

Approved: April 13, 2020

Board of Selectmen Meeting: March 30, 2020

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

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: none

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. BOS Calendar
3. Draft BOS Minutes: 3/9/20
4. Complete Streets Prioritization Plan
5. Complete Streets Potential Project List
6. Draft PowerPoint Presentation – Complete Streets
7. Correspondence: MassBay CC

1. Call to Order

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm online.

Ms. Freiman announced the meeting was being streamed live on Comcast channel 8 and Verizon channel 40 and by Wellesley Media and recorded for subsequent viewing on the cable channels or at wellesleymedia.org. She stated residents wishing to speak in Citizen Speak or another agenda item should email sel@wellesleyma.gov to be assigned a number and call 781-489-7525 and wait for their number to be called.

2. Citizen Speak

Ms. Jop confirmed there were no callers on the line.

3. Announcements

Ms. Freiman expressed gratitude for all those working on the front lines and thanked all those still working. She noted that it was “National Doctor’s Day” and thanked all medical personnel. She thanked those donating PPE to first responders. Ms. Freiman stated that residents should be continuing to physically distance themselves from others and not exercise in groups to protect themselves and others. She added that those working in the stores and pharmacies are under stress trying to help shoppers and asked residents to practice patience and gratitude while shopping.

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the Veteran’s Council would be sending a letter to all Veteran’s with information on signing up for News and Announcements and with information for additional resources. She added that the COA had been reaching to all seniors in their database to check in. She stated the Health Department had been working with staff in Town to establish a non-emergency non-medial phone line for residents. Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the Recreation Department and Youth Commission were identifying ideas to keep families and children engaged and those activities would be available on the Recreation Department website.

Ms. Freiman reviewed the steps for signing up for the Town News and Announcements through the Town website.

4. Executive Director's Update

Ms. Jop reviewed the drafted minutes. Ms. Jop stated that the Algonquin Gas project scheduled to begin at Rosemary Forest would start shortly and continue for several months. She stated that the bid for rental space for FMD had been received and only one bid was returned from Haynes Management. She added that the recommendation was to accept the bid, and noted it was a three-year lease with a two-year extension. She stated that the lease would likely be presented to the Board for signature on April 6th.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0-1, Mr. Morgan abstained as he was not present at the meeting) to approve the minutes of March 9, 2020.

Morgan - Abstained

Sullivan Woods - Aye

Olney - Aye

Ulfelder - Aye

Freiman - Aye

5. Discuss and Vote Complete Streets Prioritization Plan

Ms. Jop provided an overview of the Complete Streets project and policy. She added that the Traffic Committee had been working on the prioritization plan and process of holding public meetings and receiving comments.

Mr. Hickey Town Engineer, Lieutenant Showstead Director of Traffic and Parking, and Ms. Castelli of VHB, joined the meeting.

Ms. Castelli reviewed the background of the Complete Streets program developed by MassDOT. She noted that the deadline for submitting the plan to MassDOT was April 1st in order to be eligible for state funding for qualifying projects. She noted that the Town would be competing for funding for the projects. Ms. Castelli reviewed the commenting process and culling of submitted projects/comments. She briefly reviewed the total projects and those to be submitted, and how projects were prioritized on the list. Ms. Castelli stated that the Town should receive some response and comments from MassDOT within several weeks and noted should hear from the state prior to the Great Plain Avenue project beginning. She added that any funds received would need to be fully used before requesting additional funding for future projects. The Board discussed the Complete Streets project and prioritization of projects.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan as revised by DPW feedback and authorize its submittal to MassDOT.

Morgan - Aye

Sullivan Woods - Aye

Olney - Aye

Ulfelder - Aye

Freiman - Aye

6. ATM Preparation

Ms. Jop stated that an additional postponement to ATM and STM was likely. She added that the legislature would be reviewing the potential of allowing representative Town Meetings to be held for virtually.

7. Discuss and Vote Unforeseen Measures of COVID-19 Outbreak

Ms. Jop stated that interior inspections had halted while online requests for permits continued. She added that an alternative protocol for virtual internal inspections would move forward as the Governor has allowed construction to continue. She noted that this process was new and would require patience as the inspectors adapted to the new protocol.

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that The Community Fund for Wellesley had expressed interest in establishing a relief fund and wanted to know how the Board felt about the idea, noting other communities were establishing similar funds. She noted the idea was very new and no action had been taken at this time. Ms. Sullivan Woods noted that the Town would not be administering the fund in any way. The Board discussed the idea of the charity establishing the fund and noted that the Town should not provide direction or approval of the fund but did not object.

8. Liaison Updates

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the joint SBC and School Committee meeting was held and they reviewed the Hunnewell plans. He added that the SBC were continuing to hold meetings through March but would discuss how meetings would be held going forward.

9. New Business and Correspondence

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020 at 6:30 pm online.