

**Advisory Committee  
Meeting # 5  
October 6, 2010**

Steve Simons called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present also included Catherine Johnson, Maura Murphy, Jack Haley, Caren Parker, Virginia Ferko, Rick Hill, Laura Hockett, Philip Licari, Richard Page, Polly Smith, Derek Redgate, Barbara McMahon, David Murphy, and Jason Whittet.

**Citizens Speak**

No one spoke.

**Minutes**

The minutes of September 29<sup>th</sup> were corrected to reflect the date of October 20<sup>th</sup> for the middle school tour. Upon a motion made by Virginia Ferko and seconded by Caren Parker, the members approved the minutes of September 22 and the minutes of September 29 (as corrected). The vote was 13-0 (Mr. Whittet was not present).

**MLP Early Retirement Plan**

Guests MLP Chair Bill Charlton and Director Dick Joyce presented the MLP Early Retirement Plan, proposed as an article for the Fall Special Town Meeting. Under the plan, employees with more than 20 years of service are eligible to take advantage of a 3-year credit toward retirement, and the MLP said that 3 eligible employees may be interested in the benefit. In addition to operating budget savings, the MLP said these early retirements could allow them to create new advancement opportunities and improve emergency response times. Mr. Charlton noted that the MLP's aggressive capital investment program has not only improved system reliability, but also has enabled a downsizing of the work force. After the presentation, Advisory members requested that the MLP provide estimates of the program's net savings to the Town.

**Announcements and Update on the Special Town Meeting**

The Selectmen scheduled the Special Town Meeting for December 6, 2010 and indicated that there may be an appropriation for roadwork on Washington Street that could be reimbursed through a Massachusetts Opportunity Relocation and Expansion (MORE) grant. The road improvements are related to the National Development project at 27 Washington Street, the former Grossman's site.

Among announcements, it was noted that Council on Aging has vacated space leased at the Wellesley Community Center due to rodent and cleanliness issues in the building.

**Liaison Reports**

Ms McMahon said that the middle school tour will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Kingsbury Street side door of the school. Ms. Ferko said that Planning's zoning re-codification project may not be ready for the Annual Town Meeting. Other Liaison reports were given for the St. James Project, the Schools, and the DPW.

**Space Guidelines**

Mr. Haley presented information on building space standards that have been adopted throughout the country to support efficiencies and cost effectiveness in building design and construction. After extensive discussion, it was the sense of the members that the town should explore developing space standards. Questions were raised, however, about the timing and application of space guidelines to the DPW building that is currently being designed.

**Discussion of MLP Early Retirement Plan and Other Warrant Items**

The Committee will ask the DPW to meet with them in November to discuss plans for the new DPW building, which is expected to come before the Annual Town Meeting this spring. Advisory members discussed the MLP Retirement Plan and will review the requested estimate of the plan's projected net savings when received from the MLP before voting on the article. Rick Hall was asked to invite the DPW to come to discuss how decisions have been made to date on DPW's planned allocation and use of space.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Ferko and seconded by Ms. Parker. The Committee voted 14-0 to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Davis  
Administrative Assistant

Documents Distributed: Municipal Building Space Standards; Wellesley Municipal Light Plant Early Retirement Plan; Space Use Update 2002.