

**Approved: July 6, 2020**

**Board of Selectmen Meeting: June 1, 2020**

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

**Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti**

**Warrants approved: none**

**Meeting Documents:**

1. Agenda
2. War Memorial Scholarship Essays
3. Correspondence re: 148 Weston Road
4. Memo from Ms. Johnson, Chair of the Planning Board re: PSI for 148 Weston Road
5. Draft Supplemental Town Wide Financial Plan
6. Draft 2020 Annual Town Meeting Motions
7. Correspondence re: 2020 Boston Marathon Cancellation
8. Draft BOS minutes: 5/19/20
9. DPW Gift Information
10. Anonymous Letter on Early Retirement

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:02 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](http://wellesleymedia.org).

**2. Citizen Speak**

None.

**3. Announcements**

Ms. Freiman stated that the death of George Floyd should move everyone to denounce violence. She added that the Board reaffirmed its pledge to diversity and condemned the treatment of Mr. Floyd and the use of unnecessary force. She offered the Board's support to the African-American community, neighbors, friends, and colleagues and noted a recommitment to work with all community partners to address underlying issues of race in all contexts. She stated that riots and violence that began in the wake of Mr. Floyd's death reflected pent-up anger, resentment and hopelessness that had grown stronger during the pandemic. Ms. Freiman stated that the World of Wellesley had offered programs and events addressing issues of racism for over 30 years. She noted that more than 1,500 people attended a silent vigil held on Washington Street the previous day to protest the death of George Floyd and call for racial justice. She noted the various ways the Town had engaged in and supported diversity, community policing, and social services.

Chief Pilecki stated that the Department posted a statement on their website regarding the death of George Floyd, he read the statement for the Board and the community. He noted that he had received calls and emails from residents asking if the violence from the previous evening would happen in Wellesley. He stated he was open and available to any resident wishing to discuss the various trainings and policies at the Wellesley Police Department.

Ms. Olney thanked the World of Wellesley for organizing the vigil and creating a space for the community to come together. She noted the purpose of the vigil was to call for justice for George Floyd and to honor the lives of black men, women, and children lost to police violence. She added that the vigil was a call to end the silence from primarily white communities such as Wellesley regarding systemic racism. She stated that hundreds of residents stood together and would need to continue to work together to end the silence of injustice and racism.

Ms. Freiman reviewed the background of the War Memorial Scholarship. She announced and recognized the 2020 scholarship winners; Mr. Xander Marcoux, Ms. Bridget Noonan, and Ms. Caroline Zimmer and provided a brief background on each recipient.

#### **4. Discuss and Vote Traffic Recommendation for PSI Application for 148 Weston Road**

Mr. Holland and Mr. Sheen project managers and Mr. Dirk, traffic engineer for the project joined the meeting. Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Davis, Town traffic consultants for the Town joined the meeting.

Ms. Jop briefly reviewed the background of project of significant impact applications and zoning provisions. She added that one component of the application under the Board jurisdiction is the traffic and pedestrian safety component. She stated that the public hearing with Planning Board was continued to June 15th and noted materials related to the project were available on the Planning Board webpage.

Mr. Sheen provided an update on the project. He stated that meeting with the Planning Board and Design Review Board and had updated plans and elevations to address neighborhood comments as well as DRB comments. He added the Planning Board was reviewing the DRB recommendation. He added that none of the comments received had impacted the traffic and pedestrian safety plans.

Mr. Dirk stated that the traffic assessments had been based on pre-pandemic traffic flow. He added that the Town's traffic consultants had performed a peer review of the update traffic study. He reviewed the overall location for the project and transportation opportunities in the immediate area. He noted that traffic counts had all been taken before the COVID outbreak. He stated that the number of units of the project would not add many additional cars to the traffic pattern but was familiar with the current traffic problems in the area. Mr. Dirk reviewed the traffic flow of the site and noted that most vehicles would be making right hand turns decreasing queues or blocking of intersections. He noted the sidewalks and other modes of transportation within the immediate area of the site and added that the goal was to make the project desirable for walkers and cyclists. He pointed the areas on the site for bicycle storage and racks. Mr. Dirk reviewed known traffic and safety issues as well as crash statistics near the project site.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the original peer review performed was based from the revised assessment from February, 2020. He added that he agreed to the approach for generating trips from the site and considerations for transit, walkability and cycling. He noted that there are approximately 7 vehicle trips expected during the morning peak hours and approximately 10 in the evening peak hours. He stated that he was pleased to see the proposed sidewalk extension to Linden Street. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that bicycle and pedestrian connections should be added and noted that Weston Road had not been historically bicycle friendly. He added he had been pleased the site had a direct connection to the trails. He stated that there were comments from the previous peer review that remained outstanding including the driveway sight lines. He reviewed the intersection and traffic issues in the area adding additional traffic and pedestrian signals would be desirable.

Ms. Jop stated that she had prepared a draft recommendation for the Board and stressed that one of the PSI requirements included making connections to the neighborhoods. She added that she would recommend a new sidewalk connection to the Howe Street neighborhood as it would also connect to the

Town trail system. She added that she was in agreement with the proposed escrow account for potential future signals at the intersection at Weston Road and Linden Street. She discussed the traffic challenges in the area of the project. Ms. Jop stated that she believed the project had adequate parking. Mr. Sheen stated that there were 52 spaces within the garage and 12 spaces for visitor spaces and access for delivery trucks. He noted that the project minimized the total number of mechanical spaces. Ms. Jop noted the comments from interested residents regarding the project. The Board discussed the parking plan and traffic analysis of the project. The Board discussed current traffic conditions within the area and potential future signaling and traffic controls. The Board expressed support for the recommendation Ms. Jop presented.

Pete Jones of Halsey Avenue joined the meeting. He stated that traffic back-ups at rush hour is significant and many in the neighborhoods have difficulties exiting to Weston Road. He added that a sidewalk extension as proposed would be welcome to the residents in the area. He reviewed other concerns regarding traffic challenges in the neighborhood and the additional impacts from the project.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the draft recommendation to the Planning Board on PSI-20-01 as amended**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

#### **5. Discuss Use of Tailby Parking Lot for Recreational Summer Programs**

Ms. Renzella, Youth Commission Director and Mr. Chin, Recreation Commission Director, joined the meeting. Ms. Renzella stated that the Town had received a gift from the Kiwanis Club of Wellesley for the sponsorship for the movie program in the amount of \$30,000, providing all of the equipment for the mobile movie. She added that the Community Fund for Wellesley issued a grant in the amount of \$14,500 for the operation of the mobile movie program. She stated that she and Mr. Chin were requesting the Board allow for the use of the Tailby Lot and potentially the Wellesley Farms Lot for the movies. She added that the project had a joint effort with Youth, Recreation and the Library with the support of MLP, Police, COA, Health, and NRC. She noted the lot would be used to present ten movies. Ms. Renzella reviewed how the program would work, including pre-registration, no bathrooms, and all patrons would be required to remain in their cars. She added that many of the youth normally working with the Recreation Department would be hired as staff for the movie night events. She stated that she had been reviewing the traffic patterns at the Tailby Lot over time and had seen very few cars. She noted that signage would be used at the lots and expected the commuter traffic would remain low through the summer and the length of the program. The Board expressed full support for the use of the lots for the movies.

#### **6. Annual Town Meeting Preparation**

Ms. Freiman stated the Moderator had issued guidance on how the remote Town Meeting will proceed. She noted that the Clerk had issued procedures on recording and uploading of presentations. She added that presentations were due to be uploaded by June 8<sup>th</sup> and Town Meeting Members would have time to ask questions and receive answers regarding the presentations. Ms. Freiman stated the purpose of the Town Meeting would be to address the critical issues and warrant articles that continue the functioning of operations and services. She noted that many articles would have no motion and the consent agenda would be extensive. She stated that citizen's petitions would be placed on the warrant for the fall Special Town Meeting. Ms. Jop reviewed the timeline for sending notifications for change in venue for Town

Meeting and Special Town Meeting for remote participation. She noted the remote Town Meetings being held by Lexington and other municipalities.

**Discuss and Vote Supplemental Town Wide Financial Plan**

Ms. Jop stated that comments had been incorporated into the latest draft, she noted the revised tables in Article 5 and Article 8. She added that the Board would be required to revote motions related to the Town Wide Financial Plan and reviewed those motions.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the Supplemental COVID19 Town-Wide Financial Plan with the understanding that the Chair has been authorized to make additional revisions and amendments.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Discuss and Vote Revised Motions**

Ms. Jop reviewed the changes to Article 8 motion 2 noting the final total of appropriations was \$174,241,031. She noted that motion 3 under Article 8 had also been revised and reviewed those changes. Ms. Jop continued to review changes to the motions under Article 7. Ms. Freiman stated that the Board had several other Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant and was required to vote to take no motion. Ms. Jop reviewed the changes to Article 5. She added that the goal was to have Article 5 within the consent agenda and would present the information to Advisory. Ms. Jop stated that Article 20 was revised based on Bond Counsel’s review. The Board discussed Article assignments for taped presentations.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve Article 8, motion 2 with a total budget amount of \$174,241,031.**

**Sullivan Woods - Aye**

**Olney - Aye**

**Ulfelder - Aye**

**Freiman - Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the revised Article 8, motion 3 with a total request of \$2,528,066.**

**Sullivan Woods - Aye**

**Olney - Aye**

**Ulfelder - Aye**

**Freiman - Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve Article 7, motion 5 in the amount of 100,000.**

**Sullivan Woods - Aye**

**Olney - Aye**

**Ulfelder - Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve Article 7, motion 6 in the amount of \$9,000.**

**Sullivan Woods - Aye**

**Olney - Aye**

**Ulfelder - Aye**

Freiman - Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to make no motion on Articles 26, 37, 38, and 40.

Sullivan Woods - Aye

Olney - Aye

Ulfelder - Aye

Freiman - Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve revised Article 5 motions 4, 5 and 6 which request the support for the Superior Officers, Patrolman and Firefighter contracts respectively and advise the funding of the of these contracts for the first year out of free cash.

Sullivan Woods - Aye

Olney - Aye

Ulfelder - Aye

Freiman - Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to modify Article 20, motion 1 to request borrowing of \$1,821,000.

Sullivan Woods - Aye

Olney - Aye

Ulfelder - Aye

Freiman - Aye

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

Ms. Jop stated that the Board would receive a proposal regarding the cancellation of the marathon based on information expected from the BAA. She noted that outdoor seating would be before Board as the Governor would be allowing outdoor dining as part of the Phase 2 approach.

**8. Liaison Updates**

Ms. Olney stated that the multi-town gas leaks initiative held a webinar on trees and gas leaks. She added that NRC Director Brandon Schmitt participated regarding how various towns are addressing the effects of gas leaks on trees. She noted that the SEC would be submitting the MVP action grant application and would be requesting letters of support.

**9. Executive Session under M.G.L. c.30(A) §21(A), exemption #3 – to discuss negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Wellesley Free Library Associations**

Ms. Freiman requested a motion that the Board vote to convene in Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Wellesley Free Library Association and declared that having such discussions in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position.

At 7:39 pm upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to enter Executive Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(A), exemption #3 – to discuss negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Wellesley Free Library Association as the Chair has declared that having such a discussion in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position and to invite Meghan Jop and Amy Frigulietti

**to participate. Following the adjournment of executive session, the Board will return to open session for the sole purpose of adjourning the meeting.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney – Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**At 8:07pm upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session to adjourn the meeting.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney – Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman –Aye**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2020 at 5pm-online.