

Monday, March 9, 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, Katherine L. Babson, Jr., and Terri Tsagaris. Also in attendance were Hans Larsen, Executive Director, Christopher J. Ketchen, Senior Deputy Director, Terrance Connolly, Deputy Director and Albert S. Robinson, Town Counsel. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following warrants were executed: Warrant #36 in the amount of \$6,057,021.84 and #37 in the amount \$4,484,730.72.

1. Citizen Speak

None present.

2. Welcome New Board Member

Mr. Mills congratulated Mr. Dugan and Ms. Tsagaris on their election to the Board. A special welcome was given to the Board's newest member Ms. Tsagaris, who expressed her excitement about working with her fellow members and the staff.

3. Commemoration of Planning Director's Retirement

Mr. Mills read a resolution honoring the distinguished career of Richard H. Brown upon the retirement from his position as Town's Planning Director. Mr. Brown briefly expressed his fortune and pleasure for having worked for the Town. Each board member signed the resolution

4. Executive Director's Update

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Recognition of the Children of the Miles for Miracles Program

Mr. Larsen read a resolution honoring the Children of the Miles for Miracles Program. Mr. Tim Maul spoke briefly to describe the Miles for Miracles program and the partnership with Children's Hospital.

Mr. Dugan move, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to approve the proclamation honoring the Miles for Miracles Program as presented by the Executive Director.

Extension of BETA Group Contract

Mr. Connolly came forward requesting an extension of the BETA Group contract until June 30, 2009.

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted 5-0 to execute an agreement with BETA Group, Inc. extending the term of the existing professional traffic engineering services contract to June 30, 2009 using the year 3 price proposal.

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Mr. Connolly also distributed a proposed five year vegetation management plan from the Department of Public Works for the Board's consideration at a later date.

Accept Gift of the Wellesley United Soccer Club

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to accept the gift of \$1,481,000 from the Wellesley United Soccer Club, Inc. for improvements to Sprague Field.

5. Municipal Light Plant – Opinion Dynamics Survey

Mr. Mills invited forward Mr. Michael Humphrys, Mr. Richard Joyce, and Ms. Debra Healey representing the Municipal Light Board. Mr. Humphrys presented the results of the recent Opinion Dynamics Survey of MLP services. He also spoke about the new Voluntary Renewable Energy initiative which enables customers to purchase renewable energy as part of their electricity consumption. Mr. Humphrys and Mr. Joyce fielded several questions from Board members related to ongoing partnerships between the MLP and the Selectmen, communicating information through bill mailings and consideration of numerous ways to save on electric costs.

6. Common Victualler License – Jimmy's Cafe

Mr. Larsen invited Mr. Bedros Kaya to come forward to discuss his request for a Common Victualler License. Mr. Mills and Mr. Dugan inquired about the schedule for trash pick-up. Mr. Jim McDevitt came forward to discuss some of the current trash pick-up arrangements.

Additional discussion ensued around confusion over the space available for customers to park. Mr. McDevitt fielded several questions about the current parking arrangement at 151 Linden Street and 10 Railroad Street. He acknowledged the lack of clear signage designating parking for customers. Several Board members posited that there was need for greater clarity in the application regarding parking and requested greater detail. Mr. Larsen indicated that staff would investigate the parking situation and report back to the Board.

Mr. Charlie Moriarty came forward to explain the history of parking at the 10 Railroad Street site. Mr. Louis Grignaffini, proprietor of a neighboring business, came forward to show photos to the Board of what, in his estimation, amounted to inappropriate parking utilization. Mr. Dugan also chose to acknowledge, for the purposes of full disclosure, that he is a renter of property owned by Mr. Grignaffini. Mr. Robinson recommended that the Board table the application to a future date and allow staff to apply established Board policy to the parking situation.

7. Annual Town Meeting Preparations

Mr. Connolly walked the Board members through the current status of draft motions in advance of Annual Town Meeting. There was some discussion regarding the need for the Board to vote on the various motions. It was agreed that it would be appropriate to vote on each. As the Board members reviewed each article for which motions were available, further discussion ensued at various points relating to the substance of specific articles.

8. Burnett Lane Layout Hearing

At 9:06 p.m. Mr. Mills opened the public hearing. Mr. Connolly briefed the Board members on the location and current condition of Burnett Lane, which qualifies as a Type 1 unaccepted way as defined under the Board's street acceptance policy. The Town is currently plowing the road and discussion

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focused on the additional responsibilities of the Department of Public Works to care for the traffic island at the center of the cul-de-sac. Mr. Mills invited several residents forward to comment on the street acceptance. Mr. Atul Varma of 2 Burnett Lane came forward and spoke in support of the street acceptance.

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to approve the layout plan for Burnett Lane as shown in the documents titled “Street Acceptance Layout of Burnett Lane, Wellesley, Mass.” by GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc. dated November 20, 2006 and revised on January 5, 2007.

Mr. Mills closed the public hearing at 9:23 p.m.

9. Agreement with Police Dispatchers

Mr. Larsen brought forward a proposed contract settlement with the Wellesley Police Dispatchers Association. He briefly described some of the more substantive elements of the agreement which called for a 2% salary increase in FY2010 and FY2011 as well as adjustments to personal time and staffing procedures.

Mr. Dugan moved, Ms. Searle seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Wellesley and the Wellesley Police Dispatchers Association for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011.

10. Old Business/New Business

- Wellesley High School Building Committee – No report.
- 27 Washington Street – No report.
- Senior Center Study – Mr. Mills stated that there would be further discussion on this topic on March 17, 2009.

At 9:29 p.m. the Board was polled all aye to go into Executive Session for the purpose discussing a personal services contract.