

Approved: May 2, 2022

Select Board Meeting: March 21, 2022

Present: Ulfelder, Olney, Sullivan Woods, , Lanza

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Select Board calendar
3. Draft Presentation on Article 25
4. Current HR Policies considered for Article 25
5. Draft correspondence re: Open Space and Recreation Plan
6. Analysis of communities open hours
7. Draft Select Board Minutes: 2/14/22, 2/22/22; 2/28/22
8. BAA Payment Notification
9. Donation approved by Executive Director (COA)
10. Police Department Commendations
11. Mass Bay Press Releases
12. Red line HR Policies

1. Call to Order

Mr. Ulfelder, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm online.

Mr. Ulfelder 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.

2. Citizen Speak

None.

3. Human Resources Board Presentation on Article 25 – HR Policies

Mr. Szczebak, HR Director, and Mr. Hussey, HR Board Chair; joined the Board.

Mr. Szczebak and Mr. Hussey provided an overview of the policy changes and noted the current organization of the HR policies. Mr. Hussey noted some of the older policies had not been revised for many years. He stated that reorganizing the policies would alleviate employee confusion, duplicative information, and had been updated to meet various legal requirements. Mr. Szczebak reviewed the changes to policies approved at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting, adding that those policies were not being changed. He provided a brief overview of policies that were being addressed, noting new policies including a remote work policy. Mr. Hussey stated that the proposed changes to the policies resulted in no cost impacts to the town. The Board discussed the various policies and changes proposed for Article 25.

4. Discuss and Vote Town Hall Summer Hours

Ms. Jop reviewed the annual request for approval of summer hours for Town Hall. She noted various schedules that had been tested over time, adding that the 5pm Monday through Thursday tested best for the public and the staff.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve Summer Hours for Town Hall from July 1 – September 6. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8AM – 5PM, and Fridays from 8AM to Noon.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Lanza – Aye

5. Citizen Petition Presentation on Article 44 – Academic Excellence

Mr. Franco, proponent for Article 44 joined the Board. Ms. Mirick, School Committee Chair, joined the meeting.

Mr. Ulfelder stated that the Board does not vote on Citizens Petitions however Select Board members are Town Meeting Members that will vote individually ATM.

Mr. Franco provided a brief overview of Article 44 and the basis for the effort to submit a Citizens Petition to Town Meeting. He noted the rankings of the Wellesley Public Schools used as background for initiating the petition. Mr. Franco stated that he would be submitting a revised motion based on concerns and feedback received from Advisory. He reviewed the data used and the impacts to the Town he believes are related to academic rankings and success within the schools. The Board discussed the presentation and data submitted by Mr. Franco. Ms. Mirick addressed the presentation and data that had been used. She stated that the School Committee had not received complaints via email or citizen speak comments during meetings regarding concerns about rankings and AP class offerings in the schools. The Board continued to discuss the petition and the data used in the presentation.

Ms. Olson joined the meeting. She stated she believed the Wellesley schools had placed less focus on academic rigor over the past several years. She added that she believed the schools did not provide enough opportunities for AP courses.

Ms. Sanchez joined the meeting. She stated that she believed the Wellesley school's curriculum was not equal to peer towns and believed the students would benefit from additional AP class opportunities. She added additional AP offerings helped create financial equity for students.

Ms. Landen joined the meeting. She stated that she had moved to Wellesley based on the ranking of the high school and believed there had been a decline in the rigorous and comparable education to peer towns.

Ms. O'Sullivan joined the meeting. She stated that she believed additional academic counseling should be provided to students regarding the benefits of taking honors and AP classes. She added that she believed there had been a decline in the teaching methods used in the schools.

6. Annual Town Meeting Preparation

Ms. Jop reviewed the changes to the consent agenda that required a new vote.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the revised motion for Article 3, Motion 1.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Lanza – Aye

7. Vote to Call Special Town Meeting for April 11, 2022

Ms. Jop stated that the MLP had requested a Special Town Meeting to formally transfer the parcel where the MLP is located.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to call a Special Town Meeting for April 11, 2022 and set the following dates:

- **Open the Warrant – Monday, March 21, 2022**
- **Close the Warrant – Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 pm**
- **Motions due to the Select Board Office on Friday, March 25, 2022**
- **Start of the Special Town Meeting will be April 11, 2022 at 7 pm via the Zoom Digital Platform.**

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Lanza – Aye

8. Executive Director’s Update

Ms. Jop noted the draft minutes should be approved as amended.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Ms. Olney, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to approve the amended minutes of February 14, 2022, February 22, 2022, and February 28, 2022.

Sullivan Woods – Aye

Olney –Aye

Ulfelder – Aye

Lanza – Aye

9. New Business and Correspondence

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm.