 3.65% level presented by SC

Lisette Neergaard Colon, 27 Arborough Road, Roslindale

- METCO parent of two children speaking in support of the Director of Diversity position
- As a METCO parent, felt welcomed to Wellesley with open arms and has been very impressed
- When there was an incident at WHS, the Superintendent reached out to families
- Has been working in Wellesley schools as a sub and has held long term sub positions at two schools; feels that we need to work together to make our children's education the best possible
- Director of Diversity is an important position, especially because the METCO director left and this has been a loss to Wellesley, given her history and what she's done
- Would like Wellesley to be better for all kids; encourages support for the School Department's budget to invest in our children, Town and the future

Jenna Jordahl, 26 Willow Street

- Also speaking in support of the Director of Diversity position
- Has three children in WPS; the last two heavily involved in sports
- Was encouraged to hear that the new Director of Diversity position would also deal with coaches
- Wellesley is a great place, but history will judge us based on how we respond in the next couple of years; multi-racial couples have left Town
- Important to create a position to support our students, teachers and coaches; to really be an integrated community that celebrates diversity

Maggie Egger, 66 Ridge Hill Farm Road

- Fiscal responsibility to taxpayers must be considered
- Parent of three children who went through WHS; all have had many different types of friends
- A large portion of residents' taxes goes to the Schools; at a certain point the Town needs to say, "where is the limit"

Alla Blake, 17 Westwood Road

- Originally from Soviet Russia, Ms. Blake expressed appreciation for Wellesley and for the warmth/welcome of the Town and the Schools that children (including hers) have experienced
- However, very concerned about idea of creating more bureaucracy in order to make us better
- Knows from experience that more bureaucracy doesn't work; creating a position like this can be self-fulfilling and it may in the end make the Town more divided/polarized
- Ms. Blake's son left WHS because of negative messaging that began after 4th/5th grade about white privilege, etc.
- Wellesley is already not as desirable as Needham because Needham is investing in technology; funds should be focused on educational needs

Susan Westmoreland, 25 Martin Road

- Supports Director of Diversity position

- Realizes Advisory is not voting on a specific position and only voting on the budget as a whole
- There are lots of kids with diverse backgrounds in Wellesley who still struggle with a variety of differences, including religious diversity
- This position is not intended to intensify division or focus on any one group but to coordinate curriculum and aid the teachers (e.g., discussion in 4th grade of slavery and in 5th grade of the Holocaust are very difficult for children, who are just becoming aware of differences)
- The position won't focus on one group or another but will focus on how we get together and blend
- Director of METCO left to take the Director of Diversity position in Brookline; Wellesley is behind other towns who are incorporating this kind of oversight into their curricula

Gregory Hurray, 9 Bacon Street

- 40-year teacher and administrator in Newton and Needham; now teaching a course for prospective principals
- Has read the report on racial climate in Wellesley; supports the new Director of Diversity position
- This is important for children and staff; this is not creating a position to receive a paycheck, but instead to leverage very powerful work
- Has seen the positive impact of this work in Newton and Needham; reduces implicit bias among teachers and staff, increases cultural proficiency, and helps students become citizens of the world
- Other towns (e.g., Brookline, Needham and Newton) are way ahead in this work; not easy work
- There is an achievement gap in every school in Wellesley and this is not going to be eliminated by more instruction; need to create a culture in which people understand all the elements that contribute to the achievement gap
- Mr. Hurray has a student who is a former Wellesley METCO student and has spoken of troubling experiences

Michelle Chalmers, 11 Ashmont Road

- Supports the Director of Diversity position and the School budget that Dr. Lussier and the SC approved
- Advisory needs to understand how the decision connects to the community and the impact on human beings; votes are more than just fiscal matters
- This position only appeared in the 3.65% School budget; if a 3.5% budget is approved, then we need to go back to SC and Dr. Lussier and put it into the 3.5% budget
- Ms. Chalmers further expressed support for Indigenous Peoples Day in Wellesley; connected to our humanity and understanding of where we come from as a community
- Need to honor and cherish the indigenous peoples whose land this is and was
- Thanks Advisory for its efforts and time in thinking about Indigenous Peoples Day; hopes it will support resolution; she will work very hard to gain support of Town Meeting Members (TMMs)

Joan Aandeg, Cedar Street

- Supports Indigenous Peoples Day in Wellesley
- Indigenous peoples have been speaking for a long time about colonialism and environmental crises we are facing
- Important to acknowledge the past, teach children correctly, and acknowledge indigenous peoples

Mental Health Services Initiative

Beth Sullivan Woods, Member, Board of Selectmen (BOS), presented. Jack Morgan, Chair, Board of Selectmen, was also present and participated in the discussion.

- Although this is late in the budget discussion, this is not a new request; only new in coming to Advisory/fruition
- BOS is requesting to enhance the mental health line item by \$160,000, which includes \$20,000 in benefits, \$90,000 in salaries, and \$50,000 in contract services
 - Of the contract services, \$40,000 will be for a discrete contract to partner with Weston Police to secure one full-time social worker as a crisis intervention specialist; this position will be housed at Riverside and the salary will be shared with Weston
 - The other \$10,000 is for other contract services, as with Human Relations Service (HRS)
- A year ago, Advisory raised questions about social services and mental health; questioned whether the Town was attacking the problem in the most thoughtful/efficient way, how resources were used, whether needs were understood, and whether there could be better collaboration
- At last year's Meeting (ATM), there was a petition from the floor to address school security, which in part has a social services/mental health component, and a position was added along with a commitment to further study
- A working group was put together of all who deliver/touch social services in Town (e.g., Police, Fire, Youth Commission, Council on Aging (COA), Board of Health (BOH), HRS, Schools)
- This group met a number of times; audited where are the people and where are the cases. They did research to determine as a collective body what was needed. These are strong working departments and already do a lot of work together. All agreed that the need is escalating, is more complicated, is costlier, and is time-intensive, and there is a risk if the Town is not addressing it. The existing resources are more reactive than proactive. The feeling is that if we could follow cases better then they won't spiral out. If we could connect people to a service then we wouldn't have a repeating cycle.
- For most of us, this is a silent issue. We don't like to think about it near our home. We like to think it's affecting someone else. But last month, the Police had 37 mental health issues they were called out for.
- The group rallied around the need for a senior level licensed independent social worker (LICSW) that can work with the various care delivery specialists in the various departments. Part of the job would be administrative – to reduce the time spent matching the solution with the problems. This takes time and people need help. This position would allow the Town to unpack the problems more efficiently and effectively. The partnership that is a shared service is a 40-hour full-time shared position with Weston; efficient solution.

A question was asked about the shared full-time position with Weston and if Wellesley is proposing to put \$40,000 into this position: Yes, this is half the salary. There will be no benefits paid by Wellesley. It is a backup plan – on-call when needed that can meet someone at home to assist the individual in getting care. It is triage at the incident point.

A question was asked if the \$160,000 is funding two Town-wide positions, one shared with Weston (\$40,000) and one a new position in Wellesley (\$90,000 salary and \$20,000 benefits), and the other \$10,000 is an increase in the HRS line: Yes. The \$40,000 is for the shared position, which is not an employee of the Town, but instead contracted services. \$90,000 is for the salary of the new position, which will be the coordinator for social services in Town. That person will partner with specialty service delivery people in the other departments.

A question was asked about whom the new full-time position would report to: The social service delivery people currently collaborate with one another. A hierarchy is not envisioned. This will be a senior resource person.

A question was asked where this person will be housed in terms of departments: The thought is that they will work within the Health Department, but there has been no formal decision on this. The sense was that the expertise resided in the BOH, but it is a cross-functional position. BOS directed staff to come up with a memo of understanding between the BOS and the BOH on how this will work. It is anticipated that the memo will be put in place before ATM.

A concern was raised that the Health Director may not be the appropriate supervisory person on the mental health and social services side, and that housing the new position within the Health Department could set up two parallel divisions within the Department (e.g., environmental and social services: The group has been working for a year, did due diligence and felt this was the best solution. It is only late in coming to Advisory; it is not late in processing and understanding it. The Health Director does holistic supervising and often health issues are connected with mental health issues; currently supervises social workers. However, there is room for someone to supervise and mentor social workers. We don't have someone now – it is an empty spot.

A comment was made expressing agreement/understanding that there is a problem but concern about the next step. The Town is being asked to fund and then trust that the function and process will be worked out efficiently and effectively. Next year there could be a request for more people.

A question was asked as to why there is urgency to jump in right now and why this initiative can't wait until next year when the functions and process can be better worked out, especially since the report suggests that there is a safety net here in Wellesley (e.g., 45 FTEs in the Schools): The feeling is that the urgency has been persisting for a long time and the Town has not been dealing with it. A year ago, the BOS heard Advisory, but it was not clear how everyone was working together so it took time to get together. The meetings were painful listening to situations in our community. We are leaving people behind and not able to follow through. How much longer do we want to wait before we make progress on this. The BOS supported it unanimously. The exact supervisory role has not been worked out but the documentation and needs are there.

A question was asked, focusing on the proposed new Town employee, whether the perceived crisis is one of coordination of resources or of bandwidth: Primarily bandwidth; currently there is not the seniority to provide the extra level of triage; the position would help the Town tap into more resources.

A concern was raised about the structure of the position: The funds would be in the mental health budget within the BOH budget, in addition to the nine social worker hours already budgeted.

A concern was raised about the lateness of this request and that more time and thought is needed to effectively address this.

A comment was made that the optics of this request – which is very similar in amount to that which BOS has cut from the School budget – are troubling, as the position each board seeks to add in FY20 are both worthy positions: Acknowledge the optics and that the BOS request wasn't in the December budgets, but by January the report and the request were out there. The BOS concluded it was important to move on this.

A question was raised about the timing of the contracted position with Weston and if we need to move on this right now: Weston Police and Wellesley Police have agreed to go forward pending favorable ATM action. We will move to negotiate a mutual understanding agreement with Weston. If we decide to not go forward, we can't speculate on what Weston will do. A follow-up question was asked if Weston has appropriated their half of the funds yet. Weston is further along in the process and closer to formalization but they have not appropriated the money.

A comment was made commending the BOS for bringing this to the forefront now even if the timing is not good. It is better to deal with this now than to have a citizen petition at ATM.

A comment was made that the challenge when hiring a senior level director for a new position is the chance that in the future there will be a further request for additional support staff, but there doesn't seem to be a longer-term vision of where we would be going with mental health: The report articulates that we will need another person. The group did not want to ask for that position at this time. They would like to develop the intern system and see how far we get with the senior position. It is likely a new person will be needed.

A comment was made that Advisory is charged with ensuring that proposals that come before Town Meeting are fully formed; with this proposal, it feels like the actual implementation is not quite there yet.

A request was made that before ATM, information be provided to Advisory about the job description, the reporting structure, the structure for the ongoing collaboration among service providers, and the future. An additional request was made for information about billing for this service since an LICSW can bill Medicaid. Concern was raised about the BOH budgets that have been over guidelines for the last two or three years and the fact that the BOH has already indicated it will need more positions in future years.

Discussion and Voting on ATM Warrant Articles

Discussion of Budget Guidelines

There was a comment that, in the future, it would be good to have more collaborative conversations about guidelines.

There was an additional comment that one of the frustrations with the guidelines is that boards/departments come in with their "needs," but this term has lost meaning; there are differences between aspirational needs and mandated needs. The Town needs to give more guidance to boards/departments as to how to prioritize items.

Advisory's voting process for Article 8, Motion 2 was discussed. Supportive/unsupportive votes will be taken on the 15 budgets that are (1) over guidelines (with or without FTE increases) and (2) increase FTEs but stay within guidelines. After the individual supportive/unsupportive votes, Advisory will vote on the entire Article 8, Motion 2 omnibus budget. A comment was made that the School budget contained in the Article 8, Motion 2 budget put forward by the BOS (3.5% increase from FY19) does not agree with the SC-voted budget (3.65% increase). Advisory will vote unsupportive/supportive on the budget as presented by the BOS to ATM. Advisory does not conduct votes on budget line items.

Discussion and Supportive/Unsupportive Vote on School Budget

- Difference of approximately \$155,000 between the 3.65% and 3.5% budgets
- Context issues around budget
 - There is a new approach to funding special education (SPED), which resulted in a large drop in the level services budget in the expense line representing tuitions; this will now be addressed through the SPED Reserve Fund, if the need arises
 - Advisory should look at School budget as being presented, plus the \$500,000 going into the Reserve Fund
 - We don't know how much SPED funding will be required next year; there was turnback this year
- The Town Wide Financial Plan (TWFP) shows a significant deficit in the out-years; the Town could be facing an override in addition to debt exclusions

- Schools have had a generous strategic plan; this year's strategic plan request is \$709,000; and of the 13 new FTEs in SC budget, 7 come from Strategic Plan initiatives
- New strategic plan for next five years needs to be developed in the context of the entire Town budget
- Strategic plan is aspirational, not a necessity
- This is an unusual year because so much is going on at Town Hall and this has contributed to a lack of discussion between Town Hall and the Schools
- It is important not to look at this year in isolation, but in the context of the years ahead
- General Education budget has been reduced over the past several years because of SPED
- SC commended for developing an innovative approach to SPED funding
- Strategic plan is developed to bring innovation to the schools; Schools seek continued excellence via the strategic plan
- This is a complicated year with BOS reducing the School guideline to 3%, since base funding and level services alone are nearly 3%
- Need to distinguish strategic plan investments that occur in a single year from others which have a multi-year impact to Town budget; much of this year's strategic plan initiatives budget is the 5th year completion of the World Languages program rollout, which the Town effectively agreed to five years ago; what is point of prior years' implementation of World Languages program if there is now a gap
- The School budget was over 3% from the start
- The SPED budget could be its own budget as it is the only part of the budget that is legally mandated
- Advisory is sympathetic to where SC needs to be, but is only voting on the 3.5% budget
- Director of Diversity position wasn't in the five-year plan

There was discussion about whether to support or reject the 3.5% budget, given that the existence of the School Committee-voted 3.65% budget. Some Advisory members who support the original 3.65% budget may decide to vote against the 3.5% budget.

A question was asked whether the School Committee intends to present ATM with a budget different from the 3.5% budget.

Melissa Martin and Matt Kelley (Chair), School Committee, were present. The budget SC approved on February 5 was the 3.65% budget. SC has not had an opportunity to discuss the BOS decision and whether a different budget will be presented. SC has not been formally requested by the BOS to have a discussion to reduce the budget and the rationale of budget. An additional question was asked whether SC would engage in discussion with the BOS between now and ATM: SC does not have another meeting immediately scheduled; however there will be a meeting between now and ATM.

Additional comments included:

- Looking into the future, the base funding of almost 3% is hard to understand; through this process, Schools are getting more money than the Town departments
- Wellesley prizes its educational quality, but at some point, the high amounts requested by the Schools have an impact on existing non-School Town services
- It is an aspirational goal to bring budgets in alignment; as a municipality we are allowed to increase our revenue by 2.5% plus new growth
- The School budget is starting at almost 3% level services because of the contractual steps and lane increases in the teacher contracts
- As the new strategic plan is developed, hope that it includes funding estimates for multi-year initiatives

An Advisory member expressed support for the 3.5% budget as presented, but would also support the 3.65% budget if that comes before ATM. Base level services are at 2.94%, and to not allow the 0.5 for extras makes no sense. Strategic plan initiatives are not a “gift”; for example, Wellesley was way behind in implementing full-day kindergarten. When ATM votes for year one of an initiative such as World Languages, then it is committed to the full number of years to see that through. We should support the Director of Diversity position; given the ability of our citizens and the education level of our Town, we owe this to our students and we can and should implement new things.

A question was asked as to what the percentage increase for the School budget would be if the \$500,000 SPED reserve funding were put back into the budget: It is about a percentage point in last year’s math; however, the goal in creating the SPED Stabilization Fund was to take the “what if’s” out of the budget and the \$500,000 is not for this year’s SPED funding; it is treated as a reserve and BOS and SC need to agree to draw on the fund in the future if necessary. The \$500,000 is not what SC is spending on SPED next year.

A comment was made that the SC’s detailed budget was prepared using the 3.65% increase over last year; Advisory’s hesitation about voting on a 3.5% budget, with no understanding of how the funding reduction affects individual line items in the budget, needs to be reflected in the write-up in the Advisory Report.

A question was asked if a supportive vote for the 3.5% budget ends the conversation: This is unknown. A follow-up question was asked if an unsupportive vote could include a request for a discussion of the 3.65% budget. An Advisory member expressed support for (1) further discussion of how the 3.5% budget will be allocated and (2) a vote on the 3.65% budget.

A comment was made that perhaps Advisory could defer its supportive/unsupportive vote, as SC and BOS are willing to discuss the budget. A further comment was made that negotiation is important and that it feels like Advisory is being forced to make a vote.

Concern was expressed that it sounded like speakers this morning were trying to say that, if the 3.5% budget is approved, there wouldn’t be a Director of Diversity next year. In this Advisory member’s view, the vote on the 3.5% budget is not a vote on any specific position; SC has not voted on the 3.5% budget, so it is unknown what that budget will look like.

A comment was made that the Advisory Report write-up should reflect the difficulty caused by the BOS’ late reduction in the School budget from 3.65% to 3.5%.

Andrea Ward made and Bob Furlong seconded a motion to express support for the FY20 Schools operating budget, including \$250,000 in benefits, which will result in a 3.5% (\$2,605,012) increase over FY19, and an increase in FTEs from 819.5 in FY19 to 831.9 in FY20. The motion passed, with 9 members expressing support and 4 members unsupportive.

In order to accommodate the schedules of some Advisory members, Advisory turned to the Planning-related Warrant articles next.

Article 29 (Zoning Bylaw Renumbering)

Discussion: Higher roman numerals are more difficult to read and use; this change improves ease of use and provides internal consistency with the General Bylaws, which use arabic numbers.

Andrea Ward made and Julie Bryan seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 29, as proposed by the Planning Board, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by changing the manner

in which the Sections and references thereto are numbered from Roman Numerals to Arabic numbers, instituting a consistent internal arrangement protocol throughout the Bylaw with updated references, and correcting identified grammatical, typographical, and formatting errors. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Article 30 (Amend Bylaw Recodification)

Discussion: The Planning Board is recommending a change to move information currently found at the end of the Bylaw to the front. The changes should improve the ability of users to navigate through the Zoning Bylaw. Concerns were expressed that the change makes it a little harder in some respects, in that procedures previously laid out as to how to amend the Bylaw are being replaced by references to the applicable Mass. General Law (MGL) statutes containing those provisions. The benefit of that approach is that Planning doesn't have to update the Bylaw every time the MGL changes. Information will be placed on the website to guide residents in how to amend the Bylaw.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 30, as proposed by the Planning Board and set forth fully in the Warrant and Motion for the 2019 Annual Town Meeting, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by: renumbering Section I as Section IA; renumbering Section IA, Definitions, as Section 1B; and by inserting a new Section I, General Provisions, that will include relocating certain provisions currently found elsewhere in the Zoning Bylaw. Motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Article 31 (Off-Street Parking Bylaw)

Discussion: The off-street parking bylaw does not apply to residential properties. These changes are to correct the administrative processes of the current off-street parking bylaw, not to change the substantive content of the bylaw.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 31, as proposed by the Planning Board, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by deleting Section XXI, Off-Street Parking, and readopting the Section as set forth in the Warrant and Motion for the 2019 Annual Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Article 32 (Outdoor Lighting)

Discussion: The current version of the bylaw does not apply to residential properties – only to Town buildings and commercial buildings. It is intended to limit the glare that comes from outdoor lighting and trespasses across property lines. There is an exemption for athletic/recreational fields that are 1,000 feet from a property line. This is a better proposal than last year. Planning listened to concerns about prior versions and has tried to put forward an improved outdoor lighting proposal. A comment was made that this bylaw change provides greater clarity for major and minor projects that are subject to review. A question was asked if any concerns have been raised about the new proposal: No. A question was asked about lights on the High School football field, as there are property lines close by: This would be handled by a special permit.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 32, as proposed by the Planning Board, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by adding a new section, Section XVII, Outdoor Lighting, to regulate the installation and use of outdoor lighting in association with certain projects, as set forth in the Warrant and Motion for the 2019 Annual Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Article 33 (Zoning Map Corrections)

Discussion: Pleasant Street property is split-zoned between general and single residence districts. Redistricting to single residence district is consistent with actions to abutting properties at last year's

ATM and is preferred by owner. The second part concerns the rear portions of five parcels that back up to the Charles River; one is owned by the Conservation Commission of Needham and the other four are privately owned, with homes located on the Needham side of the properties. The four private property owners prefer to have their land placed in the 40,000 square foot single residence district rather than the Parks, Recreation and Conservation district.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 33, as proposed by the Planning Board, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Wellesley by rezoning the properties set forth in the Warrant and Motion for the 2019 Annual Town Meeting to resolve discrepancies, as follows:

- (1) To rezone 36 Pleasant Street from the General Residence District and Single Residence District and 10,000 Square Foot Area Regulation District to the Single Residence District and 10,00 Square Foot Area Regulation District in its entirety;*
- (2) To rezone four parcels on Winding River Road (42R, 56R, 70R and 86R) from the Single Residence District and 20,000 Square Foot Area Regulation District to the Single Residence District and 40,000 Square Foot Area District in their entirety; and*
- (3) To rezone a parcel along Winding River Road from the Single Residence District and 20,000 Square Foot Area Regulation District to the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation District in its entirety.*

The motion passed unanimously (14-0).

Article 34 (Rezone 999 Worcester Street)

Discussion: This rezoning of the split-zoned property (single residence district in the back and business district in the front) entirely to the business district is necessary because state law no longer allows for a “use variance,” which was how owner to date has been allowed to operate business.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 34, as proposed by the Planning Board, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Wellesley by rezoning the property located at 999 Worcester Street from the Business District and Single Residence District and 10,000 Square Foot Area Regulation District to the Business District in its entirety. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Article 37 (Citizen Petition to Rezone Properties on Dexter Road/Wellesley Avenue)

Discussion: This article would rezone nine general residence district properties to the single residence and 10,000 square foot area regulation district. These nine homes were built in the 1920s as single-family homes. In the general residence district, a single-family home or duplex can be built on a parcel as long as there is 5,000 square feet per unit. One owner recently purchased 8 Dexter and is opposed to the petition; eight other homeowners support the petition. Additional comments included:

- This area should remain in the general residence district and available for multi-family properties because of close proximity to Town; the Town needs more multi-family properties; density should be encouraged
- The existing single-family homes may be more affordable than a new duplex that could be built on the property
- Support expressed for the petitioners, as there seems to be commercial aspect to the development of 8 Dexter Road
- The Town should try to preserve the general residence district to be affordable, but current loophole in general residence district allows for construction of large-scale expensive duplexes (as evidenced elsewhere in vicinity) that wouldn’t have to go through large house review in a neighborhood of lower-priced single-family homes

- Need to be thoughtful about the general residence districts; glad that Planning Board will be looking into the rules for general residence districts in the future
- Concerned about this Article, which feels very reactive to one property owner's recent purchase of a home; this is not the way the Town should be undertaking zoning changes
- Support preserving the properties and the neighborhood; however, the Town needs to address these issues and get ahead of them
- This should not be a precedent for the removal of general residence district zoning; it is a response to the needs of many on that street
- Concern expressed about encouraging groups of neighbors to decide to change zoning and carry non-willing neighbors along with them
- Favor trying to retain areas of modest single-family homes in Wellesley given current trends to eliminate these with larger, more expensive homes

Andrea Ward made and Bob Furlong seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 37, as proposed by a Citizen Petition, that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Wellesley by rezoning nine properties on Dexter Road and Wellesley Avenue, as set forth in the Warrant and Motion, from the General Residence District to the Single Family Residence District and 10,000 Square Foot Area Regulation District in their entirety. The motion passed 11-2, with one member abstaining.

Following the Planning-related articles, Advisory then returned to its consideration of Article 8 and the budget items.

Article 8 (Omnibus Budget)

Motion 1: MLP Contribution

Andrea Ward made and Paul Merry seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 8, Motion 1, as proposed by the BOS, to appropriate \$1,000,000 paid to the Town from the Municipal Light Plant to be used by the Board of Assessors as an estimated receipt when computing the tax rate commencing on July 1, 2019. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Motion 2: Appropriate Money to Town Boards: Supportive/Unsupportive votes

- *Board of Assessors.* Discussion: The Board of Assessors is required by law to complete a reclassification every five years. This is an unavoidable increase.

Andrea Ward made and Julie Bryan seconded a motion to express support for the Board of Assessors proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 7.56% (\$27,510) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- *Board of Health.* Discussion: The BOH is asking for 9 more hours for social worker services and 12 more hours for environmental health services. Additional comments included:
 - It is difficult to analyze the BOH budget and understand where hours go/how those hours are managed
 - Unclear whether the BOH looks at creative or more economical ways to provide services (e.g., outsourcing)
 - Concern was expressed about incremental creep in hours year after year
 - While the need for the additional social worker hours was understood, with respect to environmental health hours, there doesn't seem to be any other Town board or department that approaches staffing the way the BOH does, with staffing increases projected for the foreseeable future

- Clear that the Health Department works hard and that workload is increasing with the new camps and new food law, but Advisory would like to see better management
- The inspections (camps and food establishments) should be paying for themselves; perhaps there is a need to increase fees to offset the costs
- Would like to see the BOH develop a strategic plan and conduct benchmarking

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Board of Health proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 6.73% (\$55,080) increase over FY19, and an increase in Full-time Equivalent Employees from 7.2 in FY19 to 7.8 in FY20. The motion passed with 8 members expressing support, 4 members unsupportive, and one member abstaining.

- *Mental Health Services Initiative.* Discussion: Additional comments beyond those made earlier in the meeting included:
 - Concern that there is not a clear sense of whether the person will be a caseworker or a coordinator
 - The new social worker position is not a necessity; there are already innumerable programs available, including a crisis stabilization team
 - The \$40,000 for the shared position would be good to permit more weekend coverage
 - With mental health, there is always more need and more services that could be provided, but how is the line to be drawn; there will always be something that can't be gotten to
 - Concern about how the new full-time position fits with the other existing resources/services
 - Concern about the process and how late this request is coming to Advisory
 - This issue was raised at ATM last year; the working group and their recommendations have come out of that
 - Concern about directing these additional funds to the BOH
 - Concern was raised about sharing a position with another town; may be better to use resources within town and have more control

Andrea Ward made and Paul Merry seconded a motion to express support for the Mental Health Services Initiative FY20 operating budget, including \$20,000 in benefits, which will result in a 100% increase (\$160,000) over FY19, and an increase in one FTE. The motion failed, with 3 members supportive and 10 members unsupportive.

- *Building Department:* Discussion: Two underpaid positions were reclassified.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Building Department proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 6.23% (\$34,179) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- *Central Administrative Services*

Andrea Ward made and Jeff Levitan seconded a motion to express support for the Central Administrative Services proposed FY20 operating budget, which will result in a 4.53% (\$1,200) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- *Executive Director's Office.* Discussion: Jack Morgan, Chair, BOS discussed the Executive Director's Office budget. The BOS has put on hold the Assistant Executive Director job description, as it needs to be done in the context of a new Executive Director. This will be explained at ATM. The BOS agreed that staffing in the Executive Director's office needs to go back to the previous level of five (Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Communications and Project Director, and a new position). Currently work is being done to define the various responsibilities in the department.

A question was asked how the finances behind this were determined if the new position's responsibilities are not yet known: The budget provided for an assumption of pay level. Currently BOS members are doing some of the work of the Executive Director's office. It is believed that the budget is appropriate for the Executive Director and Assistant Director salaries.

A concern was expressed that the Executive Director job description is very unique (i.e., no central control) and in order to attract someone for this position, Town needs to demonstrate that it has sufficient staff; may be difficult to find someone with the competencies the Town expects.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Executive Director's Office proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations and \$20,000 in benefits, which will result in a 23.31% (\$116,369) increase over FY19 and an increase in FTEs from 4.0 in FY19 to 5.0 in FY20. The motion passed, with 11 members expressing support and 2 members unsupportive.

- *Finance Department. Discussion: Assistant Finance Director was re-hired at a higher level. Andrea Ward made and Lina Musayev seconded a motion to express support for the Finance Department's proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 3.79% (\$17,375) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Information Technology. Discussion: Increased costs due to second year of electronic permitting and new time management system for multiple departments. Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Information Technology Department's proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 10.23% (\$111,691) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Memorial Day/Graves. Discussion: Stipend required to find veteran residing in Wellesley to serve this function. Andrea Ward made and Bill Maynard seconded a motion to express support for the Memorial Day/Graves proposed FY20 operating budget, which will result in a 100% (\$2,500) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Natural Resources Commission. Discussion: Reclassification of Director position. Andrea Ward made and Paul Merry seconded a motion to express support for the NRC's proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 9.56% (\$22,316) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Police. Discussion: Additional officer to replace the one who became Traffic and Parking lieutenant when responsibilities were transferred over from Town Hall. Andrea Ward made and Julie Bryan seconded a motion to express support for the Police Department's proposed FY20 operating budget, including \$20,000 benefits and 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 3.65% (\$231,217) increase over FY19 and an increase in Full-time Equivalent Employees from 60 in FY19 to 61 in FY20. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Recreation Commission. Discussion: Andrea Ward made and Lina Musayev seconded a motion to express support for the Recreation Commission proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 2.76% (\$10,137) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).*

- *Youth Commission.* Discussion: It is believed that the 3.98% increase shown on one of the Finance Department tables is a typo, and that this department is within guidelines at a 2.26% increase. However, Advisory will take a supportive/unsupportive vote in case one is needed.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Youth Commission's proposed FY20 operating budget, including 2% merit pool allocations, which will result in a 3.98% (\$3,985) increase over FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- *Council on Aging.* Discussion: The COA is within guidelines, but will add 0.3 FTEs by bringing on a second activities assistant at 10 hours/week.

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to express support for the Council on Aging proposed FY20 operating budget, which will result in an increase in Full-time Equivalent Employees from 8.1 in FY19 to 8.4 in FY20. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- *Facilities Management Department.* Discussion: FMD is within guidelines, but will add 0.2 FTEs to provide one-half year of custodial overtime (8 hours/week) at Tolles Parsons Center to enable COA to pilot additional operating hours.

Andrea Ward made and Betsy Roberti seconded a motion to express support for the FMD's proposed FY20 operating budget, which will result in an increase in Full-time Equivalent Employees from 72.6 in FY19 to 72.8 in FY19. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Motion 2: Overall Vote

Andrea Ward made and Julie Bryan seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 8, Motion 2, as proposed by the BOS, to appropriate \$169,305,751 to the Town Boards and officials for the purposes outlined in the 2020 Omnibus Budget. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Motion 3: Transfer From Free Cash to Available Cash

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 8, Motion 3, as proposed by the BOS, to transfer \$2,500,000 from Free Cash, as certified on July 1, 2018, to reduce the tax rate. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Having concluded its discussion/vote on Article 8, Advisory then returned to consider the remaining warrant articles in numerical order.

Article 4 (Amend Job Classification Plan)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 4, as proposed by the Human Resources Board, that the Town vote to amend the Classification Plan established at the 1950 Annual Town Meeting as amended, by striking Schedule A, "Job Classification by Groups" and inserting a new Schedule A as set forth in the Motion accompanying the Article. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Article 5 (Salary Plan -- Pay Schedule)

Discussion: A comment was made that the reserve fund for mid-year salary adjustments in Motion 3 may be too high given the sparing way it is used; \$15,000 was budgeted this year but so far only \$12,000 used; HR Board seeks to increase to \$20,000 for FY20. A comment was made that perhaps there is a different way to handle mid-year salary adjustments, as there is a lack of clarity as to when Human Resources (HR) funds are used and when individual departments fund the adjustments. Last year there were not enough funds to cover all the adjustments, so many departments had to cover within those their own budgets.

Motion 1

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 5, Motion 1, as proposed by the Human Resources Board, that the Town vote to amend Schedule B of Article 31 of the Town Bylaws (entitled “Salary Plan – Pay Schedules”) for the Series 40 employees as indicated in the Motion accompanying the Article. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Motion 2

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 5, Motion 2, as proposed by the Human Resources Board, that the Town vote to amend Schedule B of Article 31 of the General Bylaws (entitled “Salary Plan – Pay Schedules”) for the Series 50 and 60 employees as indicated in the Motion accompanying the Article. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

Motion 3

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 5, Motion 3, as proposed by the Human Resources Board, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to the Human Resources Board for the purpose of granting salary increases to employees in Job Groups 50 and above in the classification plan. The motion passed unanimously (13-0)

Article 6 (Town Clerk’s Salary)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 6, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, to see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of the Town Clerk at \$93,251.00 effective July 1, 2019. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 9 (Revise and Authorize Revolving Funds)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 9, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to:

- (1) amend Article 55 of the General Bylaws by revising subsections 55.1.b and 55.1.c, and by adding a new subsection 55.1.m, as set forth in the Warrant and Motion;*

and

- (2) set the limit on the total amount that may be spent from each revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2020 as set forth in the Warrant and Motion.*

- a. Street Opening Maintenance Fund: \$225,000.00*
- b. DPW Field Use Fund: \$200,000.00*
- c. Turf Field Fund: \$500,000.00*
- d. Tree Bank Fund: \$75,000.00*
- e. Baler, Compacters and other RDF Equipment Repair Fund: \$50,000.00*
- f. Council on Aging Social and Cultural Programs Fund: \$140,000.00*
- g. Teen Center Program Revenues Fund: \$50,000.00*
- h. Library Room Rental Fund: \$35,000.00*
- i. Lost/Damaged Library Materials Replacement Fund: \$20,000.00*
- j. Brookside Community Gardens Fund: \$3,000.00*
- k. Weston Road Gardens Fund: \$7,000.00*
- l. Library Copier Fees Fund: \$20,000.00*
- m. Cultural Council Revenues Fund: \$6,500.00*

The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 10 (Special Injury Leave Indemnity Fund)

Andrea Ward made and Paul Merry seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 10, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash \$48,672.00 (FORTY-

EIGHT THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO DOLLARS) to the Special Injury Leave Indemnity Fund established under Article 9 of the 2017 Annual Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 11 (SPED Reserve Fund)

Motion 1

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon second a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 11, Motion 1, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to appropriate \$160,000 from Free Cash (representing an amount equal to Medicaid reimbursements for FY19) to the Special Education Reserve Fund established by the vote taken under Article 10 at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting to pay, without further appropriation, for unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition or transportation. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Motion 2

Discussion: Motion 2 was brought forward by the BOS with the concurrence of SC. The \$500,000 increase proposed here, along with the \$160,000 under Motion 1, will leave the SPED Reserve Fund with a balance of approximately \$760,000, which will provide a buffer against future unexpected SPED expenses. This \$500,000 contribution is not reflected in the SC budget. The SPED Reserve Fund allows fluctuations in SPED expenses to be covered by withdrawals from the fund (upon a vote of both SC and BOS) without having to go back to Town Meeting to seek supplemental appropriations. If drawn upon, the Reserve Fund will need to be replenished in the future.

A question was asked as to who can decide to withdraw from the fund: Withdrawals require a vote of both SC and BOS. A follow-up question was asked whether the money that is withdrawn needs to be replenished: Replenishing the fund would require a separate vote by Town Meeting. Medicaid receipts are voted annually into the Reserve Fund, so this is a natural source of replenishment. The Town's overall rainy day fund is Free Cash; to date the Town has dealt with SPED fluctuations by tapping into Free Cash, but this can only be done at TM. The SPED Reserve Fund provides more flexibility and it counts as a reserve for bond rating agencies. However, it cannot be used for other needs beyond SPED; statutorily, the fund must be used for unanticipated or unbudgeted SPED expenses.

Support was expressed for the SPED Reserve Fund, as it reduces the uncertainty in the budget and it reduces competition between general education and SPED. A question was asked whether the BOS is involved in out-of-district placements: No board (including SC) has discretion on out-of-district placements; they are state-mandated and are the obligation of the Town; the question is how to fund these placements. A comment was made that having the BOS vote to withdraw funds in concurrence with SC provides a system of checks and balances.

A comment was made that in the review of the 2nd quarter of FY19 there are no SPED surprises. A question was asked whether the balance in the Reserve Fund would be invested: Funds will be invested the same way Free Cash is invested.

Andrea Ward made and Bill Maynard seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 11, Motion 2, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to appropriate \$500,000 from Free Cash to the Special Education Reserve Fund. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 24 (Quint Fire Truck Purchase)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 24, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$735,000 (SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS) to be expended under the direction of the Board of

Selectmen, for the purchase of a Quint Fire Truck; and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow these funds. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 25 (Polaris Circle Street Acceptance)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 25, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to accept Polaris Circle as a public way (with betterments) as laid out by the Board of Selectmen. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 35 (Amend General Bylaws)

Motion 1

Andrea Ward made and Jane Andrews seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 35, Motion 1, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by:

- *amending Section 8.3, Notice of Elections, to replace the words “Wellesley Square” with “the Police Station,” and*
- *amending Section 26.7, Fees, as set forth in the Warrant and Motion.*

The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Motion 2

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 35, Motion 2, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by replacing Section 30.10 with the language set forth in the Motion. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 36 (Electronic Voting)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 36, as proposed by the Committee on Electronic Voting, that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by inserting in Article 8 a new section 8.25, to authorize the Moderator to count the vote or conduct a roll call vote electronically on any matter before the Town Meeting by use of a system of handheld mobile devices; and further that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS) to be expended under the direction of the Town Clerk for the purpose of consulting services, leasing, maintaining, operating, and/or purchasing the use of Electronic Voting Systems to be used in Town Meeting sessions. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Article 38 (Indigenous Peoples Day)

Discussion:

- This is a very specific proposal on how to deal with a very complicated and divisive issue
- BOS is willing to discuss this issue with petitioners and try to develop proposal
- There was a concern raised about the legality of that some of the items in the resolution, i.e., whether Town Meeting can direct the Town to do specific things
- The items in the resolution at the end of the motion (“commemorat[ing],” “encourag[ing],” “establish[ing] a committee”) are understood from conversations with Town Counsel to be permissible actions of Town Meeting
- Troubled by the implications that indigenous peoples have suffered the most of any group that has suffered in this country; there are too many groups to choose just one
- This petition could be an opportunity for recasting that day as a discussion of diversity rather than naming it for a specific group
- This could be very divisive for the Town
- Troubled by polarizing language in the earlier parts of the motion, including references to things that are believed to be beyond the authority of Town Meeting (e.g., “by this act of abolishing Columbus Day”)

- Columbus Day is a state holiday and we can choose how to celebrate that holiday
- Renaming the holiday will help educate people about history and will allow the community to have conversations about this; consider the experience with the establishment of Martin Luther King Day
- This proposal is not coming from one person; a variety of people have come to Advisory to speak, including school children
- There needs to be a starting point; this is not something that comes to ATM with a fully developed plan; this is a beginning

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 38, as proposed by a Citizen Petition, that the Town support a resolution that, as set forth in the Motion,

- *Commemorates the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day;*
- *Encourages the Board of Selectmen to proclaim the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day;*
- *Encourages the Board of Selectmen to rename all Town calendar listings for the second Monday of October to reflect Indigenous Peoples Day;*
- *Establishes a committee, formed by the Moderator, to review and edit the “History of Wellesley” on the Town website; and*
- *Encourages the people of Wellesley to observe Indigenous Peoples Day.*

The motion failed, with 4 members voting in favor, 7 members against, and one member abstaining.

Article 39 (Rescind or Transfer Debt)

Andrea Ward made and Mary Scanlon seconded a motion to see if the Town will vote to rescind authorized and unissued loans, to authorize the transfer of unused proceeds from previously issued loans to one or more eligible appropriations, and/or to amend existing borrowing authorizations on unissued debt authorized prior to November 7, 2016, in order to allow the use of premiums for project costs and to reduce the amount of the borrowing so authorized, as set forth in the Motion under the warrant. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

Article 42 (Appoint Fire Engineers)

Andrea Ward made and Jane Andrews seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 42, as proposed by the Board of Selectmen, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint one or more of its members as a fire engineer. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Advisory then turned to discuss several articles that will not be voted on today.

Article 18 (Main Library Renovation Design Funds)

Advisory will not vote on this until next Wednesday, March 6, after Permanent Building Committee (PBC)/Library Trustees present to Advisory on final design numbers. However, Advisory wants to discuss this Article for purposes of drafting Advisory Considerations for the write-up in the Advisory Report. Comments included:

- Current project is leaner/meaner; relatively low cost to make this Town asset continue to follow national trends and do the right thing
- Supports project; Library is evolving; exponential change with digitization of all media, which has changed the focus of the Library; however, wants to be sure that adequate fees are charged for use of rooms/rental space
- In favor of bringing Library up into current age, but felt that presentation was extravagant; for example, doesn't see the need for café space
- Library will be doing a lot with very little money; project was very well thought out; will be much better and more usable; Library should be a central hub for the Town; space is poorly

allocated right now; on the heels of having fixed the Fells Branch Library, this renovation is a great thing

- FMD has done a great job of getting this within a rational/frugal renovation budget; Library is the social center piece of Town and well worth the investment that is being proposed
- Although doesn't have a personal stake in this project, has heard from many people in precinct who believe Library is beautiful and don't know why Town would spend more money on it
- Concerned about bandwidth of Town; not just during the period of actual construction, but the lead-up

Article 19 (Middle School Steam Pipes Construction Funding)

Advisory will vote on this March 20, after PBC receives bids and presents them to Advisory. Original estimate was just over \$4 million. A comment was made that this project falls into the category of "urgent" and "necessary" and should be approved.

Adjourn

Andrea Ward made and Betsy Roberti seconded a motion to adjourn at 2:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.