

Approved: June 6, 2023

**Select Board Meeting: February 21, 2023**

**Present: Olney, Ulfelder, Sullivan Woods, Aufranc, Lanza**

**Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti**

**Meeting Documents:**

1. Agenda
2. Draft Select Board Calendar
3. Sources & Uses
4. 5 Year Capital Plan
5. Draft Motions
6. Correspondence re: Town Hall Historic Items
7. SPED Stabilization Fund Documentation
8. Common Victualler Licenses Wellesley College El Table & Café Hoop
9. Draft Select Board Minutes 1/10/23
10. Draft Birthday Proclamation
11. Correspondence re: Babson Police Officer
12. DPW Thank You letter
13. Police Station EV Charging Grant Award Letter

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Olney, Chair, called the Select Board to order at the joint meeting at 6:30 pm.

**2. Joint Meeting with Planning Board**

The Boards discussed the proposed amendment to the development agreement for the Wellesley Office Park 40R smart growth overlay district. Mr. Clement of Goulston & Storrs provided an overview of the request to modify the development agreement and the changes proposed.

The Select Board left the Planning Board meeting.

**3. Call to Order**

Ms. Olney, Chair, called the Select Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm; online.

Ms. Olney 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).

**4. Citizen Speak**

None.

**5. Annual Town Meeting Preparation**

Ms. Strother, Finance Director, joined the meeting.

Ms. Jop provided an update on the development agreement amendment for Wellesley Office Park. She noted the increase of units as well as the potential need for a new fire station or other public safety improvements as a result of increased development. She stated that a draft amendment was expected to be before the Board at the next meeting. The Board discussed the proposed amendment revisions.

Ms. Jop stated that she had received comments on the previous version of the town-wide financial plan that would be incorporated in the revised draft the Board will receive. She stated that the health insurance rates had not been finalized; in order to move forward in the budget process, a 12.36% increase in health insurance had been included in the budget as a worst case scenario. The Board discussed the projections for the health insurance budget and the potential rate increases. Ms. Jop continued to review the drafted town-wide financial plan and the scenarios for closing the budget. She provided a review of the five-year capital plan and the potential for funding projected projects within the levy. The Board discussed the budget and the free cash needed to close the budget.

Ms. Jop noted revisions to the draft motions.

## **6. Discuss Draft Code of Conduct**

Mr. Harrington, Town Counsel, joined the meeting.

Ms. Olney stated that she had invited Town Counsel to join the meeting to address questions regarding a code of conduct lessening members rights as individuals or rights to free speech. Mr. Harrington stated that he had reviewed the draft code of conduct from the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. He noted that he had seen similar codes of conduct adopted in other communities and believed the Board had the authority to adopt a code of conduct. Mr. Harrington stated that he did have a concern regarding the last item under "Section D." regarding behavior and removal of another member by the Chair for unruly behavior. He added that the Chair has the authority to remove or rule another member out of order without the code of conduct; noting that if the meeting was being held virtually he believed the "unruly" member should be muted rather than removed. He stated that he did not believe adopting a code of conduct was an infringement on anyone's rights as an individual.

The Board had an extensive discussion of the draft code of conduct and individual points within the document. Some members questioned unintentional impacts of a code of conduct and expressed concerns. Some Board members expressed differences of opinions regarding topic "A" "Conduct Generally and In Relation to the Community", the sub-topics included in that section, and the purpose of having a code of conduct. The Board continued to discuss at length various portions of the code of conduct draft.

## **7. Discuss and Vote Town Hall Historic Item Review Recommendation**

Ms. Jop noted that the group of interested residents that had toured Town Hall to review the staff's list of Town Hall items and their recommended disposition; they had issued a letter stating the group had additional questions on some documents and items. Ms. Jop stated she proposed that she and Mr. Ulfelder work with the group directly regarding the items at Town Hall. The Board briefly discussed the proposal of delegating the Town Hall item review process. It was noted that Ms. Sullivan Woods had been working with the ad hoc committee. The Board debated if a vote should be taken to accept the recommendations regarding the Town Hall items and delegate further discussions with the ad hoc committee regarding the recommendation and items not included on the list. Ms. Lanza asked for a review of the recommendation noting that though comments had been made revising the written recommendation she believed that the recommendation had not been updated to include those remarks. She added that she would abstain from the vote as she did not believe she had seen an accurate list and recommendation. Ms. Olney stated that, although not included on the list, it had been noted at the previous meeting that the weights and measures mechanism would be preserved and remain at Town Hall. Ms. Sullivan Woods did not believe decisions about the disposition of Town Hall historic items should be delegated; she believed there was adequate time to review the proposed list as a Board and vote it at a meeting.

**Ms. Olney asked for a motion that was moved by Mr. Ulfelder and seconded by Ms. Aufranc, the Board was polled and voted (3-1-1) to accept the recommendation on the Town Hall Historic Inventory list and delegate Meghan Jop, Abbie Lafrancesca, and Tom Ulfelder to have further discussions with the ad hoc committee and make further determinations regarding the items in Town Hall.**

**Sullivan Woods – No**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Lanza – abstained**

#### **8. Discuss and Vote Special Education Stabilization Expenditure**

Ms. Jop described the SPED expenditure information provided to the Board in its meeting materials.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$2,062.14 to New England Medical Billing for the Town’s Medicaid filing from the SPED Stabilization Fund.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **9. Discuss and Vote Common Victualler Licenses for Wellesley College at 106 Central Street**

Ms. Jop stated that the staff had been working with Wellesley College on reopening the two student run eateries. She added that the Health Department had fully permitted both locations.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the Common Victualler Licenses for Wellesley College Café Hoop in the Lulu Wang Chow Campus Center and Wellesley College El Table in Fenders Hall located at 106 Central Street.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

#### **10. Executive Director’s Update**

Ms. Jop noted that the minutes had been amended with minor typos. Ms. Jop stated that Wellesley’s oldest resident, Ms. Senhouse, would be turning 112 on February 28<sup>th</sup> and noted the Board resolution celebrating her birthday was included in the meeting materials. Ms. Jop reviewed the request to appoint a Special Police Officer for Babson College.

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the minutes of January 10, 2023 as amended.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

Lanza – Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to approve the Proclamation recognizing Herlda Senhouse’s 112<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to appoint Jose Grajales to the position of Campus Special Police Officer for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

#### **11. New Business and Other Correspondence**

Ms. Jop stated that staff had worked with DPW to apply for a grant which had been awarded to install two EV charging stations at the Police Station.

Ms. Frigulietti provided an update on the DEI workshop that would take place on March 14 at 7pm via zoom. She added that interested residents could sign up through the link that was sent out via “News and Announcements.”

#### **12. Executive Session M.G.L c. 30A §21A, exemption #3 to conduct strategy with respect to AFSME Local 335, Production and Supervisory Units, and the Wellesley Free Library Staff Association and Wellesley Free Library Staff Association Supervisor Unit**

Ms. Olney requested a motion that the Board vote to convene in Executive Session for the purposes of conducting strategy for contract negotiations with the DPW Production and Supervisor Units and the Wellesley Free Library Association Staff and Supervisor Units and declared that having such discussions in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town’s bargaining position

**At 9:33 pm upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to enter Executive Session under M.G.L c. 30A §21A, exemption #3 to conduct strategy with respect to AFSME Local 335, Production and Supervisory Units, and the Wellesley Free Library Staff Association and Wellesley Free Library Staff Association Supervisor Unit as the Chair had declared that having such discussions in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town’s bargaining position and to invite Meghan Jop, Amy Frigulietti, and Scott Szczebak to join the meeting. Following the adjournment of executive session, the Board will return to open session for the sole purpose of adjourning the meeting.**

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Aufranc – Aye

Lanza – Aye

**Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (5-0) to exit Executive Session and Return to Open Session for the sole purpose of adjourning.**

**Sullivan Woods – Aye**

**Olney –Aye**

**Ulfelder – Aye**

**Aufranc – Aye**

**Lanza – Aye**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm.