

Board of Selectmen – October 19, 2009

Present: Searle, Babson, Mills, Dugan, Tsagaris

Also present: Larsen, Ketchen and Robinson

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Ms. Searle noted the International Climate Action Day scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2009.

Warrant approved: Number 2010-014 (\$3,239,793.82)

Citizen Speak: None

Minutes approved: October 13, 2009

Business:

A. Executive Director's Update

- The Board approved a One Day Special License for Babson College for the Charles River ARC – Comedy Night Fundraiser taking place on November 7, 2009 and as described in the Application for Special License dated October 5, 2009.
- The Board accepted gifts to the Council on Aging in the amount of \$2,000 from Frank C. Genovese for the purpose of subsidizing and/or paying the full cost of fitness health programs offered by the Council for individuals with financial hardships, and in the amount of \$50 from Amy H. Donovan...
- Noted MassHighway public hearing on Cedar Street bridge project scheduled for October 27 at 7:00 pm.
- Mr. Larsen reviewed Michael Grant's comments to the Board at the prior week's meeting regarding the Kimlo Road project. He also noted the letters sent to the Department of Public Safety and the Occupational Safety & Health Administration expressing the Board's preference that work not resume on the site until they are fully satisfied that adequate precautions are in place to protect public and worker safety.
 - Ruth Brandeis, 33 Kimlo Road expressed concern regarding the circumstances and conditions surrounding the project on Kimlo Road and suggested the Selectmen visit the site.
- Ms. Babson noted the Planning Board's Article regarding retaining walls on the warrant for the upcoming Special Town Meeting.

B. Traffic Regulation Amendments

Ms. Searle opened the hearing and Mr. Larsen reviewed the proposed changes to be made on Beechwood and Shirley Roads, including grinding out the double yellow line on Beechwood, adding a crosswalk on Beechwood Road, adjacent to Shirley Road and adding a STOP sign on Shirley Road approaching Beechwood. The addition of the STOP sign is the specific topic of this public hearing.

Ms. Searle invited public comment.

- Richard Lown, 37 Beechwood, suggested the existing situation on Beechwood Road in terms of speeding is untenable and the only solution is a three way STOP at Beechwood and Shirley.

- Andrew Schneider, 20 Beechwood, expressed support for the proposal, but viewed it as only the start of a solution to reduce the volume and speed of traffic on the road. He requested the installation of a 25 MPH Thickly Settled sign.
- Joe Januszewski, 24 Beechwood, suggested the Town needs to do something more to reduce the volume and speed of traffic on Beechwood before something tragic happens.
- Suzanne Palacino, 22 Beechwood, clarified the length of the double yellow line on Beechwood.

The Board voted that 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 be further amended by adding to SCHEDULE IV, STOP SIGNS, the following:

Location:	At:	So as to face:
Shirley Road	Beechwood Road	Northbound Traffic

C. Middle School – Statement of Interest

Bella Wong, Ilissa Povich, KC Kato and Suzy Littlefield, representing the School Committee, joined the Board and Ms. Wong reviewed the draft Statement of Interest regarding the Middle School to be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The Board deferred action on the matter until the document is finalized.

D. Glen Grove – Pending Sale

Bob Kenney, Sara Schnorr, Bob Goldkamp, Dona Kemp and Brad Boyd, representing the Housing Development Corporation joined the Board. Ms. Babson recused herself from the matter. Mr. Larsen and Mr. Goldkamp updated the Board on the pending sale of Glen Grove and the Town’s negotiations with the seller and buyer of the property regarding the Town’s release of its first refusal.

Old/New Business

- Wellesley High School – Ms. Babson noted that one year ago Town Meeting approved the High School project, and construction is now proceeding.
- 27 Washington Street – N/A.
- Senior Center – Ms. Tsagaris noted an upcoming meeting to review the parking situation.
- DCR Bridge – N/A.
- Advisory Committee Update – N/A.

Mr. Mills noted the ceremony scheduled for October 23rd at the Wellesley Country Club commemorating a monument at the location of the Town’s original Town Hall.

Mr. Ketchen provided a preliminary overview of the potential use of freed-up debt service capacity within the levy limit as a source of funds for future increases in facilities maintenance spending.

At 9:00 pm the Board was polled all aye to go into Executive Session to discuss the potential acquisition of real property.