

Approved: June 21, 2022

**Select Board Meeting: May 25, 2022**

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

**Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti**

**Meeting Documents:**

1. Agenda
2. Draft Select Board Calendar
3. Draft PowerPoint Presentation re: early voting dates, locations and use of poll pads
4. Alteration of Premises Application La Toscana 99 Central Street
5. Draft Parking Lot Plan WPD
6. Wellesley College One Day License Applications
7. BETR Program Description
8. Animal Control Report
9. Marathon Fundraising Totals
10. Bass Bay Advisory
11. Retirement Board Notification
12. PowerPoint from recent Audit Committee Meeting

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Ulfelder, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 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](http://wellesleymedia.org).

**2. Citizen Speak**

**3. Executive Session under M.G.L c. 30A §21A, exemption #2 to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel (Sheryl Strother and Rick DeLorie)**

Mr. Ulfelder requested a motion that the Board vote to convene in Executive Session for the purposes of conducting strategy for negotiations as having a meeting in open session may be detrimental to the Town's bargaining position.

**At 4:01pm upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to enter Executive Session under M.G.L c. 30A §21A, exemption #2 to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel Sheryl Strother and Rick DeLorie as the Chair has declared that having such discussions in Open Session would be detrimental and to invite Meghan Jop and Amy Frigulietti to join the meeting. Following the adjournment of executive session, the Board will return to open session to take up the remainder of the agenda.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **4. Return to Open Session & Citizen Speak**

The Board returned to Open Session at 5:23 pm.

Ms. Soderholm of 16 Duxbury Road joined the meeting. Ms. Soderholm read a statement for the record. She urged the Board to create a biosafety committee, create regulations and a permitting process regarding for laboratory spaces in town in order to protect residents and mitigate risks and hazards. She stated that she believed converting office space at 93 Worcester Street to bio-lab space created an immediate needs for these actions.

Ms. Sullivan Woods left the meeting at 5:30 pm.

#### **5. Discuss and Vote Early Voting Dates and Location and Use of Poll Pads**

Ms. Kato, Town Clerk, joined the meeting. She reviewed the elections that were expected in the fall, noting that pending legislation that was expected to pass included the need to prepare for in person early voting and vote by mail for local, state, and federal elections moving forward. Ms. Kato reviewed the recommendation for using Town Hall for early in person voting which would allow for ample parking and space for voters within the Juliani Room. She stated that the proposal included the use of polling pads for check ins. Ms. Kato reviewed the voting precincts and voting locations previously approved by the Board and the legislature.

The Board discussed the election plan as proposed and the use of poll pads.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Olney and seconded by Ms. Lanza, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the use of Town Hall for Early Voting for the September 6, 2022, State Primary Election and for the November 8, 2022, State Election and to authorize the use of electronic poll pads for check in books.**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **6. Presentation by Fire Department on EMS Equipment Grant**

Chief DeLorie and Deputy Chief Brady joined the Board.

Chief DeLorie stated that Deputy Chief Brady was able to secure a grant in the amount of \$19,000 for the purchase of EMS 4 season coats which would minimize time spent in traditional suppression gear that contains various chemicals. Deputy Brady reviewed the circumstances firefighters were able to use the 4 season coats, noting that the coats were not suitable for hazardous service calls. Deputy Brady stated that each firefighter received one coat with an additional four coats for the expected new hires. Chief DeLorie

and Deputy Brady reviewed the functionality of the coats. The Board discussed the use of both the new gear as well as the traditional gear worn most often.

**7. Discuss and Vote Free Parking Requests for Commercial Districts through December 31, 2022**

Ms. Jop reviewed the requests for free parking in Wellesley Square for the merchant events in July and September as well as for free parking in the commercial districts between Thanksgiving and the New Year. The Board briefly discussed the request, noting that January 1<sup>st</sup> was a Sunday and the official holiday would be considered Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board expressed agreement in ending Holiday parking on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Jop provided a brief update on the traffic and parking funds adding that the commuter lots are slowly rebounding.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Olney and seconded by Ms. Lanza, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve free meter parking in Wellesley Square for July Jubilation on Saturday July 16, 2022, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and to approve free meter parking in Wellesley Square for Parent’s Day Out from 10 am to 6 pm on Friday September 16, 2022, and Saturday September 17, 2022 and to approve free holiday parking in 2-hour meters from November 21, 2022, through January 2, 2023**

**Aufranc – Aye  
Olney –Aye  
Ulfelder – Aye  
Lanza – Aye**

**8. Discuss and Vote Alteration of Premises for La Toscana at 99 Central Street**

Ms. Meagher, Support Services Manager, and Mr. Boucher, owner of La Toscana, joined the meeting.

Ms. Meagher reviewed the application to add outdoor seating to La Toscana Pizzeria. She noted initial concerns regarding the size of tables and number of chairs to be added. Ms. Meagher noted that The Upper Crust had previously operated at that location and after a review of their outdoor seating, staff agreed to support the design submitted with 12 chairs rather than 13 and believed the restaurant would be able to maintain the tables, chairs, and barriers without encroaching on Town owned sidewalk. The Board discussed the submitted plan for outdoor seating and expressed agreement in the plan to add no more than 12 chairs.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Olney and seconded by Ms. Lanza, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the alteration of premises for La Toscana at 99 Central Street to allow for seating of no more than 12 on the outdoor patio.**

**Aufranc – Aye  
Olney –Aye  
Ulfelder – Aye  
Lanza – Aye**

**9. Discuss and Vote Modification to Traffic & Parking Capital Funds for Wellesley Police Department Parking Lot**

Ms. Jop stated that the project had been pushed from 2019, noting that the costs associated with the project had increased. She added that there had been leftover funds from the Brook & Benvenue project that were requested to be transferred to the Parking Lot project. Ms. Jop stated that the funds were

allocated for these types of improvements and projects. The Board briefly discussed the WPD parking lot project and the reallocation of funds.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Olney and seconded by Ms. Lanza, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the transfer of capital funds of \$164,580 to the WPD Parking Lot project in the Traffic and Parking Account.**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **10. Executive Director's Update**

Ms. Jop stated that in person meetings were expected to resume July 15<sup>th</sup> unless the Governor's Executive Order was extended again to allow for all-remote participation. She noted that hybrid meetings would be allowed and believed the Town had the capability to have hybrid meetings.

Ms. Jop briefly reviewed the one-day special license requests from Wellesley College.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Olney and seconded by Ms. Lanza, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the 22 One-Day Licenses for Wellesley College as detailed in the Wellesley College Reunion Weekend Event List dated May 20, 2022.**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **11. COVID Update from Health Department**

Mr. Izzo, Health Department Director; Ms. McCauley, Health Department Nurse; and Ms. Testa Simonson of the Board of Health joined the Board.

Mr. Izzo reviewed the current COVID infection known numbers within Wellesley adding that cases were beginning to flatten. He noted that medical interventions were available to many who become infected. Ms. McCauley stated that typically residents do not report at home positive cases, she added that many of the reported cases were coming from the colleges which would decline as the college students moved to their homes for the summer.

The Board discussed the current status of COVID within the community as well as access to vaccines, boosters, and therapeutic remedies. Ms. Testa Simonson discussed the overall totals in the community and data points in association with the possibility for implementing indoor mask mandates. She noted that mask guidance and education continued to be the main focus of the Health Department, adding that the Board of Health would discuss mandates, education, and case counts at its next meeting. The Board continued to discuss the status of Wellesley in relation to COVID-19 cases, vaccines, boosters, potential surges, and Health Department outreach activities.

#### **12. New Business and other Correspondence**

Mr. Ulfelder stated that he had received calls regarding the heat during the Wellesley Wonderful Weekend parade the previous weekend, adding the Board may wish to have a policy for future events regarding weather and public events such as the parade.

Mr. Ulfelder provided a brief update regarding the costs associated with major projects. He noted the inflation for construction related costs are approximately 8%. He noted that the previous PBC meeting included a robust discussion regarding the construction costs for the Hardy project. He stated that the Town Hall interior project would have the same cost impacts. Mr. Ulfelder encouraged the Board and the public to continue to watch the PBC meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2022 at 6:00 pm.