

Monday, March 24, 2008

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

The following warrants were executed #39 in the amount of \$2,276,590.87.

1. Citizen Speak

Neil Glick, 89 River Street, opined that the proposed 27 Washington Street project is “far too large” and the related impacts are unacceptable. He urged the Board to exercise whatever efforts to scale the project back.

2. Executive Director’s Update

Babson moved, Mills seconded and the Board voted (5-0) Move to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2008 meeting.

Babson moved, Mills seconded and the Board voted (5-0) to remove the appointment of Sixto Santiago as Special Police Officer for the Town of Wellesley.

Norfolk County Selectmen’s Association Dinner – April 2, 2008.

Senate resolution on Local aid

3. American Legion Trustees

John Schuler, Richard Dillon, John Saunders, John Tracey and Stanley Spear, the American Legion Trustees joined the Board and explained their wish to return control of the American Legion property at 496 Washington Street to the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to the Deed of Trust. Mr. Schuler reviewed the history of the property, the Legion’s current circumstances, and the Legion’s ongoing need for meeting and archival storage space.

Mr. Robinson reviewed certain legal aspects of the conveyance of the property to the Town.

Insurance renewal date is April 1st.

Harriet expressed gratitude.

Greg questioned the amount of storage space.

Gig expressed her gratitude.

Mr. Schuler noted a provision of the Trust concerning the subsequent use of the property, and reported the Legion’s interest in seeing the property used for the future benefit of Wellesley seniors, perhaps in partnership with other bodies.

The Board expressed a willingness to proceed toward conclusion

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4. 27 Washington Street PSI – Traffic & Pedestrian Safety

Bob Davis, Mark Paris and Brian Beisel, representing National Development joined the Board. Mark Paris provided an overview of the project. Mr. Beisel summarized the scope of the traffic study

Frank Romeo, Kien Ho and Jacklyn De from the Beta Group, and Police Chief Cunningham joined the Board. Mr. Romeo summarized the scope and chronology of Beta's peer review joined the Board

Mr. Romeo concluded by summarizing the outstanding issues that need to be resolved.

Ms. Warsaw questioned the relative level of traffic volume to be generated by the proposed project.

Mr. Romeo

- Roughly 1/3 of traffic volume that would have been generated by Stop & Shop (2,000 vs. 5,600?)
- 3-5% increase in peak hr.

Ms. Warsaw questioned the risks associated with incremental traffic being pushed onto Warran Street Mr. Romeo noted the expected impact

Mr. Mills questioned whether the downgrade on Washington Street eastbound approaching Glen Road would present safety issues during the winter.

Lana Bornstein, Hundreds Road, questioned whether

Sheila Tucker, , questioned whether the queue lengths at the proposed signal at Glen Road have been looked at, and advocated against right turn onto Glen Road from Washington Street. She also questioned whether the movement of the crosswalk would allow for adequate site distance for eastbound motorists. Mr. Ho noted that Beta will be looking at the queue lengths for the proposed signal, and noted the pedestrian improvements being proposed for the crosswalk.

Mary (Nuzzi) Bauers, Columbia Street, expressed the view that the signal and the parking space . She wants to eliminate all of the parking in front of the Convent

Steve Murphy,

Sophie Jones, Columbia Street, questioned whether it was unusual to expect so many cars to turn right exiting the site drive. Mr. Beisel noted it is due to higher traffic volume attributable to the office component, and a relatively high percentage of people who work

How do people get into St. John's

Do we want another 70 cars who today make a left turn from River?

Traffic backing up onto Glen (no sidewalks, etc.)

Peggy Griffin, Columbia Street,

Joe Tierney and Marlena O'Brien, representing the St. John's property, questioned

Neil Glick, 89 River Street, opined that there is a need for further public input on this matter, and suggested the Board take its time.

Martin Kane, Ledyard Street,

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5. 2008 Annual Town Meeting Preparations

Old Business/New Business

Ms. Babson provided an update regarding the School Building Committee. She noted the timing of the 4th Community Input session and the times for the replay of the prior forums. She also noted that the SBC and PBC will be meeting on Thursday night to reduce the options to one renovation proposal and one all-new proposal.

Ms. Warshaw provided an update regarding the Senior Study Committee. She noted the intention to proceed to Town Meeting with a request for \$25,000 to be matched by a similar amount by the Tolles Trustees to study an alternative site.

Mr. Mills provided an update regarding the Sprague Fields Task Force. He noted their plans to meet with Advisory on Wednesday night and the substance of to review the

Mr. Mills provided an update regarding the efforts to preserve the Country Club Club House.

At 10:50, the Board was polled all aye to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation.

An Executive Session of the Board of Selectmen was held this evening in the Juliani Meeting Room of the Town Hall. In attendance were: Owen H. Dugan, Chair, Gregory B. Mills, Vice Chair, Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Secretary, Harriet S. Warshaw and David J. Himmelberger. Also in attendance were Hans Larsen, Executive Director, Terrance J. Connolly, Deputy Director, and Albert S. Robinson, Town Counsel.

Regarding the pending litigation involving 27 Washington Street, Mr. Robinson noted the latest developments concerning

Warshaw moved, Babson seconded and the Board voted (4-0) to release those sections of the executive session (Ms. Searle recused herself).

At 11:20 the Board was polled all aye to adjourn.