

Tuesday May 27, 2008

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held this evening in the Peg Arnold Room, Wellesley Free Library. In attendance were: Owen H. Dugan, Chair, Gregory B. Mills, Vice Chair, Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Secretary, Harriet S. Warshaw and Barbara D. Searle. Also in attendance was Hans Larsen, Executive Director. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Citizen Speak

None.

2. Executive Director's Update

None.

3. New/Old Business

Ms. Babson provided an update on the High School project including the Treasurer Cahill's recent public comments regarding the project.

4. Review of FY08 Projects and Priorities

The Board reviewed accomplishments related to the Board's FY08 Projects and Priorities, and asked Mr. Larsen to document same.

The Board discussed what has worked well, what could be done differently and challenges for the Chair. It was agreed that:

- Staffing issues within the Selectmen's office need to be addressed;
- The Board needs a better working relationship with the Advisory Committee;
- The Selectmen's office needs to make responses to citizen issues a process priority;
- The Board and staff need to avoid publicly over-emphasizing the role/importance of the TDRT process;
- The Board and staff need to do a better job of surfacing issues among Board members in advance of Board meetings; and,
- It is helpful for the Chair and Vice Chair to coordinate a weekly check-in with the Executive Director prior to each meeting.

5. FY09 Workplan

Mr. Mills led a discussion of the FY09 workplan including major projects, strategic issues, followup items and other issues. Revisions to the draft workplan were agreed. The final workplan is to be reviewed at a subsequent meeting.

At 6:20 p.m. the Board was polled all aye to adjourn temporarily, with the meeting to be continued at the Town Hall.

At 6:40 the meeting was reconvened in the Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall. In attendance were: Owen H. Dugan, Chair, Gregory B. Mills, Vice Chair, Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Secretary and Barbara D. Searle. Also in attendance was Hans Larsen, Executive Director, Terrance J. Connolly, Deputy Director and Albert S. Robinson, Town Counsel. Harriet S. Warshaw was absent.

6. Citizen Speak

None.

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8. Group Life/LTD Contract Award

Mr. Dugan recused himself from this matter and asked Mr. Mills to lead the discussion.

Marc Waldman joined the Board. Mr. Larsen explained the decision to request contract bidders to submit their best and final offer. Such offers have been received and Mr. Waldman presented the results of his analysis of the offers. Based on discussions with each of the bidders, reference checks and other inquiries, the staff has concluded that each of the three bidders would be an acceptable vendor. Mr. Waldman noted that the Sun Life proposal offer is superior in financial terms to the other, in that the total savings to the Town is the greatest and the total savings to the Town and employees is the greatest.

Babson moved, Searle seconded and the Board voted (3-0) to award the contract for the Town's Group Long Term Disability and Group Life Insurance products, for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011 to Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada based on their proposal dated May 27, 2008.

9. Other Business

Mr. Larsen briefly reviewed the agenda for the June 2nd Board meeting and noted the June 11 public meeting to review the 25% plans for the reconstruction of Weston Road.

Ms. Babson noted the public meeting to discuss the proposed plans for accommodating High School parking needs during the construction project, which meeting is also scheduled for June 11. She also noted that Representative Peisch has talked to Treasurer Cahill, which should result in a meeting with him and Katherine Craven to review the Town's High School proposal in greater depth.

Mr. Dugan noted the Memorial Day celebrations scheduled for May 30th.

At 7:00 p.m. the Board was polled all aye to adjourn.