

Board of Selectmen Meeting: October 05, 2015
Present: Murphy, Freiman, Gibbs, Searle, Morgan

1. Citizen Speak

None

2. Executive Directors Update

Minutes

Upon a motion made by Ms. Gibbs and seconded by Ms. Freiman the Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2015 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Planning Month Proclamation

Mr. Murphy read the Community Planning Month Proclamation. The Board signed the Proclamation.

3. Michelle Chalmers – World of Wellesley

Michelle Chalmers, World of Wellesley President joined the Board. Ms. Chalmers introduced herself to the board and expressed her desire to form a partnership and connect with the Board. She reviewed the highlights of Mr. Murphy's letter which was included in the most recent World of Wellesley booklet. She asked how the World of Wellesley can support some of the questions brought up in the letter. She asked that if any citizens would like to connect with her on issues of diversity she would welcome that.

4. Police Feasibility Study

Joe McDonough, Facilities Director, Lt. Marie Cleary, Deputy Chief Jack Pilecki, and both Scott Tomlinson and Niklas Vigener from Simpson, Gumpertz and Heger joined the Board. Ms. Searle noted that due to the recent winter, there has been serious damage to the Police Station roof, resulting in ice dams, leaking water, air infiltration as well as other serious issues. The Facilities Maintenance Department has reallocated some of its budget to develop a study on how to deal with these issues. She noted that there is currently a Warrant Article for design funds only for Special Town Meeting. The plan is to have design funds approved at Special Town Meeting, and then seek construction funding at Annual Town Meeting. Part of the project would begin next summer. Mr. McDonough reviewed the project background. Deputy Chief Pilecki discussed the current impacts of the damage to the Wellesley Police Department. Mr. Tomlinson gave an overview of their investigation into the complaints highlighted by the Police Department as well as conclusions reached as a result of their investigation.

Mr. McDonough reviewed the next steps, noting that Special Town Meeting was the next big step. He reviewed design and bidding assistance in the event that design funds are approved at Special Town Meeting. If all goes according to plan construction would begin July 1, 2016. He noted that he is qualified to fill the role as Owner's Project Manger in an effort to keep costs down. He asked whether there was general support from the Board on this project. Matt King, Permanent Building Committee

Chair joined the Board. Mr. King provided input on this project and noted they have their work cut out for them. The Board agreed to support this project.

5. Strategic/Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Gibbs briefly updated the Board on work being done with the Planning Board to develop an integrated Strategic and Comprehensive planning effort. She reviewed the current team which includes; Deborah Carpenter, Harriet Warshaw, Marjorie Freiman, Ellen Gibbs, Meghan Jop and Michael Zehner. She briefly explained that they are working with a conceptual framework designed to address both the provisions of the proposed new bylaw addition to Article 19 for the Strategic Plan as well as the statutory requirements for a Land Use related Master Comprehensive Plan for the Town. At their next meeting they will be creating a preliminary draft scope and timetable for the plan's development. They will present the plan for approval by the Selectmen and Planning Board at a joint meeting on the 19th. They are looking to present this plan at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting with a request for funds at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. Deborah Carpenter, Planning Board Chair joined the Board. She briefly commented on the process of the Strategic/Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Murphy noted this Wednesday Advisory is holding their Public Hearing on the Special Town Meeting Warrant. The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Tuesday due to the holiday on Monday. He reviewed the Special Town Meeting Schedule.

6. Comcast Petition Public Hearing 1-75 Central Street

At **8:10pm** Mr. Murphy opened the Public Hearing on the Comcast Petition for 1-75 Central Street. Manny Furtado, Comcast Representative joined the Board. Mr. Furtado reviewed Comcast's petition to install PVC within the street and sidewalk in order to bring service to 1-75 Central Street. He noted the work would be done at night per the Wellesley Police Department. They would like to have the work done by November 2.

Mr. Murphy closed the Public Hearing.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Gibbs and seconded by Ms. Freiman the Board voted (5-0) to approve the request from Comcast Corporation to install approximately 368' of 4" PVC within Street and Sidewalk from vault located on Cross Street heading Northerly to New Man Hole Location as Shown on Design Continue in street Easterly on Central Street for 165' and Westerly 50' As described in Attached Drawings onto private property.

7. Recommendations of Town Government Study Committee (TGSC)

Ms. Freiman reviewed meetings that have been held in the last week as well as upcoming meetings regarding the TGSC Recommendations. She noted that the Committee has been discussing and possibly voting on amendments to the budget article and two articles on Human Resources in response to feedback received. There may be further changes in drafts and the Selectmen will wait to reconsider until final language is received. She discussed with the Board a request from the TGSC on whether the

Board would be amenable to including the Board's search process memo and job description in the appendix of the TGSC's report to Special Town Meeting. The Board was in agreement that the memo and job description should be included. They discussed the reasons why a Town Manager is the direction the town should go in and how it will improve the town.

8. Old Business/New Business

Ms. Gibbs noted that the Board received a memo from the Natural Resources Commissions (NRC) regarding a report from National Grid indicating that the Town has more than 120 active gas leaks which are considered to be non explosive. The memo also discussed pending legislation that would reduce the number of leaks across the state. Bill 2870 forces the utility company to pay for the gas wasted through the leaks rather than passing these costs onto the ratepayer. The second bill requires the utility companies to fix all leaks while the road is open for other road projects rather than only fixing leaks deemed potentially explosive. The NRC has asked the Selectmen to pass a resolution in support of the two bills as well as form a commission or group to study the gas leaks in Town and come up with a specific plan to fix the problem. They would like to work with the Board on this issue. Representative Peisch's office is in support of two bills and would like to work with the Town on any measures taken. The Sustainable Energy Committee would like to have a better understanding of the cost implications on the part of National Grid's passing costs onto customers as well as costs to the town. They hope to talk to the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works to find out their understanding of all this and what the implications would be if National Grid were to begin repairing all of the leaks. A number of other cities/ towns have already passed resolutions in support of this legislation.

Mr. Morgan noted that the cost estimates for the proposed school security project have come in quite a bit above what was recently forecast. The Permanent Building Committee and School Committee are going to Advisory on Wednesday to discuss this issue.

Ms. Searle noted she will go to the Playing Fields Task Force meeting on Friday. They will discuss the potential for a large gift that may be given to them in order to help offset costs for the field. They will discuss the acceptance of this gift as well as possible naming of the field.

The Board of Selectmen's meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm