

Approved: June 7, 2021

Select Board Meeting: May 10, 2021

Present: Ulfelder, Olney, Sullivan Woods, Aufranc, Lanza

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: none

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. Memo from Town Treasurer re: Bond Anticipation Notes
3. Bond Anticipation Note Motion Language
4. Memo to Natick Select Board
5. Natick Zoning Bylaw
6. Correspondence re: Council on Aging Appointments
7. Map of Proposed Parklet Locations
8. Draft License Agreement for use of sidewalk
9. Draft Select Board Minutes: 4/46/21, 4/27/21, 5/3/21
10. Norfolk County Letter
11. Seizing the Moment on Racism NOtes
12. MassBay CC Announcement
13. Police Commendations

1. Call to Order

Mr. Ulfelder, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm online.

Mr. Ulfelder 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.

2. Citizen Speak

None.

3. Announcements

Ms. Jop stated that MMA had released information regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and would be providing additional guidance as it was received. She added that the Planning Board had advertised a zoning public hearing on June 7th to review a potential zoning ban related to operation of gun stores in Town and encouraged interested residents to review the information on the Planning Board website.

4. Introduction of Norfolk County Sheriff Patrick McDermott

Sheriff McDermott, and Mr. Manning, Norfolk County Sheriff's Office Director of External Affairs, joined the meeting.

Mr. Ulfelder noted Sheriff McDermott's history in public service work prior to being elected Sheriff of Norfolk County. Mr. McDermott stated his office serves as a public safety resource for Wellesley and for all of Norfolk County. He added that his office takes a proactive approach to criminal justice and improving conditions of safety in the communities and those that enter the criminal justice system. He

reviewed several of the programs that focus on at risk populations throughout the county, the crisis control operations, and his outreach to local police departments. Mr. McDermott stated that he was continuously reviewing the mission of his office and various avenues of community outreach on issues of racism, opioids, and other social concerns. He added that office approaches each community by understanding the specific needs of the various towns. Mr. Manning described the youth camps and programming offered through the office. The Board discussed Sheriff McDermott's background, approach to his position, and programming at the Sheriff's Office.

5. Discuss and Vote Bond Anticipation Not (BAN) Sale

Ms. Lopes, Town Treasurer, and Ms. Strother, Town Finance Director, joined the Board.

Ms. Jop stated that the previous year the Town had borrowed over \$5million mainly for the MSBA feasibility and Hunnewell design. She added that the BAN would was a short term borrowing to be rolled into the debt exclusion which was expected to be voted at the Special Town Meeting in December.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) and motion language in the amount of \$4,135,000 with a net interest cost of 0.23.1%

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

6. Discuss Natick Retail Marijuana Proposals

Ms. Jop encouraged interested residents to review the Town of Natick website regarding retail marijuana establishments and processes for application submittal, review, and approval. She reviewed the current status of retail marijuana establishment permitting and review process adding that the Natick Select Board would soon begin its public hearings and analysis of the potential vendors. Ms. Jop stated that Wellesley, as an abutter, could provide comments however would have no jurisdiction regarding the licensing of or location of an establishment in Natick. Mr. Ulfelder noted the number of Wellesley resident complaints and concerns regarding the Route 9 East Emporium location that validated a discussion to submit comments as abutters to the location. Ms. Sullivan Woods proposed the Town perform a full review potential impacts of the proposed retail marijuana establishment locations and supported submitting comments to the Natick Select Board. Ms. Aufranc stated that Wellesley may have recourse with traffic and parking issues on Wellesley streets by not allowing on street parking or by other means of rerouting traffic on narrow roads. Ms. Olney stated that the chief concerns of the resident abutters were related to traffic and parking at the 9 East Emporium and the proposed site from C3, she added many had expressed a preference for the site at the former Papa Gino's. Ms. Lanza supported asking staff to work with Ms. Jop in preparation of a letter to be submitted to the Natick Select Board on behalf of the Board. The Board discussed the current status of the Natick process, the concerns of the Wellesley residents, and the best approach for the Board to submit comments and concerns as potential abutters. The Board expressed general agreement that Ms. Jop work with internal departments to prepare a letter for Board review and approval.

7. Discuss and Vote Council on Aging Appointments

Ms. Sullivan Woods reviewed the request from the Council on Aging for reappointing three members prior to the June appointment process. She stated that the COA would be reorganizing board positions and

reviewing their workplan and would prefer to include these appointees involved in that process. She added that the COA would have two additional seats to fill, including the seat by long time member Mr. Kealy and would be reviewing volunteer applications that had been received.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to reappoint Theodore Parker, Dianne Sullivan, and Lori Ferrante to the Council on Aging for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

8. Discuss and Vote Proposed Parklet Locations

Ms. Frigulietti stated that the traffic committee had worked with BETA to review potential locations for the parklet. She added that the location on Washington Street between the Library and Wellesley Square was chosen as there were several dining locations with limited seating available. She added that the location outside of Juniper presented an opportunity to bring additional customers to Wellesley Square as there was typically a wait for outdoor dining at the restaurant. She noted that there would be two parking spaces used for the parklet outside of Old School Pizzeria and would be monitored for cleaning and trash by both Old School and DPW. Ms. Frigulietti stated that DPW was working with All Type Sign Co., to develop signage to make the orange barriers more attractive. She added that the Merchants Association was in favor of utilizing the three parking spaces outside of Juniper for creating an artificial sidewalk. She reviewed the proposal of allowing Juniper to expand seating on the sidewalk area and creating a pedestrian walkway through the three parking spaces that would provide for ADA accessible passage along Central Street. Ms. Frigulietti stated that should the Board approve the agreement with Juniper, the Town would enter into a licensing agreement for the use of the sidewalk and Juniper would revise its temporary outdoor seating permit application and license. The Board discussed the proposed location for the parklet on Washington Street and creating a walkway in front of Juniper on Central Street. Ms. Jop noted the various locations reviewed by the traffic committee for potential locations for the parklet and the Committees approval of both proposed locations. The Board expressed general support for the parklet location on Washington Street and in front of Juniper.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to authorize the use of two parking spaces on Washington Street in the vicinity of 552 Washington Street for a parklet.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to authorize the use of three parking spaces between 9 and 23 Central Street for a sidewalk, to allow for the expansion of Juniper Restaurant onto the Town sidewalk in front of 11-23 Central Street, and to authorize Executive Director Meghan Jop to execute a License Agreement with Juniper Restaurant for the use of the sidewalk upon final approval by the restaurant task force.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye
Lanza – Aye

9. Discuss and Vote Gift for Wellesley Track and Field Restrooms

Ms. Jop reviewed the background of approvals at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting for the use funding sources for the track and field restrooms and team rooms. She stated that due to the expense of the project it had been determined to move forward with the restrooms at this time noting that portion of the project had secured funding through gift sources. She added that the revised project was being reviewed by the NRC.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the gift of 175,000 from the Wellesley Field Fund towards the construction of the restrooms at the Wellesley Track and Field.

Sullivan Woods – Aye
Olney –Aye
Ulfelder – Aye
Aufranc – Aye
Lanza – Aye

10. Executive Director’s Report

Ms. Jop reviewed the request from the Recreation Commission for the use of CARES funds to assist with operation of Morses Pond due to COVID related protocols and increased staffing needs. She added that the request included the use of CARES funds to assist with free day recreation programs for vulnerable families. The Board discussed the request from the Recreation Commission and the intended use of the CARES funds.

Ms. Jop stated that the Department of Public Health had issued modified restrictions and allowances regarding the State’s reopening process. She noted that the Health Department would provide a community update at a meeting in the near future regarding the updated guidance.

Ms. Jop reviewed the proclamation for longtime employee Ms. McGrath who had recently retired after over 47 years with the Town. She read the proclamation for the Board and the record. The Board expressed gratitude for Ms. McGrath’s long service to the Town.

Ms. Jop provided an overview of the proposed Board summer meeting schedule. The Board discussed the proposed schedule and expressed general support for changing to Tuesday evening meetings in July and August.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to authorize the use of \$120,000 of CARES funds for the Recreation Commission.

Sullivan Woods – Aye
Olney –Aye
Ulfelder – Aye
Aufranc – Aye
Lanza – Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the resolution for Jeanne McGrath’s retirement and express the Board’s gratitude for her forty-seven and a half years of service.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

11. New Business and Correspondence

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the Celebrations Committee had voted to move forward with celebrating Wellesley Wonderful Weekend on October 2-3, 2021. She added that the Committee had partnered with Wellesley Women Artisans for a pop up gallery that opened on May 1st on Central Street. She noted that the initiatives with the Wellesley Square Merchants had been well received and significantly increased foot traffic downtown. She stated that the merchants were anticipating a partial closure of the street on May 22nd to work in conjunction with the Linden Square events on the same date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm online.