

Monday, January 05, 2009

This regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held this evening in the Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall. In attendance were: Gregory B. Mills, Chair, Barbara D. Searle, Vice Chair, Owen H. Dugan., Secretary, Harriet S. Warshaw and Katherine L. Babson, Jr. Also in attendance were Hans Larsen, Executive Director, Christopher J. Ketchen, Senior Deputy Director and Terrance Connolly, Deputy Director. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

The following warrants were executed: #26 in the amount of \$3,650,095.48.

1. Citizen Speak

None.

2. Executive Director's Update

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Dugan moved, Searle seconded and the Board voted (5 – 0) to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2008 and December 29, 2008 meetings of the Board of Selectmen.

Request from Lt. Governor Murray

Mr. Larsen reported that the Lt. Governor has requested cities and towns across the Commonwealth to submit requests for improvements to municipal facilities in anticipation of a major economic stimulus package being developed by the United States Congress and the President-elect. He briefed the Board on a number of proposals that the Town may put forward to the Lt. Governor's office by the deadline of 2PM on Thursday, January 8, 2009.

Several Board members inquired about the status and prioritization of specific projects and their inclusion in a submission to the Lt. Governor's office. Mr. Larsen indicated that he would develop a final project list in consultation with individual Board members as well as Representative Alice Peisch.

Winter Maintenance

Mr. Larsen reported on a request from the Board of Public Works to approve a supplemental appropriation for Snow and Ice Removal.

Dugan moved, Searle seconded and the Board approved (5 – 0) to authorize the expenditure of up to \$300,000 in additional funds for snow and ice removal and further that this action be relayed to the Advisory Committee for its approval and that such appropriation be accessed only if needed.

Ms. Babson requested that Mr. Larsen provide the Board with information on prior year snow and ice deficit spending authorizations.

3. Hawkers & Peddlers Regulations Amendment

Deputy Chief of Police William Brooks introduced a proposed change to Town regulations related to Hawkens and Peddlers. Sergeant Glen Gerrans briefed the Board on a number of deceptive tactics used by salespeople that the Police have encountered, thus warranting the regulation amendment. Ms. Babson recommended a change in wording of the proposed regulation, to which Deputy Chief Brooks and Sergeant Garrans were amenable.

Dugan moved, Searle seconded and the Board voted (5 - 0) to amend the "Regulations regarding For-Profit Transient Vendor/Businesses; Hawkens and Peddlers; Door-to-Door Solicitations" by adding to Section IV. Compliance Requirements, subsection 4, the following new paragraph d:

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d. No person may use any plan, scheme or ruse, or make any false statement of fact, regarding the true status or mission of the person making the solicitation.

and by re-lettering the previously lettered paragraph d. to paragraph e.

4. FY10 Operating Budget – Council on Aging

Chairman Mills invited forward Council on Aging Chair, Linda Cohen and Director Gayle Thieme to present their FY2010 budget request. Ms. Thieme briefed Board members on the mission and goals of the Council on Aging. The department includes 3.4 full-time staff members. Departmental expenses remain essentially unchanged. She also reported the need to issue a Request For Proposal for the senior transportation contract, which expires at the end of the fiscal year. Consequently, the budget request in this line item is up by \$2,000.

Ms. Babson, pointing out that the Town is exploring a town-wide transportation system, asked Ms. Thieme to provide information to the Board on ridership and service. Ms. Thieme agreed.

Ms. Thieme further described the services provided by the Council on Aging. Ms. Warsaw asked Ms. Thieme to discuss the “Wellesley at Home” program. Ms. Thieme and Ms. Cohen described the program as similar to the Beacon Hill Village model in Boston, which facilitates the pooling of resources that enable seniors to remain in their homes.

FY2010 Operating Budget

Mr. Larsen requested that the Board approve and forward to the Advisory Committee, the FY2010 Operating Budget for those departments that report to the Selectmen. He walked the Board members through the final changes.

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board approved (5 – 0) the Board of Selectmen Fiscal Year 2010 Operating Budget Request dated January 5, 2009.

5. Review Warrant for Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Connolly briefed the Board on the content of the articles submitted to-date on the Warrant for the 2009 Annual Town Meeting. He indicated there are four additions to the list that have been inserted since the last iteration available to the Board. Mr. Connolly reminded the public that the deadline for submission of articles to the Town Clerk’s office is Friday, January 9, 2009 at 5pm.

Old Business/ New Business

- Fire Chief Search

Ms. Warsaw indicated that the search committee and consultants received more than 25 resumes and have identified the 9 top candidates. The committee is conducting preliminary interviews of the top candidates.

- Wellesley High School Building Committee

Ms. Babson updated the Board on the progress of work on the High School project. She announced the establishment of a historical working group to inventory items of historic significance in the current high school for inclusion in the new facility. She also reported that the

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committee is filing the PSI application and 3 notices of intent with the Wetlands Commission. Ms. Babson emphasized the importance of getting through the process in order to move on to the construction phase.

- 27 Washington Street

No update was available.

- Senior Center Study

Ms. Warshaw indicated that a meeting with the neighbors of the American Legion site would take place on Tuesday night.

- Wellesley Commons Project

Mr. Mills reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals has voted to give preliminary approval for the project pending a period of public comment. Once the project is filed with the Town Clerk, the Selectmen will need to review the project within 20 days and decide what, if any, action should be taken.

At 8:45 the Board was polled all aye to go into Executive Session to discuss compensation for non-union personnel.