

**Advisory Committee
February 8, 2014
Wellesley Police Station**

Marjorie Freiman called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 8:00 a.m. Those present included Robert Capozzi, Mary Crown, Thomas Engels, Becky Epstein, Tom Frisardi, Ann Marie Gross, John Hartnett, John Hussey, Lucy Kapples, Andy Patten, Deb Robi and Scott Tarbox.

Citizen Speak

No one wished to speak.

Article 30 – Government Review Study Committee

Katherine Babson provided the review. This Article would establish a government study committee comprised of 9 members to be appointed by the Moderator to study the existing structure of Wellesley town government and make recommendations at the 2015 ATM. It would also authorize an appropriation of \$15,000 from Free Cash for use by the committee for materials, consultants and postage that may be needed.

The Town has conducted a government study review periodically to assess the effectiveness of Town government and Town Meeting structure, the form and frequency of meetings, the manner of selection of town officials and several other matters.

If the Article is approved, there will be several public hearings for public comment. Recommendations made at the 2015 ATM, which could include amending the Town bylaws, filing a Home Rule Petition or following the Charter Commission process as set out in State statute.

Article 23 – Fire Apparatus

Andy Patten gave the overview. The Article would authorize funding in the amount of \$600,000 for the purchase of a new pump fire truck to replace Fire Engine #2. This item has been included in the Capital Budget Plan for some time and was in the 2010 Five Year Capital Budget. Mr. Patten stated that engines are on a 15-year replacement cycle. The new unit would replace a 1998 engine which had mechanical failure during three fires and has considerable corrosion in the undercarriage area. Based on the heavy usage of the truck, it was deemed prudent to seek a new model as opposed to a used engine. Chief DeLorie anticipates the final costs not to exceed \$500,000 and if purchased from E-One, there will be a local service center in Foxboro, MA. A question was asked about whether the use of fire trucks to accompany a non-fire emergency call adds extra wear and tear on the fire department's equipment, and whether a smaller vehicle to transport the firefighters would suffice.

Budget Discussions – HR, REC, BOA and Schools

This item was deferred to the next Advisory Meeting with no objections.

Article 34- Marijuana Dispensaries

Don McCauley, Board of Selectmen and Michael Zehner, Planning Board Director, gave the review. This Article would amend the Zoning Bylaws to allow and establish regulations for Registered Marijuana Dispensaries. The 2013 ATM amended the Zoning Bylaw to add the new

section creating a moratorium until June 30, 2014. There can be no extensions of this moratorium. A working group was established to review options in May 2013. They have reviewed the State statute, Public Health regulations, dispensary requirements and zoning options. Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on February 24, 2014 to receive public comment.

Statute shows hardship cultivation is allowed if financial hardships, physical incapacity to access transportation or the lack of a dispensary within a reasonable distance or lack of delivery services exist. Additional zoning regulations may be necessary to address these issues.

It is anticipated that the Zoning Bylaws will be finalized in May or April in time for the Annual Town Meeting.

Article 22 – Second Hills Branch Library Chimney

Don McCauley, Board of Selectmen, gave the overview. This Article seeks funding for studies for repairs to the Hills Branch Library east chimney. The Article is being presented at this time to utilize the existing contractors who are completing renovations on the north chimney. Inspection of the east chimney shows visible cracks, eroded mortar and water damage. The request is for \$27,000 to cover study costs which would produce a cost estimate and anticipated repair schedule. The proposed study from Weston & Sampson would be paid with \$25,000 from the FY14 cash capital budget for the Hills Branch Library and an additional \$2,000 from Free Cash.

STM Article 2 – Beer & Wine Bylaw Change

This item was deferred indefinitely with no objections.

Discussion – Articles 22, 34, STM Article 2

These items were deferred with no objections.

Liaison Reports

Becky Epstein provided updated reports from the Schools budget for Advisory to review.

Library Trustees Operating Budget

Beth Sullivan Woods, Chair, Marla Robinson, Vice-Chair, and Ann-Mara Lanza, Ann Howley and Amanda Henshon of the Library Board of Trustees provided the review. The FY15 operating budget request shows personal expenses of \$1,635,027 and expenses of \$484,445. This represents an increase over the previous year budget of 2.43% and 6.01% respectively. There was no budget entry for the Metrowest Contract for Inter Library Loan (ILL) Services included in the FY15 budget. Ms. Woods stated that the budget increases only reflect maintaining level services with no new additional programs included.

Strategic initiatives for 2014-2019 include providing new technology to meet increasing patron needs, establishing an innovation committee, enhancing the teen space while increasing offerings, refining the roles of the branch libraries, building stronger relationships with Schools, continuing collaboration with Town departments, reviewing space needs and reconfigurations, increasing communications and developing outreach programs. Patron use continues to increase.

Approval of Minutes

None were presented at this time.

Calendar Review

The updated calendar is on Dropbox for review.

Old Business/New Business

There was none presented at this time.

Announcements

The next meeting of Advisory will be Wednesday, February 12th following the Public Hearing on the Special Town Meeting Warrant Article 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.