

**Board of Selectmen – May 16, 2011**

**Present: Babson, Tsagaris, Searle, Gibbs, Dugan (arrived at 7:27 during Agenda item #4)**

**Also present: Larsen, Connolly (Ketchen and Robinson were absent)**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Warrants approved: Number 2011-48 in the amount of \$1,070,532.73

**1. Citizen Speak**

None.

**2. Executive Director's Update**

The Board voted (4-0) to approve the minutes for the May 9, 2011 meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Mr. Larsen reminded voters of the Special Town Election scheduled for May 18, 2011 to consider the Proposition two and one-half debt exclusion to fund the new Department of Public Works office building.

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

Mr. Larsen explained the proposed bond sale, as summarized in a memo from Blake Lukis, Water & Sewer Systems Engineer dated May 12, 2011.

The Board voted (4-0) that the sale of the \$229,790 Sewer Bond of the Town dated May 23, 2011, to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (the "Authority") is hereby approved and the Town Treasurer or 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 May 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Installment</u>
2012	\$45,958
2013	45,958
2014	45,958
2015	45,958
2016	45,958

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. Parking Meter Rates**

Ms. Searle noted tonight's discussion of potential parking meter rate changes is not intended to culminate in a decision. Rather, it is intended to initiate the Board's consideration of this matter. She also noted this matter will be considered as part of the Board's upcoming study of the Central Street/Wellesley Square area.

Mr. Connolly made a presentation, which included background information regarding parking meters in Wellesley, including the number and location of meters, current meter rates vs. other communities, financial information, process for obtaining public input, and the implications of a change in rates. He also described a potential arrangement with a vendor, Parxmart, whereby Wellesley merchants could sell debit cards to customers to be used to pay for parking and retail purchases in Wellesley. The Parxmart system is operational in Brookline and will soon be operational in Newton.

The Board discussed various issues related to the potential change, including timing, integration of parking-related decisions with the Central Street planning study, analysis of the economic impact of a rate change, impact to on-street employee parking, etc.

The Board agreed to defer further consideration until a later date.

## **5. Building Department Permit Fee Proposed Changes**

Mr. Grant, Building Inspector joined the Board and Ms. Babson opened the public hearing. Mr. Grant explained the proposed new fees for sheet metal work, as necessitated by new State regulations governing such work. The Board questioned the potential impact on total permit fee revenue and whether the permit fees would cover the related costs. Mr. Grant indicated they are not prepared to forecast incremental revenue, as sheet metal work was previously encompassed in the scope of the regular permit, and the staff does not yet have a detailed understanding of the itemized cost of such work. He expressed the view that the fees would cover the Building Department's related costs.

Mr. Grant explained the proposed changes to the Certificate of Inspection Fee Schedule. The Board questioned how Mr. Grant determined the new fee levels were determined and how much additional revenue will be generated. Mr. Grant noted they looked at Weston's rate schedule and evaluated the reasonableness of those rates in light of the related costs to the Town. He further noted the Building Department has not estimated the potential incremental revenue. The Board expressed their interest in seeing improved tracking of these specific revenues, using the Town's MUNIS capabilities.

Ms. Babson invited public comment. There was none.

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the changes to the Building Department Fees as outlined by the Building Inspector and published in the Wellesley Townsman on May 5, 2011.

Ms. Babson closed the public hearing.

## **Project and Other Updates**

High School – Ms. Babson noted a Facebook page had been created for the events related to the opening of the New High School. She also noted the clock had been reinstalled in the new “tower”.

Senior Center – Ms. Tsagaris noted a visit to the Belmont Senior Center and a planned visit to the Needham Senior Center.

Advisory Committee – Ms. Babson noted Virginia Ferko was nominated to be the chair of Advisory for FY 12.

**Old Business/New Business**

None.

At 8:08 the Board members voted all aye to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy for negotiations with non-union personnel.