

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

November 14, 2016

Chairman Judith L. O'Connell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium. Present were Selectmen Gregory B. Bendel, Kevin A. Caira, Michael L. Champoux 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 adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy regarding New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 1 with the intention to return to open session.

Chairman Judith L. O'Connell reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium. Present were Selectmen Gregory B. Bendel, Kevin A. Caira, Michael L. Champoux and Michael V. McCoy. Also present was Town Manager Jeffrey M. Hull.

Chairman O'Connell asked those present to rise and Selectman Champoux led the pledge of allegiance.

TREASURY WARRANTS

Chairman O'Connell asked for a motion to accept the Treasury Warrants. A motion was made by Selectman Champoux and seconded by Selectman Bendel. Selectman Caira asked for an explanation of a line item in the payroll warrant. He stated that for Superintendent there is a payment of \$6,600. Town Manager Hull advised that the amount was an arrangement made by the School Committee for compensation for the School Superintendent. Selectman Caira asked how long the payments would continue and was advised through the academic year. Selectman Caira asked if it was for the former superintendent who resigned and whether compensation for the interim superintendent would affect the budget. Town Manager Hull stated that he anticipates there will be an additional cost but does not know the arrangement with the interim superintendent. He advised that he indicated to the School Department that any ramifications will have to be dealt with within the School Department budget. Selectmen Caira and McCoy expressed their opposition to Warrant 20A. Town Manager Hull advised that the terms of the separation agreement are confidential, that there is a nondisclosure agreement and there may be some legal recourse if the Board does not accept the Warrant. With a motion having been made and duly seconded and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen accept Treasury Warrants 18, 18A, 19, 19A, 20 and 20A.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman Caira and by the affirmative vote of four with Selectman McCoy abstaining, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of their meeting held July 18, 2016 and all actions taken are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Chairman O'Connell stated that with regard to the minutes of October 24, 2016, in reference to the Farmers Market, she would like to revise her comments that reference feasibility study to reflect facilities master plan. A motion was made by Selectman Champoux, seconded by Selectman Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of their meeting held October 24, 2016 with the revision and that all action taken is hereby ratified and confirmed.

LOUIS CIMAGLIA, DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES, RE: REQUEST TO PROCLAIM WILMINGTON A PURPLE HEART COMMUNITY AND RECOGNITION OF MEREDITH CIPRIANI

Chairman O'Connell acknowledged that Senator Bruce Tarr and Secretary of Veterans' Services Francisco Ureña were present this evening. She stated it was an honor for the Board of Selectmen to be able to recognize Wilmington's Purple Heart recipients. Chairman O'Connell read a statement which outlined the history of the Purple Heart medal. Chairman O'Connell expressed her appreciation to Meredith Cipriani, who took the initiative and approached the Town of Wilmington with the idea of locating designated parking spaces for Purple Heart recipients in high profile parking locations. Ms. Cipriani graciously offered to purchase the signs and the Town accepted her offer and has installed the signs designating a parking space for Purple Heart recipients at Silver Lake, Town Hall and the Department of Veterans' Services. In addition, a parking spot for veterans has been designated at the Yentile Farm Recreational Facility.

Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any comments from the Board. Members of the Board expressed their appreciation to Ms. Cipriani and thanked the veterans that were present for their sacrifices.

Chairman O'Connell read and presented a certificate of recognition to Ms. Cipriani.

Chairman O'Connell stated that the Board would like to issue a proclamation designating Wilmington as a Purple Heart Community. Chairman O'Connell read the proclamation and a motion was made by Selectman Bendel, seconded by Selectman Caira and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen proclaim Wilmington a Purple Heart Community.

Chairman O'Connell noted that each member of the Board is wearing an article of purple clothing to celebrate the proclamation that Wilmington is a Purple Heart Community.

Louis Cimaglia, Director of Veterans' Services, thanked all residents who attended the Veterans' Day ceremonies on Friday, November 11 at the Town Common. Mr. Cimaglia recognized Secretary Ureña and provided the audience with a brief history of his background.

Secretary Ureña thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and thanked Ms. Cipriani for her donation. He stated that any veteran who passes through the Town of Wilmington will know that Wilmington is veteran friendly and the sense of respect and admiration that the community has for those who have sacrificed in defense of our country. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Cimaglia and the Town for passing the proclamation and for their respect and dedication to the veterans and their families.

Senator Tarr thanked Mr. Cimaglia and the Board of Selectmen for the significant vote that they took this evening. He expressed his appreciation to Secretary Ureña for his work each day to respond to the needs of the veterans of the Commonwealth. He noted Mr. Cimaglia's work with veterans and when he sees a systemic problem, he brings it to the state's attention. Senator Tarr expressed his appreciation to Ms. Cipriani for reminding us of the power of a citizen to change things, to show leadership, to make a difference in expressing appreciation to the veteran community. He stated that it is significant that it resonated so deeply and quickly in the community to recognize the veterans of this community every day. We look for tangible ways to express appreciation and the Board seized on an opportunity this evening to do so. He commended the Board and thanked them for the vote that was taken this evening and hope it sets an example for other communities.

Mr. Cimaglia stated that he is honored to be part of Wilmington being proclaimed a Purple Heart Community and tonight's events. He stated that it is easy to be the Veterans' Services Director in Wilmington because the community sincerely loves its veterans. Mr. Cimaglia noted that set up this evening is the Missing Man Table and noted that those killed in action are awarded the Purple Heart posthumously. He stated that residents may have seen the table set up at various events and explained the symbolism of the items on the table. Mr. Cimaglia noted that Ensign Ronald Eaton is a Wilmington resident who is Missing in Action since Korea and his monument is located at the corner of Glen Road and Main Street. He recognized that Ensign Eaton is the uncle of the Board's recording secretary and he prays that one day he will be returned home.

Mr. Cimaglia stated that he has received multiple phone calls from veterans expressing their appreciation. Mr. Cimaglia presented a Purple Heart flag to the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman O'Connell thanked Wilmington's veterans for their service. She thanked Ms. Cipriani and offered Ms. Cipriani the opportunity to speak. Ms. Cipriani stated that she appreciates the recognition but believes the recognition should go to the brave men and women who have secured the freedoms we enjoy. She thanked the Board of Selectmen for accepting the donation for the community.

STEPHEN BIGLEY, UC SYNERGETICS, RE: PUBLIC HEARING ON REQUEST OF VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. AND READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT TO PLACE ONE (1) POLE ON STROUT AVENUE

Stephen Bigley was present on behalf of Verizon to request an additional pole be placed on Strout Avenue. Mr. Bigley advised that there is approximately 200 foot span between poles when there is typically 100 feet. He noted that the wires hang low creating a potentially dangerous situation.

Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any question or comments from the Board. Selectman Bendel asked whether residents had been notified. Mr. Bendel was advised that the abutters were notified.

Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience and there were none.

A motion was made by Selectman Caira, seconded by Selectman McCoy and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen grant the request of Verizon New England, Inc. and Reading Municipal Light Department to place one pole on Strout Avenue.

MICHAEL R. BEGONIS, POLICE CHIEF, RE: 2016 SANTA RUN

Chief Begonis was present with Patrolman Dan Furbush to discuss this year's Santa Run. Chief Begonis stated that last year Officer Furbush, along with other officers and fire fighters, came up with the idea to have Santa go around town and give children in neighborhoods an opportunity to meet Santa. He stated that it was so popular that they ran behind schedule. Officer Furbush stated that they underestimated how successful the event would be and this year they have made changes to ensure they are able to see all the children. Officer Furbush recognized various volunteers who contributed to the successful event and noted their desire to help again this year. In addition, they were contacted by the Department of Public Works and other personnel expressing their desire to help.

Officer Furbush noted that this year they plan to have designated spots where parents can bring their children to meet Santa. The first stop will be the Shawsheen Elementary School followed by the Wildwood Street School, Woburn Street School, North Intermediate School and the Town Hall. Officer Furbush stated that they plan to spend approximately one hour at each location with different activities planned. He advised that if any one wishes to donate a small toy to the Fire Department's collection for Wilmington children or a canned good for the Wilmington Food Pantry, they will collect the donations and distribute them.

Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any questions or comments. Selectman Caira asked Officer Furbush to repeat where people can make donations. Officer Furbush provided information regarding the Fire Fighter's program *Toys for Wilmington Children*. He advised that they have set up a Facebook page *wilmingtonma santa parade* that will have information on the date, times and locations.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen grant the request of the Wilmington Police Department to conduct the 2016 Santa Run on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

VALERIE GINGRICH, PLANNING & CONSERVATION DIRECTOR, RE: DISPOSITION OF BUTTERS FARM

Ms. Gingrich was present to report on the progress relative to the Butters Farm preservation efforts. She noted that the 2015 Annual Town Meeting voted to sell Butters Farm in an effort to put the historic structure back in private hands for preservation and rehabilitation. Ms. Gingrich advised that the Town issued an invitation to bid which outlined the expectations that there would be a new preservation restriction and a rehab plan. Ms. Gingrich advised that one bid for \$100,000 was received from Mr. David Sugrue. She stated that the Board will be asked to consider signing the purchase and sales agreement later in the evening and advised that Mr. Sugrue is eager to start the project to get it "buttoned up" for the winter. Ms. Gingrich advised that prior to the closing, a new preservation restriction will need to be signed by the Board and a stewardship agreement with Historic New England who will be monitoring the preservation.

Chairman O'Connell noted that this is something the Town has been working on for quite some time to secure the future of the building.

Town Manager Hull opined that it would be highly advantageous for the Town to sell the property to Mr. Sugrue. He stated that the Town has had ownership of the Butters Farm since 2006 and most of the money that has been put into the house, including the purchase of it, has been through the state. The Town has spent approximately \$40,000 to sure up the building. He believes it is a disservice to the building for the Town to try to hold on to it.

Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. Selectman Caira stated that he is in agreement that the Town should sell the house and the property. He asked about the \$39,000 the Town will be committing for the Preservation Restriction Agreement and whether it would be possible for the Town's Historical Commission to monitor the agreement and thereby the Town could save that money. Town Manager Hull stated that this is a similar approach as one taken for the Richardson Property located on Woburn Street. He stated that the members of the Historical Commission have the passion for the preservation but they are a part time board and he is not sure they have the time or expertise to be able to assess when a property owner is looking to make changes to the building, whether the changes impact the historic integrity. Town Manager Hull noted that the \$39,000 is a one-time fee.

A motion was made by Selectman Champoux, seconded by Selectman McCoy and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen accept the recommendation of the Director of Planning and Conservation to accept the purchase and sale agreement of the Butters Farmhouse for the amount of \$100.00.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager Hull reviewed his memorandum to the Board regarding a comment document that was issued to the Surface Transportation Board. The comments reiterate comments previously submitted in a September 9, 2016 response which included points raised during the October 25, 2016 public scoping session. He stated that the Town continues to oppose the development of the property and noted that it is an active Superfund Site. There are areas that have not been fully characterized by the Environmental Protection Agency. Chairman O'Connell stated that she was unable to attend the public session in October, however she did watch the tape and commended the Town Manager, members of the Board of Selectmen and the legislative delegation who spoke that evening. She expressed her frustration and assured those members of the public who are present that the Town is doing everything it can to stop the project.

Town Manager Hull stated that a number of department heads will work with Town Counsel's office to develop the next comment document. He stated that GeoInsight, the Town's environmental consultant, is also preparing a document. Town Manager Hull provided information on the process and advised that it is at the stage where the Office of Environmental Analysis has put forward a template draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Members of the Board expressed their concerns regarding this property and their opposition relative to New England Transrail. Selectman Bendel asked whether it would be appropriate to send a letter to Wilmington's congressional delegation. Town Manager Hull noted that Town administration has been in contact with congressional and legislative delegation but believes a letter from the Board of Selectmen will emphasize the Town's concerns. Discussion took place about communicating to the congressional delegation to advocate on behalf of the Town.

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

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen direct the Town Manager to draft a letter to be signed by the Board of Selectmen to the congressional delegation.

Mr. Gennaro Grasso, 885 Main Street, and Ms. Cheryl Maxwell, 753A Woburn Street, spoke regarding their concerns relative to the Olin property. In addition, Ms. Maxwell commented relative to other vehicular traffic including Pepsi and Federal Express that operate early in the morning. She also commented about the potential danger when she gets her mail due to the traffic on Woburn Street.

Town Manager Hull reviewed correspondence from Kelly Magee Wright, Executive Director, Minuteman Senior Services. Ms. Wright wrote that in FY16 Minuteman Senior Services provided services to over 1,775 residents of Wilmington, at a total value of \$1,374,826.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a legal notice relative to a public hearing that will be held on Monday, November 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be to provide an open forum for the discussion of local property tax policy with reference to classification for FY 2017 taxation

purposes. Interested taxpayers may present their views on classification policy at the hearing or in writing to the Town Manager's office until 4:30 p.m. on November 28.

Town Manager Hull reviewed his memorandum advising the Board of Selectmen that he has appointed Denise Casey to the position of Assistant Town Manager/Human Resource Director. Ms. Casey has served as the Town of Lexington's Human Resource Director since 2007. Town Manager Hull advised that Ms. Casey obtained her undergraduate and graduate degrees in public administration from Suffolk University. She is highly regarded by her peers across the state as the "go to" person for personnel matters. Ms. Casey will begin her employment with the Town of Wilmington on December 5, 2016.

Town Manager Hull reviewed his letter to Jane Lyman, Senior Manager, Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. Town Manager Hull wrote to follow-up on subscriber and Wilmington Community Television concerns regarding PEG channel signal quality. Comcast equipment located at the WCTV studio and the video return line connecting the studio and Comcast requires updating. As part of the renewal, the Licensing Authority and Wilmington Community Television request that Comcast replace/update the very old RF modulators located inside the WCTV studio.

BOARD TO CONSIDER SIGNING THE DEED FOR THE SALE OF TOWN-OWNED LAND LOCATED ON FIFTH STREET MAP 36, PARCEL 94, PURSUANT TO AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON ARTICLE 42 AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF APRIL 30, 2016

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

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen sign the deed for the sale of Town-owned land located on Fifth Street, Map 36, Parcel 94.

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF BARBARA J. CALLA TO BE APPOINTED CONSTABLE

Town Manager Hull advised that the request was reviewed by Police Chief Michael Begonis who advised that there is no evidence to prevent Ms. Calla from being appointed. Chairman O'Connell asked if there was a limit to the number of constables and was advised that there is no limit. Town Manager Hull noted that there are currently four constables serving the residents of Wilmington, although one may not be active. There are seven constables who live outside of Wilmington. Chairman O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Selectman Cairra, seconded by Selectman McCoy and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen appoint Barbara J. Calla as a Constable.

BOARD TO CONSIDER SIGNING A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT WITH DAVID SUGRUE RELATIVE TO THE BUTTERS FARM PROPERTY, 165 CHESTNUT STREET

The Board of Selectmen took action on this item under appointments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

Members of the Board wished residents a Happy Thanksgiving. Go Wildcats! Go Rams!

IMPORTANT DATES

Town Manager Hull reviewed important dates including:

- Through-
November 26 – Curbside Collection of Yardwaste
- November 16 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- November 17 – Facilities Master Plan Committee– Town Hall – Room 9 – 6:00 p.m.
- November 19 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- November 19 – Shawsheen Tech Craft Fair – 100 Cook Street, Billerica – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- November 23 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- November 24 – Thanksgiving Day - *Town Offices Closed*
- November 25 – *Town Offices Closed*
- November 26 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- November 28 – Board of Selectmen Meeting – Town Hall – Room 9 – 7:00 p.m.
- November 28 – Discussion of Local Property Tax Policy with Reference to Classification
for FY-2017 – Board of Selectmen Meeting – Town Hall – Room 9 – 7:00 p.m.
- November 29 – Welcome to Wilmington Reception – Memorial Library – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Selectman Champoux, seconded by Selectman Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary