

Approved: September 20, 2021

Select Board Meeting: August 16, 2021

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

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: none

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. SB Draft Calendar
3. Draft Year End Closing Report
4. Proposed free parking meter spaces
5. Correspondence re: DPW Gifts
6. Request for Crossing Guard Appointment
7. Draft SB minutes: 7/27/21
8. Mobility Notes
9. FMD FY21 End of Year Status Report
10. Animal Control Report
11. Quarterly Cash
12. Wellesley Country Club Demolition Notice
13. DPW Comments to DEP on Water Management Act
14. Letter from Michael Elsaid

1. Call to Order

Mr. Ulfelder, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Health Department Update

Board of Health members, Mr. Cohen and Ms. Oliver Grape; Health Department Director, Mr. Izzo; and Ms. McCauley, Health Department Nursing Staff, joined the meeting.

Mr. Izzo and Ms. McCauley reviewed the number of active COVID-19 cases in Wellesley. Ms. McCauley stated that based on the current number of cases she felt confident that the Town was doing well in containing community spread. She noted that the average vaccination rate in Wellesley was over 60% however believed the rates were technically higher as college students and other residents had been vaccinated out of state. Ms. Jop stated that Town departments were over 80% fully vaccinated and many were 100%. Mr. Izzo stated that the Board of Health had been meeting on Wednesdays and would be discussing masking at its next meeting on August 18th. He reviewed previous discussions of the Board of Health regarding mask mandates and advisories as well as discussions held with the school administration regarding the upcoming school year. The Board discussed the current active case count, mask advisories, and recommendations from the state and the CDC.

4. Budget Update: FY21 Year End Closing

Ms. Strother, Town Finance Director, joined the meeting.

Ms. Jop stated that a calendar for the upcoming budget cycle would be created for the Board and would include potential uses for reserve funds. Ms. Jop noted the work accomplished by the Finance Department for the year end closing with a relatively new staff. Ms. Strother reviewed the year end closing information, noting the significant reserves due particularly to the pandemic. She stated that capital had been reduced for FY21 and noted the Board's conservative budget guidelines due to COVID contributed to the increase in reserves. Ms. Strother added that both local revenues and department turnback were higher than forecasted and provided an overview of the revenue sources and final operating results. She noted the continued impact from COVID-19 on FY22. Ms. Strother stated that the Town had applied for \$390K in FEMA reimbursements and the School Department expected \$366K in reimbursement for its viral testing program. She reviewed the funds received from the CARES and ARPA grant programs. Ms. Jop stated that during June and July parking revenue had begun to increase however the lots continue to have high vacancy rates. Ms. Strother stated that the free cash estimate for the FY21 was \$26Million. The Board discussed the year end closing report and the upcoming budget cycle.

5. Discuss and Vote Annual Performance Reviews

Chief Pilecki and Chief DeLorie joined the Board.

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the Board does not receive the composite evaluations until just before the meeting due to Open Meeting Law. He added that the reviews reflect only FY21 and that the aggregated reviews were available on the Town website under the Agenda section.

Mr. Ulfelder read the summary comments for Chief Pilecki, Chief DeLorie, and Ms. Jop. The Board comments included praise for the management styles of each, their efforts during the pandemic, and a continued willingness to work with all departments and community members. Mr. Ulfelder stated for the public that a recent resolution between Chief DeLorie and the State Ethics Commission was regarding a matter that occurred in FY18 while the current review was specific to the Chief's performance during FY21. Chief Pilecki, Chief DeLorie, and Ms. Jop addressed the Board regarding their individual summary comments.

6. Open Warrant for October Special Town Meeting

Ms. Jop reviewed the timing and schedule for the October Special Town Meeting adding that by opening the Warrant as an in person meeting, the Town could move to remote should there be a need, noting that the reverse was not true. She stated that a notification in detail would be sent to all Town Meeting Members regarding the potential for changing to a remote meeting. Ms. Jop reviewed the current list of anticipated articles including a citizen's petition that had been received by the Town Clerk. The Board discussed the Fall Special Town Meeting schedule and a potential winter Special Town meeting.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to call a Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, October 25, 2021, at 7:00 pm at the Wellesley Middle School located at 50 Kingsbury Street and to set the following dates:

- **Open the Warrant – Monday, August 16, 2021**
- **Close the Warrant – Friday, August 20, 2021 at 12:00 pm**
- **Motions due to the Select Board Office – Friday, October 1, 2021, at 5:00 pm**

Sullivan Woods – Aye

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

7. Discuss and Vote Free Parking

Ms. Jop reviewed the requests from the Wellesley Square Merchants for their traditional September event as well as for an extension of the traditional holiday season free parking. She noted the spaces that would be marked as free for each request. The Board discussed the free metered parking requests.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve free meter parking in Wellesley Square for Parent’s Day Out from 10 am to 6 pm on Friday September 17, 2021, and Saturday September 18, 2021.

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 free holiday parking in 2-hour meters from November 22, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

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

8. Executive Director’s Report

Ms. Frigulietti provided an update on the Diversity Equity Inclusions task force. She stated that an announcement had been published, including a request for volunteers and frequently asked questions regarding the initiative.

Ms. Jop reviewed the gifts to DPW for memorial benches to be installed throughout town. Ms. Jop stated that a personnel matter had arisen at the Fire Department and the Chief had recused himself and asked for Board authorization to appoint Ms. Jop to handle the matter in the Chief’s place. Ms. Jop reviewed a request to appoint Ms. Searle to the Norfolk County Advisory Board, and a request to appoint a new School Crossing Guard. Ms. Jop noted that an updated draft of the minutes was sent to the Board earlier that day.

The Board briefly discussed the Town Hall interior project and having an updated presentation for the project at a future meeting.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to appoint Meghan Jop to oversee a personnel matter at the Fire Department as the Board of Fire Engineers designee.

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 appoint Barbara Searle as the Select Board designee to the Norfolk County Advisory Board.

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 appoint Diane Madden as a school crossing guard.

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 July 27, 2021, as amended.

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

9. New Business and Other Correspondence

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 31, 2021, at 6:00 pm online.