

Minutes for Advisory Committee – March 11.

Present: Jennifer Fallon, Rusty Kellogg, Patti Quigley, Neal Goins, Betsy Roberti, Todd Cook, Bill Maynard, Julie Bryan, Lina Musayev, Mary Gard, Ralph Tortorella, John Lanza, Paul Merry

Absent: Mary Scanlon, Deed McCollum

Todd Cook opened the meeting

Citizens Speak – no one

### **Article 46**

Julie Bryan moved and Lina Musayev seconded a motion on Article 46

### **Discussion**

Advisory Question for merchants' association representatives regarding their position.

- Discussion regarding the position of the merchants.
- Concern by the merchants' association regarding the competition with other towns for fur products. The general position is that they believe the customers should have the choice and we shouldn't ban it as a Town. It should be up to the consumer to make that choice.

Further discussion regarding legislation around the country.

Humane Society did a study that 66% of citizens want a fur ban.

Advisory Question: Why local and not state legislature?

- The state legislature is slow to catch up with public opinion
- Legislature is overcrowded with proposed bills
- It's extremely slow process

Advisory comment: It's not really a problem in our town, so do we really want another rule that would require enforcement?

Noted that typically, we look at articles that affect our Town.

Advisory comment: This doesn't seem to have much impact on the Town.

Everyone is supportive of the idea of no animal cruelty; no one supports fur, but this doesn't have much effect on the Town. Does it even have much of an impact when we don't even sell fur that much?

Vote: 6 yes, 6 no

Chair acknowledged the split in the committee, that all are supportive of the effort to protect animals, but many members believe it should be a grassroots effort at the state level.

Chair broke the tie by voting no.

### **Board of Selectmen**

Introductory remarks from Meghan Jop regarding COVID-19; Town has limited meetings to essential meetings; Town is preparing for a very succinct Town meeting; Meghan may advocate for no presentations.

Budget Book: available at the Library in hard copy; online at [www.wellesleyma.gov/2020budgetbook](http://www.wellesleyma.gov/2020budgetbook)

### **Presentation of TWFP and balanced budget presentation.**

Article 7 primarily transfers money interdepartmentally in order to assist the FY20 budget, plus a couple of free cash transfers. All are non tax-exempt.

#### Article 22

Town has had a license agreement for about ten years to allow them to use the small paved parcel.

Town went through procurement process

Secured five-year agreement with Haynes for \$1000 per year, with an option to renew

#### Article 23

Uber/Lyft funds received from federal fees will fund a study on impact of transportation services

Will fund transportation for Housing Authority kids to go to summer camp; previously funded by BOH, but their transportation budget is strapped because of rising costs of inoculations  
Also, funds would assist Rec Dept to get those kids to camp.

#### Article 40

Came up because numerous Boards are not being videotaped and therefore limited availability to Town residents; availability to be recorded needs to exist to increase transparency; this is a request to authorize those regulations.

Current rules allow anyone to tape a meeting.

The BOS will work with Wellesley Public Media to figure out the best method.

Advisory Question: What is the cost to the Town?

There would be no cost to the Town because the revenue that Wellesley Public media generates from the fees paid by Verizon and Comcast mandated under federal law creates a surplus of funds, so they have the capacity to tape additional meetings without any cost to the Town

Advisory Question: This seems like an odd duck of an article because it is giving the BOS power to promulgate regulations to control independent boards. Are you modeling it off other communities?

Andover has a similar model – NOT authority to regulate; an actual bylaw.

Advisory Question: Have the other Boards weighed in on this article?

They knew it was coming; it has been discussed for many years

Advisory Question: Is there a reason why it has to happen at this ATM? Shouldn't we have more time to talk with other Boards?

There will be hearings and opportunity for comment from other Boards

Advisory Question: Are there Boards that are going to speak against the article?

BOS does not know.

### **Presentation on Article 26 – Climate Change resolution**

History of climate change impact efforts in Town

Discussion regarding what requirements the resolution imposes on the different Boards.

### **Voting and Discussion**

Article 2

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 2

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 4

Julie Bryan moved and Paul Merry seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 4

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 5, motion 1

Julie Bryan moved and Neal Goins seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 5, motion 1

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 5, Motion 2

Julie Bryan moved and Lina Musayev seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 5, Motion 2

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 5, Motion 3

Julie Bryan moved and Patti Quigley seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 5, Motion 3

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 7, Motion 1

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 7, Motion 1

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 7, Motion 2

Julie Bryan moved and John Lanza seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 7, Motion 2

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 7, Motion 3

Julie Bryan moved and Neal Goins seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 7, Motion 3

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 7, Motion 4

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 7, Motion 4

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 7, Motion 5

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 7, Motion 5

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 8, Motion 2

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion to express support for the FY21 Risk Management budget

Advisory Question: could the increase be offset by using a different vendor?

- We have had increased use of our insurance funds; as our buildings continue to deteriorate our premiums will increase as we use our policy; we've also added properties; but we've had significant increase in claims over the past two years.

12 supportive; 0 unsupportive

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 8, Motion 2

Discussion about the difference in the budget Advisory and ATM votes on and the total Town budget; difference comprises primarily merit pool allocations.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 8, Motion 3

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 8, Motion 3

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 9

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 9

Discussion about how this coordinates with the new tree bylaw article.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 10

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 10

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 11, Motion 1

Julie Bryan moved and Paul Merry seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 11, Motion 1

Discussion about the new Medicaid rules requiring the Schools to stop seeking funds through Medicaid reimbursement

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 11, Motion 2

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 11, Motion 2

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 22

Julie Bryan moved and Mary Gard seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 22

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 23

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 23

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 26

Julie Bryan moved and Lina Musayev seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 26

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 27

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 27

Discussion regarding the easements that will be included in the motion. There were originally a total of seven, and it appears that five will be ready for voting at ATM.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 40

Julie Bryan moved and Paul Merry seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 2

Disclosure of one of the members that he is married to one of the Library Trustees, and the Library Board may be affected by this Article.

One member expressed support for transparency in government, but believes that Advisory's role as an investigative body means that Advisory should be doing due diligence and should wait to vote on this until a later time when we have more information.

Some members expressed confusion over why Boards would have an issue with it since all meetings are public and can be videotaped.

Vote: 11 yes 1 no 0 abstain

Discussion regarding remaining articles brought by BOS (47-50)

Article 50

Julie Bryan moved and Lina Musayev seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 50

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Summary of remaining articles needing discussion and vote

Article 3

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 3

Currently, there are 13 articles included in the Consent Agenda. Additional articles may come off, or others may get on the Consent Agenda after the Moderator and BOS discuss it.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Article 14

The budget for the Water program changed significantly because the MWRA costs came in higher than expected, so it requires a re-vote.

Julie Bryan moved and John Lanza seconded a motion to rescind the vote previously taken on Article 14.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Julie Bryan moved and Ralph Tortorella seconded a motion for favorable action on Article 14.

No Discussion

Vote: 12 yes 0 no 0 abstain

Julie Bryan moved and John Lanza seconded approval of the February 26, 2020 advisory minutes approved, 12-0

Julie Bryan moved and Jennifer Fallon seconded approval of the February 27, 2020 advisory minutes approved, 12-0

Julie Bryan moved and Paul Merry seconded approval of the February 29, 2020 advisory minutes approved, 12-0

Discussion of Public hearing for STM on March 18, 2020

Lina moved and John Lanza seconded a motion to adjourn.

Passed, 12-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm