

**Approved: July 21, 2020**

**Board of Selectmen Meeting: June 29, 2020**

**Present: Freiman, Ulfelder, Olney, Sullivan Woods**

**Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti**

**Warrants approved: none**

**Meeting Documents:**

1. Agenda
2. BOS Draft Calendar
3. Draft Agenda for public hearing
4. Copy of legal ad published
5. Verizon Annual Complaint filing
6. Memo from SEC re: Verizon
7. D&R International report
8. Resignation from Ms. Chalmers – Housing Authority
9. Volunteer form – Ms. Coduri
10. WPS School Transportation information re: Bus Transportation
11. WPS Draft Contract – JSC Transportation
12. WPS Draft Contract – Eastern Bus Company
13. Stantec Memo re: Williams Street
14. Wetlands Protection Committee letter re: 130-142 Worcester Street
15. Draft Restoration and Replication Access License
16. Draft Annual Appointment list
17. Gift Information
18. Mass Bay Press Release
19. May Animal Control Report
20. Letter from Jeff Peterson

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm online.

Ms. Freiman announced the meeting was being streamed live on Comcast channel 8 and Verizon channel 40 and by Wellesley Media and recorded for subsequent viewing on the cable channels or at [wellesleymedia.org](http://wellesleymedia.org).

**2. Citizen Speak**

Mr. Miller of Skyline Drive joined the meeting. He expressed his continued concerns regarding the MLP project to install small cell antennas. He stated he had relayed his concerns to the Planning Board as well. He noted the webinar presented by the MLP and added he had additional questions that were not answered. He stated he hoped to have his questions answered at a public meeting and asked the Board to add the project as an agenda item for public discussion.

**3. Announcements**

Ms. Olney stated that on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm was the second of the discussion series held by the Wake Up Wellesley organization regarding combating racism in the school system and government. She noted the group was organized by Wellesley High School students and graduates.

#### **4. Public Hearing: Verizon Cable Ascertainment Hearing**

Ms. Freiman opened the public hearing at 5:08pm.

Ms. Freiman introduced the Cable Committee, Ms. Olney, Mr. Joyce, Executive Director of Wellesley Media, Mr. Marx, Wellesley Media President and Chair, Ms. Jop and Mr. DuPont, Wellesley IT Director. She noted that the hearing was held by regulation of the Federal Cable Act. She added that the Verizon Cable license would expire on November 5, 2021. Ms. Freiman stated the Town was in the ascertainment process that was mandated by legislation. She reviewed the purpose of the meeting and stated that all records would be available to the public through the Selectmen's Office. She noted that public testimony would be sent to Verizon for a RFP and to inform them of the types of services the Town would expect during the renewal term. She noted the Board had no authority to regulate the type of programming provided by Verizon or rates charged to customers.

Ms. Jop reviewed the annual complaints filed with Verizon that was submitted to the Town for 2019. She noted the average resolution of the complaints was timely. Mr. Joyce stated he would ask for Verizon to provide high definition channels for the public access channels.

Ms. Martello, SEC Director, joined the meeting. She stated that she had comments concerning the energy efficiency of cable equipment. She noted that the renewal process would be an opportunity for the Town to inquire of the energy efficiency of boxes and network equipment. She read a statement provided to the Board from the SEC. Ms. Martello added that Verizon provides equipment in a large range of power ratings making it impossible to know what equipment has been installed in Wellesley.

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated she would be interested in feedback from the School Administration and the Housing Authority regarding their thoughts for cable services to assist with online learning for students and all residents. She inquired about the potential to negotiate for support in potential for expanding media capabilities in Town buildings. The Board discussed the current capabilities for recording meetings.

Ms. Freiman stated that the hearing would remain open for fourteen days for additional testimony and noted that written comments should be submitted to the Selectmen's Office by July 13, 2020. Ms. Freiman closed the hearing at 5:26pm

#### **5. Joint Meeting with Housing Authority**

Ms. Renzella, Housing Authority Chair; and Ms. Spencer and Ms. Maire of the Housing Authority joined the Board.

Mr. Barnicle, Housing Authority Executive Director, and Ms. Coduri, applicant for appointment joined the meeting.

Ms. Jop stated that Ms. Chalmers had resigned her position from the Housing Authority and the appointment would be for a term to expire at the next Town election.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to call a joint meeting with the Housing Authority**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to appoint Marjorie Freiman as Chair**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to appoint Maura Renzella as Secretary**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

Ms. Renzella called the Housing Authority to order.

Ms. Renzella reviewed Ms. Coduri's background, noting that she had previously been the Director for the Wellesley Free Library. Ms. Renzella noted that Ms. Coduri had extensive experience in management of large projects and of employees that made her the candidate of choice for the Authority to move forward. Ms. Coduri reviewed her statement of interest in serving on the Housing Authority.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Boards were polled and voted (7-0) to appoint Janice Coduri to the Housing Authority until the next Annual Town Election in March 2021**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Ms. Renzella – Aye**

**Ms. Spencer – Aye**

**Ms. Maire – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to dissolve the joint meeting**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**6. COVID-19 Response – Discuss and Vote School Transportation Agreements with Eastern Bus and JSC**

Dr. Lussier, School Superintendent and Ms. Mahr, School Assistant Superintendent for Finance, joined the Board. Dr. Lussier noted that the School Committee had approved the negotiated contract amendments. Ms. Mahr reviewed the process of contracting for the transportation services. She noted challenges in contracting and providing for bus services. She reviewed the concerns that came from the COVID-19 outbreak and school closures. Ms. Mahr reviewed the negotiated results noting that payment would be for core services rather than extra rides such as athletic trips. She provided an overview of the services and routes provided and those associated costs. Ms. Mahr stated that the schools felt that making a partial payment for service not able to be delivered due to COVID was important to ensuring staffing

and resources would be available when the school reopened. She reviewed the net FY Budgeted funds totaled \$1,250,753 from the General Fund and \$520,170 from grant funding and the requested COVID payments totaled \$364,720 from the General Fund and \$111,020 of grant funding. Ms. Mahr added that Eastern Bus had received a loan from the Paycheck Protection Act and the Town would receive a refund in the future. She noted that the amount of the refund was unknown as was how transportation would be utilized for the 2020-2021 school year. The Board discussed the negotiated amendments and the potential for transportation changes for the upcoming academic year.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the Amendment to the Agreement between Wellesley Public Schools and Eastern Bus Company dated June 10, 2020 and to authorize the Chair to sign Attachment A: Transportation Service Provider Sworn Statement on behalf of the Board.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the Amendment to the Agreement between Wellesley Public Schools and JSC dated June 10, 2020 and to authorize the Chair to sign Attachment A: Transportation Service Provider Sworn Statement on behalf of the Board.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

#### **7. Discuss and Vote Proposed Right-of-Way Improvements to Williams Street (40R)**

Mr. Hall from Hanover Company and Mr. Ryan from Stantec joined the meeting.

Ms. Jop stated that under the ZBA decision for the 40R application the Board was required to approve all improvements in the right-of-way. She provided a brief overview of the Stantec proposal for improvements. She noted that the Engineering Department agreed with the plans submitted.

Mr. Ryan reviewed the residential project and provided details of the submitted plans. He noted that much of the improvements were centered at the intersection of Williams Street and Frontage Road. He added that most of the improvements included ADA accessibility and pedestrian access. He reviewed the existing conditions and limitations. Mr. Ryan stated he had worked with the Tree Warden and the Wetlands Protection Committee when developing the plan. He reviewed the additional on street parking spaces. Mr. Ryan stated that there were existing gas connections on Williams Street and noted that lines would need to be moved in order for the current gas users to retain their service.

The Board reviewed and discussed the plans for the right-of-way. Ms. Jop stated that ZBA, Planning, NRC and Wetlands had not expressed any questions or concerns regarding the plan. She added that the Town traffic consultant submitted some questions regarding signage and safety that were addressed and approved by Police and Fire. Mr. Hall provided a brief update on the status of the 40R project. He stated expected work to begin early in July.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, he Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the proposed right-of-way improvements associated with the Hanover**

**Wellesley Project on Williams Street as shown in the plan set titled “Wellesley Office Park William Street Improvements” prepared by Stantec dated June 23, 2020**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**8. Discuss and Vote Restoration and Replication Access License for 136 Worcester Street**

Ms. Jop stated that as part of the ZBA review of the 40B application at 136 Worcester Street the Wetlands Administrator had found illegal dumping from the previous owner. She added that the Wetlands Committee requirements necessitated close contact to Town property in order to remove the debris from the site. Ms. Jop reviewed the property lines and the Wetlands Committee recommendations for removal. She stated that Town Counsel had prepared the license for access. The Board discussed the recommendation from the Wetlands Committee and the restoration process.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the Restoration and Replication Access License for 136 Worcester Street.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**9. Discuss and Vote Special Election for Board of Selectmen Vacancy**

Ms. Kato, Town Clerk, joined the meeting. She stated that current legislation would allow for a mail-in ballot process for the September primary similar to the Town election. She added that she would be coordinating with other offices for early voting for the primary and potentially the Presidential election. She reviewed the process from the Town election and potential improvements for the upcoming elections in the fall.

Ms. Freiman noted that the Board would be required to vote for the election date to be held for the new Board member to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Morgan. She noted the request from the Clerk’s Office to add the Board election to the September ballot in order to streamline the election process for staff. The Board discussed holding the election for the Board vacancy on the September ballot. Ms. Kato reviewed the process for obtaining and returning papers, noting the return date would be July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to call a Special Election for the open Board of Selectmen position on September 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**10. Executive Director’s Update**

Ms. Jop reviewed the annual appointment list. She noted additional appointments would be forthcoming when additional vacancies would be filled. She added that the Veteran’s Graves Officer appointment would be held to a future meeting.

Ms. Frigulietti reviewed the grant funds received from the COVID Relief Fund and opportunities for the youth to work in Town. She noted that donations were still being received and how contributions may be made.

Ms. Jop reviewed the previously approved Town Hall summer hours. She noted that Town Hall remained closed to visitors although staff was present on site and working from home. She reviewed the proposal for the revised summer hours that would not include a later evening. Ms. Jop noted that conversations regarding consistent departmental hours of operation were beginning.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the appointments as presented in the Board of Selectmen FY21-FY22 proposal dated June 23, 2020.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to accept grants in the amount of \$4000 to the Health Department and \$8500 to the Youth Commission from the Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve modified summer hours at Town Hall.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Freiman – Aye**

## **11. Liaison Updates**

Mr. Ulfelder stated that he received a summary of the webinar regarding the small cell antennas. He added that the webinar provided detailed information and was informative.

Ms. Olney stated she attended the Metrowest Regional Collaborative that focused on a joint grant offering from MassDOT and MAPC for shared street projects. She added that Traffic Committee would have a discussion regarding that in the future. She stated that the SEC had approved a co-sponsorship of an event with Sustainable Wellesley and the NRC regarding leaf blowers on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. She added that the SEC members attended the launch of the Rocky Mountain Institute building electrification accelerator that is intended to help communities accelerate the transition from fossil fuels to electricity. She noted the other communities participating in the program. Ms. Olney stated that the meeting with National Grid regarding the gas leaks initiative had been on hold due to work related to COVID-19. She noted that National Grid would begin providing quarterly updates on gas leaks.

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that she had attended the MMA webinar regarding rebuilding business communities. She noted that she was reaffirmed that the Town had been taking a proactive approach to help the merchants. She stated she had held office hours and noted it had been well attended.

Ms. Freiman stated that she and Ms. Jop participated in the interviews for two of the architecture firms for the Supplemental Feasibility Study for Town Hall. She added that the annex had been delayed. She noted that a third interview would be held on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**12. New Business and Correspondence**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2020 at 5pm-online.