

Approved: June 7, 2021

Select Board Meeting: May 17, 2021

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

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: none

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Board Calendar
3. Memo re: 2021 Boston Marathon Invitational Entries
4. Draft Special Legislation language
5. Draft Contract Language AFSME 335 Supervisory Unit
6. Draft Contract Language AFSME 335 Production Unit
7. Memo and attachments re: Glen Grove financing
8. ARPA slides
9. Draft SB minutes: 4/26/21, 4/27/21, 5/3/21
10. Climate Action Plan Kick Off Event Slides
11. Notes re: MAPC Legislative Update
12. Notes and attachments re: MMA Code of Conduct Event
13. Wetlands Violation Letter – 1 Kendall Road
14. MassBay CC Press Release

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. Update from DPW Director on PFAS Findings

Mr. Cohen, DPW Director, and Ms. Korpi BPW Chair, joined the Board.

Mr. Cohen reviewed the PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) findings in Town water wells, noting changes in regulations from Mass Dept. of Environmental Protection that required municipalities to test for PFAS. Mr. Cohen stated that the Town began testing in April and those initial samples indicated higher than allowed PFAS in the Morses Pond treatment plant, he reviewed the minimum acceptable standards allowed under the regulation and the levels indicated within the initial findings. He provided an overview of the process DPW had undertaken after finding high PFAS levels, including taking the treatment plant offline, public notifications, education, and researching an appropriate treatment technique. Mr. Cohen noted the systems in place to supplement the water supply including increasing MWRA supplies adding that conservation plans and restrictions would be enhanced. He noted that the treatment plant was separate from the swimming water at Morses Pond. Mr. Cohen continued to discuss the potential solutions and treatments for the treatment plant. The Board discussed the PFAS findings and actions to be taken by DPW to address the PFAS levels.

Mr. Cohen stated that the DPW would be holding a touch-a-truck event on March 22nd at the DPW building in celebration of National Public Works Week. He added that both the DPW and the RDF would be holding fill-a-truck events to donate collected food items to the Wellesley Food Pantry on the 22nd.

4. Discuss and Vote Boston Marathon Invitational Entries

Ms. Hawkinson, Town Communications Director, joined the Board. She stated the Marathon would be held on October 11th with limited entries adding that the Town had received 22 entries from the BAA. She reviewed the memo she provided to the Board noting that 16 nonprofits had applied for entries. Ms. Hawkinson reviewed the typical awarding process of selecting appropriate nonprofits as well as individuals to fundraise for the War Memorial Scholarship. She added that the Board had received no interested parties for the scholarship. She provided a brief review of the organizations that had applied for entries; and specifically noted the application from IEDT USA requesting two bibs. The Board discussed the applications received and the proposal submitted from IEDT USA for two bibs and a potential distribution of funds raised to support other nonprofits. Ms. Hawkinson stated that the BAA required the final determination for bibs by March 25th. She provided her recommendation of awarding entries to 14 of the nonprofits, and potential options for awarding the final bibs. The Board continued to discuss the applicants, Ms. Hawkinson's recommendation, and the potential for awarding bibs for the War Memorial Scholarship. Ms. Jop confirmed for the Board that IEDT had agreed to run for the War Memorial Scholarship.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the award approve the recommendation of awarding 16 invitational entries as recommended with 1 to each of the 14 eligible non-profits and 1 additional entry to WCCC and 1 additional entry to Sustainable Wellesley; and to award 2 additional entries to IEDT USA dedicated to raising funds for the Wellesley War Memorial Scholarship to be run and fundraising managed by IEDT USA.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

5. Discuss and Vote Alcohol Special Legislation

Ms. Jop noted the Town Meeting vote to approve the motion language and that the Board should vote the approved language to be submitted to the legislature.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to submit the Special Legislation as authorized by the Annual Town Meeting under Article 21 to the General Court as presented.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

6. Discuss and Vote Union Contracts

Ms. Jop noted the changes sent to the Board previously that day adding that the contracts had been approved at Town Meeting and by the Board.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the FY21-FY23 contract with AFSME 335 Supervisory Unit.

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 FY21-FY23 contract with AFSME 335 Production Unit

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

7. Discuss Glen Grove Apartment Status and Modification to Comprehensive Permit

Mr. Harrington, Town Counsel, joined the Board. He stated that the owners of the Glen Grove apartments had advised the Town that they intended to refinance the mortgage, adding that 50 Grove Street had been a 40B project approved in 1977 and the permit provided for a right of first refusal to the Town and the Wellesley Housing Authority. He stated the inclusion was unusual however likely due to the 40B process being new at the time the permit was approved. He reviewed the options presented by HUD for the refinancing of the mortgage, noting that the owners were applying to amend the permit with the ZBA to remove the right of first refusal. Mr. Harrington stated that the Board would not be required to vote at the meeting, however, he believed the ZBA would ask the Board to vote on the potential of removing the provision from the permit. The Board discussed the right of first refusal and the options presented by Mr. Harrington. Ms. Jop reviewed the background of the Ardmore property and court cases related to the property and how permits typically apply restrictions to affordable properties. The Board continued to discuss the proposed modification to the comprehensive permit for the Glen Grove apartments.

8. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Jop stated that the Governor indicated that all COVID restrictions would be lifted on May 29th and the State of Emergency would end on June 15th; noting that mask orders and other restrictions would be lifted on May 18th. She reviewed the changes issued by the Governor earlier that morning, adding that the Board of Health had voted earlier that day to rescind the Town mask order to comply with the CDC and the state. Ms. Jop stated that Town Hall had been preparing for a June 1st appointment only reopening whereas based on the Governor's announcement, Town Hall would transition to preparing for a full reopening on June 1st. She noted proposed legislation that would allow for some capacity for remote meetings. She added that the outdoor dining extensions would continue to be monitored as the state pulled back its Executive Orders and temporary regulations put in place during the pandemic. Ms. Jop stated that the Board may wish to revise zoning regulations at the next Special Town Meeting in order to assist restaurants with outdoor dining options after the lessons learned during the pandemic. She added that additional information on masks, school protocols, and vaccinations should be expected in the coming weeks. The Board discussed the rescinding of the mask order and the preparation for additional guidance from the state related to the lifting of restrictions as well as potential changes to participation in public meetings.

Ms. Jop stated that the National League of Cities presented a webinar that reviewed many of the uses of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and noted the information had been included for the Board. She noted several of the eligible uses of the funds including broadband, water and sewer, and loss of revenue due to the pandemic. The Board discussed the distribution, administration, and uses of the ARPA funds.

Ms. Jop noted the draft minutes provided to the Board. She stated that in recognition of older residents some families had expressed concerns with publication of personal information being made public. She added that the Board may want to create a process to administratively recognize milestone birthdays on behalf without making the information public should a family choose. The Board discussed how to best acknowledge milestone birthdays for residents.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to rescind the Town's May 4th Order of the Wellesley Board of Health and the Wellesley Board of Selectmen Regarding the Wearing of Face Coverings which Supplements the Order of the Massachusetts Governor on May 1, 2020.

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 minutes of April 26, 2021, April 27, 2021, and May 3, 2021.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

9. Liaison Update

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that the NRC had partnered with two Girl Scouts working to obtain their Silver Award, the group worked to install a tranquility tree at the duck pond behind Town Hall. She added that there would be a public introduction on May 19th at 2:30pm. Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that May was Mental Health Awareness Month and flags were placed on the front lawn of Library recognizing various mental health struggles with markers of hope. She added that the Town would celebrate Memorial Day on May 31st at 7pm in front of Town Hall, noting that all new flags would be installed at Woodlawn Cemetery. She stated that a special sidewalk sale event would be held on May 22nd in Wellesley Square and in Linden Square.

Mr. Ulfelder reviewed the Hardy School project eco-charrette that was held on May 10th adding that lessons learned from the Hunnewell eco-charrette had been incorporated. He noted additional discussion points of the eco-charrette included a need to analyze the climate action plan, food waste options, and space connectivity.

10. New Business and Correspondence

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2021 at 6:00 pm online.