

Approved: March 23, 2020

Board of Selectmen Meeting: March 4, 2020

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

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: 2020-034 \$1,440,059.52

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. BOS Calendar
3. Draft Town Wide Financial Plan
4. FY21 Sources and Uses
5. Draft ATM Motions
6. Draft BOS Minutes: 1/13/20
7. DPW Gift Information
8. Correspondence from Chief DeLorie
9. Correspondence from Edwina McCarthy
10. Correspondence from MA Secretary of State's Office
11. MassBay CC Press Release
12. SBC Slides – SBC Meeting 2/27/20

1. Call to Order

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 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. Executive Session under G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #7 to comply with Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25 to approve minutes and review release of January 13, 2020, February 3, 2020, and February 13, 2020

Ms. Freiman requested a motion that the Board vote to convene in Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with all unions and to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations with Chief Pilecki and Assistant Chief Peterson, non-union staff members, and to negotiate on a lease with Trinity Financial and declared that having such discussions in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position.

At 6:35pm, upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to enter into executive session for the following matters:

- **M. G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #7 to comply with Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25 to approve minutes and review release of January 13, 2020, February 3, 2020, and February 13, 2020**
- **M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #2 – to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Police Chief Jack Pilecki and Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Peterson)**

- Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #6 – to discuss negotiations for the land lease of real estate with Trinity Financial at the Tailby and Railroad Commuter Parking Lots
- Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with all bargaining units.

As the Chair has declared that having such discussions in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town’s bargaining position and to invite Meghan Jop and Amy Frigulietti to participate in all of the executive sessions. Following the close of executive session, the Board will return to open session to continue the meeting.

Freiman – Aye
 Ulfelder – Aye
 Morgan – Aye
 Sullivan Woods – Aye
 Olney – Aye

4. Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #2 – to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Police Chief Jack Pilecki and Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Peterson)
5. Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #6 – to discuss negotiations for the land lease of real estate with Trinity Financial at the Tailby and Railroad Commuter Parking Lots
6. Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with all bargaining units

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session.

Freiman – Aye
 Ulfelder – Aye
 Morgan – Aye
 Sullivan Woods – Aye
 Olney – Aye

7. Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:53pm

8. Update from the Health Department

Mr. Cohen, Wellesley Board of Health Chair, and Ms. Oliver Grape of the Wellesley Board of Health, joined the Board. Mr. Cohen stated that the Board of Health had full confidence that the Wellesley Health Department was prepared to prevent the spread of corona virus or to contain it if a case should occur in Wellesley. He added that the Health Department has an emergency preparedness plan and was working with other Town emergency personnel to enhance it. He stated that the Health Department staff had been and would continue to be in contact with the State Dept. of Health. He added that staff will make statements to the public coordinated with the Selectmen, the School Department and the Police to avoid any miscommunications. He noted that the staff was also in close communications with Wellesley College and Babson College. Ms. Jop stated that weekly calls with various departments were ongoing regarding health updates and coordinating efforts to ensure preparedness. Mr. Cohen stated that the Board of Health belonged to two emergency planning coalitions that hold exercises to review preparedness

plans. He noted the volunteers the Board of Health had access to in the event of a health emergency. Ms. Grape stated that the state had received access to test for corona virus with 24-hour results. The Board discussed the capacity of the Health Department to be prepared in a health emergency and updated information regarding corona virus. Ms. Jop reviewed the medium for communications to the public and stated that messaging remains consistent across Town departments. She noted that the presence of the virus in Wellesley was low and the Town continued to encourage the public to engage in proper handwashing. The Board continued to discuss the Board of Health's plans, response, and messaging.

9. Announcements

Ms. Olney stated that Sustainable Wellesley would be hosting a "Meet the Candidates Night" on March 8th at 4:30pm at the Wellesley Village Church.

10. Annual Town Meeting Preparation

Ms. Strother, Town Finance Director, joined the Board. Ms. Jop reviewed the changes to the Town Wide Financial Plan and noted changes made to the Budget Book. She stated that the recommendation to the Board was to use free cash to balance the budget. She added that she and Ms. Strother recommended the use of free cash for the Town Hall annex schematic design of approximately \$1.3million rather than borrowing for the project. Ms. Strother reviewed the changes to the sources and uses projections for the FY21 budget. The Board discussed the budget and the drafted Town Wide Financial Plan.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve the FY21 budget at \$181,579,453 and to authorize the use of \$1,338,144 in Free Cash for the Town Hall Annex Schematic Design through bid process and the use of \$2,639,066 Free Cash to balance the budget.

Ms. Jop reviewed the request to use the TNC funds from the Mobility Committee for a study. Ms. Jop stated reviewed the request to use TNC funds to offset the cost of the Recreation Department's bus service for summer camp for children from the Wellesley Housing Authority. She noted that the cost had previously been funded from the Health Department but the private resources that had been used were no longer available. She added that this funding decision would be for the current year and other funding options such as marathon bibs to address this ongoing issue would be evaluated.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to bring to Annual Town Meeting for approval the expenditure of the TNC funds as follows:

- **\$20,000 towards the \$50,000 Mobility Committee Study**
- **\$4,801.90 to the Recreation Commission's for Bus Service to the Wellesley Housing Authority**

11. Executive Director's Update

Ms. Jop briefly reviewed the drafted minutes and the gift for the DPW for picnic tables at the Hunnewell Court. She noted additional gifts received by the DPW accepted under her purview.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes of January 13, 2020.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to accept the gift of two picnic tables to be located at the Hunnewell Tennis Courts from the Wellesley Court Club in the amount of \$3340.00.

12. Discuss and Vote Police Chief Contract

Ms. Freiman stated that Chief Pilecki's contract would expire on June 30th. She added that the formal work evaluation would be done later but she had discussions with the Chief regarding his accomplishments. She stated that the Chief's current salary was lower than comparable communities.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to approve a new three-year employment contract with Police Chief Francis J. "Jack" Pilecki with a starting FY21 salary of \$195,000.

13. Discuss and Call a Special Town Meeting

Ms. Jop stated that the Board was being asked to consider extending the mandatory retirement age for Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Peterson. She stated that the Town would be required to seek a special act through the legislature for the mandatory retirement age extension past 65. She added that Mr. Peterson would be 65 in October, 2020 and stated the Board would be required to put a motion before Town Meeting. She noted it was expected to be a single issue Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board voted (5-0) to call a Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Wellesley Middle School and to set the following dates:

- **Open the Warrant – Wednesday, March 4, 2020**
- **Close the Warrant – Friday, March 6, 2020 at 5:00pm**
- **Motions due to the Selectmen's Office – Friday, March 20, 2020 at 5:00 pm**

14. Liaison Updates

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the SBC met on February 27th where the discussion had been focused on the traffic study related to the Hardy School and the redistricting. He added that several members of the SBC were concerned with the perceived inadequacies of the traffic study and would ask for an updated report. He stated that the discussion would continue at the SBC meeting on March 5th. Ms. Jop stated that the Abutters Meeting for both Hardy and Upham was taking place at the Middle School and was filmed and would be available for viewing on Wellesley Media.

15. New Business and Correspondence

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Juliani Room.