

Monday, February 25, 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 and David J. Himmelberger. Also in attendance were Hans Larsen, Executive Director and Terrance J. Connolly, Deputy Director. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Harriet S. Warshaw and Albert S. Robinson, Town Counsel were absent.

The following warrants were executed #34 in the amount of \$5,046,845.21 and #35 in the amount of \$979,711.67.

1. Citizen Speak

None.

2. Executive Director's Update

The Board expressed congratulations to Nicoli Kenworthy Ecker, Matthew Culver Gleysteen, Diamond Michael Fortini and William Russell Fortini members of Troop 185, on their advancement to the level of Eagle Scout.

Contrary to the previously published tentative agenda, Mr. Larsen noted that further discussion of the Wellesley Country Club CV License – Change of Premises would be deferred until March 3rd.

Mr. Larsen noted that additional materials regarding the revised PSI submission for the 978 Worcester Street project were being distributed.

Babson moved, Mills seconded and the Board voted (4-0) to proclaim Sunday, March 2nd to be known as Wellesley Symphony Orchestra Day.

3. Plumbing/Gas Permit Fee Changes – Public Hearing

Michael Grant, Inspector of Buildings joined the Board and Mr. Owen opened the public hearing. Mr. Grant reviewed the proposed changes to the plumbing/gas permit fee schedule, including the results of a survey of comparable fees in nearby communities. Mr. Dugan questioned how often work is performed without a permit, which might imply a safety risk. Mr. Grant indicated this is not a frequent problem and noted the Town's practices in this regard are consistent with other towns.

Mr. Dugan welcomed public input. There was none.

Babson moved, Mills seconded and the Board voted 4-0 to approve the plumbing/gas permit fee schedule changes as recommended by Michael Grant, Inspector of Buildings, as recommended in his memo dated December 3, 2007, to be effective February 26, 2008.

Mr. Dugan closed the public hearing.

Ms. Babson provided an update on the activities of the School Building Committee including the pending submission to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in advance of a meeting with them on Thursday.

Mr. Mills provided an update on the activities of the Sprague Field Task Force including the Community Preservation Commission's approval of funding for a portion of the costs of the proposed Sprague Field remediation project, and further preparations for Town Meeting.

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. Himmelberger provided an update on the 27 Washington Street project. He indicated that the Town's and National Development's respective traffic consultants are continuing to work on the traffic analysis, in advance of a meeting between the Town and National Development next week.

Mr. Larsen noted that in response to a request from Representative Peisch's office, the Town has provided a list of projects for potential inclusion in the pending transportation bond bill. The list of projects includes Rockland Street Bridge, Route 9 and Cedar Street Bridge, Route 9 and Kingsbury Street Intersection, Reconstruction of Route 135, and Route 9 Drainage. He further noted preparations for the upcoming Traffic Improvement Plan (TIP) Day at the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

4. Traffic & Parking Regulation Amendments – Public Hearing

Mr. Dugan opened the hearing and Mr. Connolly reviewed the proposed Stop sign at the intersection of Woodlawn Avenue and Oakland Street. He noted a petition in support of the Stop sign signed by residents in the area and indicated the Police Department is supportive. Ms. Babson requested a slide be available for future Regulation amendments, showing the details of the proposal. Mr. Mills mentioned his familiarity with the site and expressed his support for the proposal.

Mr. Dugan invited public comment. Joan Savitt, 2 Woodlawn Avenue, expressed strong support for the Stop sign. Mr. Himmelberger expressed his support and noted that neighbors are always welcome to record the license plate of motorists violating traffic laws.

Babson moved, Mills seconded and the Board voted (4-0) to further amend the Traffic Regulations adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wellesley on February 1, 1937 under the provisions of Section 22 of Chapter 40 and in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of Chapter 85 of the General Laws, as follows:

BY ADDING TO SCHEDULE IV, STOP SIGNS, the following:

Location	At	So as to Face
Woodlawn Avenue	Oakland Street	Eastbound Traffic

Mr. Dugan closed the public hearing.

5. Wellesley Country Club CV License – Change of Premises

As a member of the Wellesley Country Club, Mr. Dugan recused himself from this matter. Mr. Mills reopened the hearing and continued the hearing until March 3rd.

6. The Fund for Wellesley

Ms. Babson provided background regarding The Fund for Wellesley proposal. Susan Hurwitz, Chair of the Community Board of the Fund for Wellesley, Becky Epstein and Judy Salerno, Executive Director of Crossroads Community Foundation joined the Board. Ms. Hurwitz reviewed the Fund's mission, principles logistics, Board members, grant process and next steps. She further indicated they have received preliminary pledges of approximately \$130,000 and hope to award grants of \$25,000 - \$50,000 in 2008.

Ms. Babson commended the group for their work, and the Board members expressed strong support for the Fund. Ms. Babson questioned what the group is planning in terms of publicizing the new Fund. Ms. Hurwitz indicated they are planning a low-key fundraising effort, with the intent of emphasizing publicity regarding the grant awards. Ms. Babson and Mr. Dugan encouraged the group to make their efforts visible. Ms. Salerno indicated the Fund would be made visible on Crossroads website shortly.

Monday, February 25, 2008

7. Wellesley Historical Commission – Preservation of Wellesley Country Club Club House

As a member of the Wellesley Country Club, Mr. Dugan recused himself from this matter. Deborah Bates, Lawrence McNally, Helen Robertson, Linda Buffum, Joel Slocum and David Wright representing the Wellesley Historic Commission joined the Board. Ms. Bates reviewed the background and details of the proposal to preserve certain elements of the Wellesley Country Club House for potential adaptive reuse. Ms. Babson questioned whether the CPC had approved use of CPA funds for inventorying the historical elements. Mr. Mills confirmed they had, and further noted that the Commission has applied for additional CPA funding, with the intention that the actual deconstruction be funded two-thirds by the CPC and one-third by private donations. Mr. Mills indicated the preliminary estimate for deconstructing and storing the historic elements for up to three years is \$300,000. With regard to the potential reuse of the building as part of a new DPW office building, it is intended that the cost of such a reuse not exceed the cost of an all-new structure as originally envisioned. Work is being undertaken now to determine such cost.

Old/New Business

See Item #3 above.

At 9:05 the Board was polled all aye to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy for collective bargaining.