

## Advisory Speaking on warrant #43

January 24, 2024

I am speaking about the rezoning warrant for 200 Pond Road. First, I am confused as it is my understanding that both the Planning Board and Select Board agreed that if the Select Board did not vote to enter into a Development Agreement with the Pond Road developers, the Planning Board agreed to not support rezoning for Pond Road.

However, on Monday night it seemed that the Planning Board continued to support the rezoning of Pond Road, in what appears to be an open ended rezoning statement that would effectively offer *automatic rezoning to any Senior Living facility from an adjoining Town*.

I am adamantly against this rezoning warrant, as is the group of residents that I represent, "Neighbors for Better Planning". It is my understanding that the Pond Road developer offered \$1 million to Wellesley for approving this rezoning. The optics of accepting a \$1 million payment for this approval are embarrassing for our Town. This smacks of bribery.

Further, as Mr. Himmelberger mentioned, the signatures on the petition that the developer (Welltower) collected at the Wellesley Roche Bros. are a sham. Roche Bros. tried to stop the petition signing when they realized that **many of the petition signers were not Town residents, and were being paid \$5 for their signature**. However, Welltower attorney's blocked their attempt to evict them.

These signatures were obtained under false circumstances and should be excluded from the Town records based on this blatant deception.

I urge Advisory to take a hard look at what is happening here and object to this rezoning moving forward. This is not how our Town operates.

Katie Schuller

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