

Board of Selectmen – February 7, 2011  
Present: Babson, Tsagaris, Searle, Dugan, Gibbs  
Also present: Larsen, Ketchen, Robinson

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.  
Warrants approved: None.  
Chair makes announcements:

Thanked DPW for service this month in clearing roads during multiple snow storms.

**1. Citizen Speak**

None

**2. Executive Directors Update**

The Board voted to approve the following minutes of four meetings of the Board of Selectmen:

- November 29, 2010
- January 3, 2011
- January 10, 2011
- January 18, 2011

The Board voted to proclaim that Friday, April 29, 2011 be recognized as “Arbor Day” in the Town of Wellesley in accordance with the proclamation submitted to the Board by the Department of Public Works.

The Board voted to authorize the expenditure by the Department of Public Works of \$300,000 in excess of the 2011 appropriation for winter maintenance and that said authorization be granted in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 31D of the General Laws.

The COA received a rent increase proposal from the community center. The rent increase was for 12,600 plus an additional \$2300 to offset the reduction in the Tolle foundation funds. The board discussed this.

The Board voted to approve the addition of \$12,600 to the Board of Selectmen’s request for the Council on Aging’s FY2012 expense budget in order to fund the increase in rent at the Wellesley Community Center.

**3. Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Bonds**

The Board voted that the sale of the \$229,089 Water Bond of the Town dated February 14, 2011, to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority is hereby approved and the Treasurer of other appropriate town official is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town a Loan Agreement and a Financial Assistance Agreement with the Authority with respect to the bond. The bond shall be payable without interest on February 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:

<u>Years</u>	<u>Installments</u>
2012-2021	\$22,908.90/annually

And further that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing vote.

#### **4. Branch Library Maintenance Policy**

Ms. Searle gave a brief summary on the Hills Library Branch issues regarding boiler and masonry work that needs to be done. It was decided last year to share capital responsibilities between the Library Trustees and the Town. The Town will need to supplement the costs of this work as there is not enough in the revolving fund (where rental deposits put into) which contains about \$30,000 to be able to complete boiler work (\$60,000) and masonry work (under \$10,000) The issue was whether the trustees should be contributing more money. The proposal is that over the next year the trustees would pay \$9000 to the Town into the revolving fund which is \$1000 over their lease stream. This fall they will renegotiate. The board voted and this proposal was approved.

The Board voted to approve the Branch Library Maintenance Policy as presented to the Board by Ms. Searle.

#### **Project and other Updates**

*High School* – School Committee has presented info regarding additional cost for operating the high school.

*Senior Center* – Working group from the COA & working group from the Selectmen’s discussing specifications for joint community and senior center.

*Fuller Brook* – This group is putting together a modified request for CPC funding.

*Public Transportation Study* – Survey results are being analyzed

*Sustainability* – SD77 is currently before the legislature, which is related to energy efficiency funds. We are not eligible for certain energy efficiency grants as our light plant is municipally owned instead of investor owned. This bill would change that. Mr. Ketchen asked that the chair send a letter to the legislature in support of this bill.

The Board voted to support adoption of legislation regarding Energy Efficiency Funds Generated by Municipal Light Plants (also know as SD77); and further to authorize the chair to sign a letter on behalf of the Board conveying support for said legislation to the Town’s delegation in the Massachusetts General Court.

#### **5. Public Hearing on 27R Kenilworth Road**

Residents would like to gift this land to the Town. The parcel is approx 6,900 square feet and is landlocked. Ms. Babson recused herself to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. A map of 27R Kenilworth was shown. Mr. Larsen reported that the family offering the land asked that proceeds of a subsequent sale, if any, be used to benefit the Community Preservation

Committee or the Wellesley Free Library. Mr. Larsen further stated that the land is assessed at \$24,000 and would not be a substantial property tax loss to the Town. There are no anticipated maintenance costs. There is no intention to use this for public purpose as the land has no real use. Two residents came forward to speak at the hearing:

Dr. George Masters, 26 Pembroke Road stated his concerns that if the sale of this land to the Town might lower his property value.

Mr. Jeff Kramer, 27 Kenilworth Road stated a general concern about the process for the disposition of the land, specifically that the process be public.

The Board agreed to continue discussion of this matter at its meeting on February 14, 2011.

#### **6. Town Wide Financial Plan (TWFP)**

Ms. Babson presented a slid show to show the next steps of what the Town is doing in regards to the Town Wide Financial Plan. Slides were as follows:

- Missing information – Gave a brief summary of info needed to complete financial plans for upcoming Fiscal Years.
- TWFP Cycle Slide – Made by advisory working group that shows cycle starting from town meeting all the way back to the next town meeting of coming up with a TWFP.
- Role of the Board of Selectmen – Discussed Board’s role in TWFP Process.
- Role of Advisory Committee – Discussion of the Committee’s role in the process ensued.
- Role of Town Meeting
- Communications Plan – Before ATM
- Communications Plan – After ATM
- Vote on Final Plan by 6/30

The Board had a lengthy discussion on the TWFP, specifically the process by which the Board might adopt an acceptable TWFP in advance of Town Meeting.

The Board voted 3-2 (Babson, Searle and Dugan in favor; Tsagaris and Gibbs opposed) to take the “third scenario” – i.e. the “Selectmen’s Proposed Plan” – and put together a plan to give to the Advisory Committee on February 16, 2011; to put a draft plan in the Advisory Book; and to present to Town Meeting a Selectmen Proposed Plan.

At 9:09 p.m. Board members were polled (all “yes”) to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy for collective bargaining.