

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

April 8, 2019

Chairman Kevin A. Caira called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. in Room 9 of the Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gregory B. Bendel, Jonathan R. Eaton and Michael V. McCoy. Also present was Town Manager Jeffrey M. Hull.

A motion was made and duly seconded and by the affirmative roll call vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to collective bargaining with American Federation of State, County, Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 1703 Unit II in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a)3 as the Chairman declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town and to approve Executive Session minutes from Tuesday, November 13, 2018, November 26, 2018, December 10, 2018, January 14, 2019 (prior), January 14, 2019 (post), March 11, 2019, March 25, 2019 (prior) and March 25, 2019 (post) in accordance with G. L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 22 with the intention to return to open session.

Chairman Kevin A. Caira called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gregory B. Bendel, Jonathan R. Eaton and Michael V. McCoy. Also present was Town Manager Jeffrey M. Hull.

Chairman Caira asked those present to rise and he led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Caira noted that members of the Board of Selectmen were wearing an article of blue clothing and the lights on the common are in blue in recognition of Autism Awareness Month.

TREASURY WARRANTS

Chairman Caira asked for a motion to accept the Treasury Warrants. A motion was made by Selectman Bendel seconded by Selectman McCoy and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen accept Treasury Warrants 39, 39A, 40 and 40A.

ROBERT G. PETERSON, ESQUIRE, ON BEHALF OF SHOP RITE LIQUORS, INC. DBA ELIA'S COUNTRY STORE, RE: REQUEST TO CHANGE MANAGER FROM MICHAEL ELIA TO MICHAEL ELIA, JR.

Mr. Peterson was present with Michael Elia, Jr. and on behalf of Shop Rite Liquors, Inc. requesting to change the manager. He advised that Mr. Elia, Sr. has decided to step aside.

Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board and there were none. Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience and there were none.

Town Manager Hull advised that the application was reviewed by Police Chief Michael Begonis who recommends approval.

A motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman Eaton and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the change in manager for Shop Rite Liquors, Inc. DBA Elia's Country Store from Michael Elia to Michael Elia, Jr.

DISCUSSION, RE: NORTH WILMINGTON COMMUTER RAIL STATION

Town Manager Hull advised that the legislative delegation was present tonight and introduced Senator Bruce Tarr, Representative David Robertson and Representative Kenneth Gordon. Also present were representatives from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Mr. Jody Ray, Assistant General Manager of Railroad and Ferry Operations, and Mr. Cory Lynch, Senior Director of Rail.

Chairman Cairra noted that Deputy Fire Chief William Cavanaugh and Police Chief Joseph Desmond were also in attendance.

Town Manager Hull advised that the meeting is a follow-up from a conference call that took place to address the issue in North Wilmington of commuter trains that stop on Middlesex Avenue to pick-up or discharge passengers during instances where emergency response is trying to get to North Wilmington via Middlesex Avenue. It appears that the largest problem is for the inbound trains due to the platform.

Recent discussion contemplated the prospect of discontinuing the flagstop arrangement that currently exists for the inbound trains. He noted that the MBTA conducted a survey and, with the exception of the 12:34 p.m. when one person disembarked the train and the 11:19 p.m. train when one person boarded the train, there was no activity. He stated that it has been suggested that, on a trial basis, the train be allowed to continue through at its normal rate of speed. The intent of tonight's meeting is to consider that option, and other options, and to hear comments from the public.

Senator Tarr stated that everyone is concerned with the situation of delays that may be caused to emergency response due to a train in the street. He noted that the issue was highlighted when there was a fatality because of a delayed response and the legislative delegation finds that completely unacceptable. Senator Tarr stated that, in the short term, we are trying to minimize the number of times the train could be in the road. The MBTA has made operational changes to reduce that possibility through directives to the engineers. In the long-term they are committed to revitalizing the station and creating the infrastructure that will allow the train to pull out of the street at all times. Senator Tarr stated that in order to accomplish the latter part, relief from some of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act as interpreted by the federal government is needed. He stated that the MBTA is trying to work with the legislative delegation to secure some of the waivers.

Senator Tarr stated that a change does not have to be permanent and can be instituted now and revisit in the fall to determine if there has been an inconvenience to anyone who may otherwise use the train. The legislative delegation believes this is the kind of decision that should be made with the Board of Selectmen in a public forum.

Representative Robertson stated that the proposed changes will not impact the morning commute. The proposed stops have had extremely low, or no, ridership.

Representative Gordon stated that making the decision after having an opportunity to hear from the public creates as little an impact as possible to solve the issue.

Chairman Caira explained flag stops. Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Selectman Bendel stated he was in agreement that something needs to be done. He asked whether there would be a reduction in cost to the Town if the stops are eliminated. Mr. Ray stated that he does not believe a community's assessment is tied to the services it receives but would provide a more definite answer.

Selectman McCoy asked what the Town's assessment was and Town Manager Hull advised it is a little over \$518,000. Selectman McCoy stated that he has spoken with residents who live in the neighborhood and one gentleman who was in attendance does not want the stops to be discontinued. He asked whether the Town will receive the funds to install a platform.

Senator Tarr stated that the MBTA is lobbying the federal government for 17 stations that are on a list advocating exceptions to tailor the requirements of the ADA to the situation of the station. In the case of Wilmington, using mini high platforms which will reduce costs and fits the geography and geometry of the station.

Selectman Eaton stated that Senator Tarr referenced short term fixes have been made and asked what has occurred to mitigate some of the issues. Mr. Ray stated that special instructions have been issued to the engineers and conductors to use a portion of the train that is not typically used during the day. He explained the issue with inbound trains and that gates are down as the train approaches the stop. The train approaches at a slow speed to be able to stop if someone is on the platform to flag them down. If the stop is eliminated the train will pass through at speed and the gates will be down approximately 20 seconds. If a train approaches a flag stop and no one boards the train, the gates are down for approximately one minute.

Selectman Eaton asked whether there has been noticeable differences where gates being down have blocked emergency response vehicles. Acting Police Chief Joseph Desmond advised that, since the beginning of the year, there have been five instances that have been documented.

Selectman Eaton stated that he is hesitant to eliminate flag stops. He is concerned that if the stops are eliminated whether they would be restored, if necessary. Selectman Eaton offered comments regarding the availability of parking and inquired whether the MBTA would be interested in trying to increase parking around the train stations. Mr. Ray stated that this question is asked by each community served by the MBTA. He noted that Anderson Station in Woburn is nearing capacity.

Selectman Eaton asked if Deputy Fire Chief William Cavanaugh or Police Chief Joseph Desmond would like to offer comments. Deputy Cavanaugh stated that there has been an improvement with the trains moving through the intersection and if the conductors see emergency vehicles approaching they are waived through. He acknowledged that the MBTA has been more responsive than he anticipated and the legislative delegation has been tremendously helpful.

Chief Desmond stated that, from a public safety standpoint, the ability for them to respond is most important to them. They understand that people may be inconvenienced but they support the efforts.

Mr. Ray explained that the type of platform at the Lowell Line Station is referred to as a low level platform with a mini-high. Regulations require full high level platforms. The entire length of the platform has to be four feet above, as is Anderson Station. He stated that there is a significant cost differential due to ramps, canopy, lighting and emergency exits.

Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience. Frank West, Birchwood Road, stated that, in the late 1990s, the MBTA took over businesses without regard to those businesses and suggested using the vacant property at 362 Middlesex Avenue to create additional parking spaces and construct a building to house small business that will benefit from riders.

James Buckley, Pinewood Road, stated that he utilizes the train for medical appointments in Boston and noted that during the summer kids will be using the train to visit Boston. He enthusiastically stated that there are electronic ways to control the gates and cited Ipswich as an example.

Kevin MacDonald commented that he rose at the last meeting to offer solutions. This evening he suggested that the Police Department knows the train schedule and can position a cruiser on the north side of the tracks before the train arrives at the station, have passengers be located in a specific car so that when the train arrives at the station the passenger will disembark to the platform without the train having to block the street and suspects that public safety officials can electronically regulate the gates. He stated that he is against the elimination of the flag stops. Mr. MacDonald commented about the high water table and toxic chemicals being released to the groundwater through the sewer system. He proposed that Town officials negotiate with the developer who was going to develop a detox facility to construct an underground parking facility with a train station and housing for seniors, veterans and the handicapped.

Geoff Woods, Frederick Drive, asked whether there are technological ways that, in the event of an emergency situation, the gates can go up. Mr. Ray explained that the gates come down by the approach of the train and are referred to as constant warning devices. He stated the gates are part of the problem but the fact that the train blocks the road is a larger issue.

Mr. Ray stated that reference was made to Topsfield Road in Ipswich. At that location there is a setup on the platform where the train stops clear of the crossing, no matter which direction the train is traveling, and the engineer can trigger the gates to go up.

Chairman Caira asked when a decision needs to be made and was advised that schedules are due to be revised for a May 20 effective date. They would need to know a couple of weeks before that and noted that it is scheduled to go to the printer April 22.

Selectman Eaton requested that the legislative delegation continue their efforts to get the less expensive option. Senator Tarr stated that the legislative delegation remains committed to a long term solution.

Selectman Bendel asked that the Board receive a response regarding whether there will be a reduction in assessment if there is a reduction in stops.

Chairman Caira thanked Senator Tarr, Representative Robertson, Representative Gordon and Representatives of the MBTA for their attendance and advised that it will be placed on the Board's next agenda for a vote.

**MAUREEN HICKEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILMINGTON HOUSING
AUTHORITY, RE: SENIOR HOUSING**

Town Manager Hull stated that there has been discussion regarding senior affordable housing and senior subsidized housing. Discussion has taken place between himself, Ms. Hickey and Planning and Conservation Director Valerie Gingrich regarding the challenges the Housing Authority faces relative to maintaining its existing housing inventory.

Ms. Hickey stated that she received a list of questions from Town Manager Hull and stated that the Wilmington Housing Authority was incorporated in 1950 and the "front 40 units" at Deming Way were opened in 1952. Deming Way Extension opened in 1987. She advised that the Housing Authority has thirteen (13) single-family homes in Wilmington and eleven (11) Section 8 vouchers. She advised that the units at Deming Way are one bedroom units and there is one congregate unit that is rented by NuPath.

Ms. Hickey noted that Deming Way is state public housing which is overseen by the State Department of Housing and Community Development, a state agency that sets the regulations and guidelines. Those regulations include how the waiting list is managed as well as the amount of rent. The Housing Authority does not receive a subsidy from the state to run the operation. Approximately \$110,000 is received annually for capital improvements.

Ms. Hickey stated that there are 30 residents at Deming Way who qualified using Veterans' preference. She explained the process for getting on the waiting list and preference is given if you reside in or work for the Town of Wilmington or are a veteran. A local veteran is likely to be housed within six to twelve months, whereas a local resident may have to wait two to four years. Veterans receive a preference anywhere in the country and she provided an example that if a veteran from Florida applied, they would be housed before a local resident but not before a local veteran. She advised that there are currently 160,000 applicants on the state waiting list.

Selectman Bendel asked whether individuals can apply online or stop in to the Housing Authority office. Ms. Hickey confirmed and advised that their website is www.wilmingtonha.org. She stated that the state has revamped the waiting list and in a few weeks individuals will be able to apply online, currently the application has to be submitted to the Housing Authority.

Selectman McCoy asked how many units are at Deming Way. Ms. Hickey advised that there are 69 apartments at Deming Way.

Ms. Hickey stated that income limits are \$56,600 for a one person household and \$64,900 for a two person household.

Applicants on the waiting list are given a priority level and Ms. Hickey stated that most applicants will be a standard priority. Highest priority is to those affected by natural disaster or urban renewal followed by victims of domestic violence, medical emergency or becoming homeless through no fault of their own.

Ms. Hickey reviewed the application and screening process. She also reviewed whether there is legislation to build more units. Ms. Hickey stated that there has been discussion and noted that some towns have been able to obtain additional units through the formation of a non-profit. She stated that there are grant opportunities, noting that grant writing is a specialty. Some communities use Community Preservation Funds to fund additional units.

Selectman Bendel asked if there is something the Town could do better to help. Ms. Hickey stated that North Reading is in a similar situation although it is not at ten percent affordable housing and are therefore battling 40B developments. She explained that 40B affordable housing developments are not the same as the Housing Authority's program.

Ms. Hickey advised that it takes approximately thirty days to screen applicants once there is a vacancy. She noted documentation that is required as part of the application process. She noted that the Housing Authority has one maintenance employee who would be responsible for readying a unit for rent.

Members of the Board thanked Ms. Hickey for her attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager Hull reviewed a news release from Emily Bender, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, regarding Olin Chemical. Olin Chemical was added to the Administrator's Emphasis List to facilitate cleanup and redevelopment activities. "The Olin Chemical Superfund site was added to the Administrator's Emphasis List with the goal of expediting the selection of a remedy to remediate soil, surface water, and areas of highest groundwater contamination. EPA also hopes to work cooperatively with developers and local officials regarding potential reuse plans for the former Olin property. The site was originally added to the National Priorities List in April 2006. Under the Trump Administration, the Superfund program has reemerged as a priority to fulfill the EPA's core mission of protecting human health and the environment."

Chairman Cairra noted that Congressman Moulton issued a press release which stated that his office worked closely with the business community to get it cleaned up for redevelopment.

Selectman Eaton stated that he is glad the site was placed on the Administrator's Emphasis List but is stricken by the notation of "highest" groundwater contamination and noted that it does not say complete remediation. He stated that it appears that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is looking ahead to what is next for the property.

Members of the Board expressed a desire to have representatives of EPA and Special Town Counsel in to a future meeting. Town Manager Hull stated that prior to the press release, representatives of EPA contacted him and they spoke of EPA attending a Board of Selectmen meeting in May or June.

Selectman McCoy read from a prepared statement noting the Town's position to clean up the site prior to development. He continued his comments relative to Chairman Caira's attendance at Executive Session meetings where Olin, New England Transrail and GFI were topics. He further noted that Chairman Caira recused himself from a public meeting where GFI was on the agenda because his brother was representing GFI as a consultant. Selectman McCoy stated that he believes it is a conflict that Chairman Caira participated in Executive Sessions with Attorney Deutsch where discussion about strategy to protect the Town took place. Chairman Caira stated that he completed a 268A on that and he worked to protect the interest of the community during those meetings.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a memorandum from Michael Morris, Town Accountant, regarding the status of Finance Director/Town Accountant recruitment and next steps.

Town Manager Hull reviewed his memorandum regarding potential impacts from Ledges 40B Project. The location of the project, 1042 Main Street in Woburn, is approximately half mile south of Old Main Street. The city of Woburn provided information to indicate that the truck routes will be either Route 38 south to Route 128 or Route 38 north to Eames Street to Woburn Street to Lowell Street to Interstate 93.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a memorandum from Jamie Magaldi, PE, MCA, Operations Manager, Department of Public Works, regarding Vegetation Management Plan Renewal. Mr. Magaldi advised that in an effort to improve the current level of service in mitigating roadside vegetation and help minimize traffic exposure risk to town workers, the Department of Public Works has submitted a renewed 5-year draft Vegetation Management Plan to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. The plan will be available for public comment until May 24, 2019 and a public hearing will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 9 of Town Hall.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a letter from Catherine Maloney, Sr. Manager, Government Affairs, xfinity, regarding Acorn TV. Ms. Maloney advised that effective May 2, 2019 the monthly rate for Acorn TV will change from \$4.99 to \$5.99 due to increase in programming costs from Acorn TV.

BOARD TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members of the Board of Selectmen offered names for appointment to the Economic Development Committee as follows:

Selectman McCoy – Suzanne Sullivan

Selectman Bendel – Robert Olivieri

Selectman Eaton – Carol Boisvert, Director of Human Resources, Highland Technology

Chairman Caira – Dan Gibbons, Benjamin Moore Hardware

Selectman Bendel asked whether the Selectman elected to fill Ed Loud's seat will have an opportunity to appoint an individual. Town Manager Hull advised that it is up to the Board and noted that it will make the Committee an even number. Town Manager Hull asked whether the Board had a preference as to when a meeting should be scheduled and Chairman Caira opined that the meeting should be scheduled for May.

BOARD TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW OPTIONS THAT WOULD PROVIDE AN ICE RINK FOR THE TOWN OF WILMINGTON

Chairman Cairra stated that the ice rink has been a topic multiple times but the Ristuccia Arena has been sold. He asked Town Manager Hull whether he has had an opportunity to meet with the new owner. Town Manager Hull stated that they have exchanged emails and expects to meet this week.

Chairman Cairra believes it would be a healthy discussion to establish a committee to look into the ice rink issue that is facing Wilmington to make sure the youth have a place to go. The committee would review options that may be available to the Town.

Selectman McCoy expressed his desire to serve on the Committee. Chairman Cairra stated that he believes representatives from Youth Hockey, Figure Skating and School Department Athletic Department should be appointed to serve as well.

Selectman Bendel suggested that Town Manager Hull reach out to the organizations and that he has no objection to Selectman McCoy representing the Board of Selectman on the Committee.

Town Manager Hull asked whether this is a committee the Board is looking to appoint or representatives that he would appoint. Selectman Eaton expressed his desire that each of the stakeholders be represented. Selectman Bendel agreed with Selectman Eaton.

Town Manager Hull believes it would also be important to have a member be a representative of the Town such as the new Finance Director or their designee.

Selectman Bendel asked the Town Manager if it is his intention to formulate the committee prior to the Board's next meeting. Town Manager Hull advised that he will reach out to the various organizations and inquired whether it is the intention of the Board for each member to appoint an individual to the committee. Town Manager Hull stated he will provide the Board with a slate of recommended individuals at its next meeting.

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF SCOTT GARRANT, CHAIRMAN, 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE, TO USE THE TOWN COMMON, MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT AND THE SWAIN GREEN FOR THE ANNUAL FUN ON THE FOURTH CELEBRATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019 THROUGH SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2019 AND FURTHER THAT THE BOARD RESTRICT HAWKERS/PEDLERS AND TRANSIENT VENDORS FROM CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE OF THE TOWN COMMON DURING THE CELEBRATION

Mr. Garrant wrote to the Board of Selectmen that "...numerous Wilmington-based non-profit organizations rely on the Fun on the Fourth Celebration for fundraising purposes. The imposition of the requested restriction will improve the opportunity for these groups to succeed in their fundraising efforts and, as a result, to support the many worthwhile causes they serve in our community." A motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman Eaton and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the request of Scott Garrant, Chairman, 4th of July Committee, to use the Town Common, Municipal Parking Lot and the Swain Green for the Fun on the Fourth Celebration, Wednesday, July 3, 2019 through Sunday, July 7, 2019 and further to restrict hawkers/pedlers and transient vendors from conducting business within one-half mile of the Town Common during the Fourth of July celebration.

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF MICHAEL R. BEGONIS, POLICE CHIEF, TO USE ROTARY PARK ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019 FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman McCoy and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the request of Michael R. Begonis, Police Chief, to use Rotary Park on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 for National Night Out.

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF LINDA PETERS, PRINCIPAL, WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, TO USE THE MUNICIPAL PARKING AREA TO DISPLAY WWII VEHICLES ON THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019, 9 A.M. TO 11 A.M.

Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman Eaton and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the request of Linda Peters, Principal, Wilmington High School, to use the municipal parking area to display WWII vehicles on Thursday, April 11, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE SECONDHAND DEALER LICENSE FOR ROBERT P. FLAHERTY JEWELER, INC.

Town Manager Hull advised that the renewal application was reviewed by, and favorable recommendations received from, Building Inspector Al Spaulding, Fire Chief Joseph McMahon, Police Chief Michael Begonis and Treasurer/Collector Pamela MacKenzie.

Chairman Caira asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Selectman McCoy, seconded by Selectman Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the renewal of the Secondhand Dealer License for Robert P. Flaherty Jeweler, Inc.

BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE SECONDHAND DEALER LICENSE FOR GAMESTOP

Town Manager Hull advised that the renewal application was reviewed by, and favorable recommendations received from, Building Inspector Al Spaulding, Fire Chief Joseph McMahon, Police Chief Michael Begonis and Treasurer/Collector Pamela MacKenzie.

Chairman Cairra asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Selectman Eaton, seconded by Selectman Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the renewal of the Secondhand Dealer License for GameStop.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Cairra noted that Public Comments is not intended to be a question and answer session, residents may ask questions but if it is not on the agenda Board members may choose to make note of the question and respond at a future meeting.

Suzanne Sullivan, Lawrence Street, stated she feels that Olin is uncertain but is pleased there is some action. She expressed her opinion that the Town must do its due diligence to make sure it gets the best possible outcome. She stated that (WERC) does not want to see development until a record of decision for remediation is received from the EPA. She expressed her opinion that Chairman Cairra should not be participating in discussion because if he has a conflict of interest he should walk away from the discussion. She stated that the remediation and development are the same at this point. Ms. Sullivan asked Chairman Cairra to clarify his statement thanking the business community. Chairman Cairra stated that he was reading from Congressman Moulton's press release. She would like to know what businesses are working behind the scenes.

Kevin MacDonald, made comment on multiple topics including Olin, his opinion that Olin should be deemed a crime scene, construction of two hockey rinks – funded by and located at Olin and the Ledges Project. Mr. MacDonald stated that the residents do not need additional tax burden and opined that the reason for the many self-storage facilities is due to people losing their homes. He also opined that the Town presents a budget that is inflated to increase its free cash.

Selectman Eaton responded that it is not under the Board of Selectmen's jurisdiction to declare property a crime scene.

Gary DePalma, Swain Road, asked a procedural question regarding Ms. Sullivan's appointment to the Economic Development Committee. He stated that he supports her appointment but if she is elected to the Board of Selectmen whether Selectman McCoy will need to select another individual for appointment and Ms. Sullivan will have an opportunity to make an appointment. Selectman McCoy disagreed with Mr. DePalma and stated that he resented his comments. Members of the audience believe that Mr. DePalma's question was a fair question and that Selectman McCoy's response was not civil.

Selectman McCoy, at a later time under public comments, apologized to the audience member who believed he was harsh.

Chairman Cairra stated that it was a legitimate question and that issue has not been addressed. The Board will revisit it after April 27, 2019.

Selectman McCoy commented that there is precedent of two sitting selectmen on certain committees.

Ms. Sullivan stated that Olin is trying not to clean up, their position is that they should not have to clean up the pollution in the aquifer, the DEP will go after Olin for resource damages. She asked whether the Town of Wilmington will seek damages and believes it should.

Selectman Eaton stated that relative to the Olin Property, no action is taken that is not through Special Town Counsel. Attorney Daniel Deutsch is advocating on the Town's behalf and advising as to what steps the Town needs to take.

Town Manager Hull stated that the Town has engaged an environmental consultant, GeoInsight, and Attorney Deutsch has been involved for many years.

Frank West, Birchwood Road, commented regarding the Economic Development Advisory Committee and when Secretary Ash was speaking about doing "things behind the scenes" and stated that it sounded like he was suggesting skirting the public process and it may not be in the best interest of Wilmington.

Geoff Woods, Frederick Drive, stated that candidates for Selectmen requested to go to the Senior Center and were told they could not. He believes all town buildings should be open to the public and asked Town Manager Hull why candidates were not welcome. Town Manager Hull stated that the Senior Center is not a place for campaigning.

Mr. Woods commented regarding OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) including that Standard & Poors downgraded Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Municipal Associations' reference to OPEB as a black cloud. Mr. Woods asked the liability and the percentage of the overall budget. Town Manager Hull stated that the OPEB liability is approximately 70% of the operating budget. He noted that Wilmington is not unique.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board members expressed their appreciation to recently retired Chief Begonis and welcomed Joseph Desmond who will serve as Police Chief until a permanent appointment is made.

Board members wished residents a Happy Easter.

Selectman Bendel recognized the service of Bill Smith, U. S. Army. Mr. Smith passed away at the age of 95, was a purple heart recipient and one of those influential in having Deming Way built in the 1950s.

Chairman Caira announced that Wilmington received the Annual State Award from Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association. The award was presented for Excellence in the Field of: Design of a Facility for Yentile Farm Recreational Facility. The award was presented to the Recreation Director on March 27, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectman McCoy stated that he is in agreement with Ms. Sullivan regarding the remediation of Olin prior to development at that site.

IMPORTANT DATES

Town Manager Hull reviewed important dates including:

- April 10 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 10 – Wetland Resource Areas and Conservation Land Library Lecture
Memorial Library – 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- April 13 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- April 15 – Town Offices Closed – Patriot's Day
- April 16 – Town Forest Nature Walk – 3:00 p.m.
- April 17 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 20 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- April 20 – Little League Opening Day Parade – 9:30 a.m.
- April 20 – Easter Egg Scramble – Town Common – 2:00 p.m.
- April 22 – Board of Selectmen – Town Hall – Room 9 – 7:00 p.m.
- April 24 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 27 – Annual Town Election – Polls Open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- April 27 – Spring Town Clean-Up Day – 8:30 a.m.
- April 27 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- April 27 – Drug Take Back – Public Safety Building – 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 27 – Land Stewardship Program Introduction Workshop – 1:00 p.m.
- May 4 – Annual Town Meeting – High School Auditorium – 10:30 a.m.
- May 5 – Plastic Bag Ban in Effect

A motion was made by Selectman Eaton, seconded by Selectman Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary