

**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman  
Minutes for November 14, 2006  
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:

7:00 p.m. Call To Order

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman John H. Cogswell at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: John H. Cogswell, Daniel P. Matthews, James Healy, Gerald Wasserman, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper. John Bulian was not present.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petitions:

Christine Crosby, NSTAR Representative, appeared before the Board to request approval of two petitions to install conduit to provide residential electrical service.

Stockdale Road

Ms. Crosby requested approval to install 36 feet of conduit on Stockdale Road, Needham to provide electrical service to 56 Stockdale Road.

**Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install 36 feet of conduit @ pole 209/7 on Stockdale Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electrical service to #56 Stockdale Road, Needham.**

**Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

Highland Terrace for Highland Avenue

Ms. Crosby requested approval to install 10 feet of conduit on Highland Terrace, Needham to provide electrical service to 100 and 120 Highland Avenue.

**Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install 10 feet of conduit @ pole 98/2 on Highland Terrace, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electrical service to #100 and #120 Highland Avenue, Needham.**

**Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:05 p.m. Special One-day All Alcohol License - Scott Milliken - Village Club Building Association:

Scott Milliken and Michael Despres of the Village Club, appeared before the Board to request a one-day all alcohol license for the Village Club Building Association's social event to be held on Saturday, November 18, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the request of Scott Milliken for a one-day all alcohol license for the Village Club Building Association's evening of dance and music to be held on November 18, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. at their facility located at 83 Morton Street, Needham. Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:05 p.m. Special One-day Wine and Malt License:  
Michael Fraini, applicant on behalf of St. Joseph's Church, appeared before the Board to request a special one-day wine and malt license for November 18, 2006 for their Christmas Bazaar Dinner.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the request of Michael Frainey, on behalf of St. Joseph's Church, for a special one-day wine and malt license for St. Joseph Church's Christmas Bazaar Dinner to be held on November 18, 2006. Second: Mr. Healy. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:10 p.m. TownStat Performance Measurement:  
Ms. Fitzpatrick and Fire Chief Paul Buckley appeared before the Board to present the Fire Department's performance measurement program. Ms. Fitzpatrick explained that the performance measurement program, "TownStat", is a program to help managers identify areas for evaluation and establish some benchmarking. She stated that six department managers will present their projects to the Board over the next few months and that Chief Buckley volunteered to go first.

Chief Buckley stated that the Fire Department looked at mutual aid emergency medical services response times and cost factors. The goal was to identify existing response times and analyze

the need for additional emergency response services.

Chief Buckley reviewed the findings of the study with the Board. He stated that on average the Fire Department's EMS first responder arrives within four minutes and that advanced life support response time's average within 8 minutes. Chief Buckley stated that the Fire Department responds to an average of over 3,100 calls a year with almost 63% being EMS calls. Chief Buckley explained that the Town often needs to rely on outside service providers when simultaneous EMS calls occur. He stated that a large percentage of the outside service is provided by a private contractor and that this contractor recently went out of business. Chief Buckley discussed how services are billed and how the EMS service generates revenue. Mr. Healy asked about response times to Ridge Hill and whether Chief Buckley thought this might be a concern if a new senior center is located there. Chief Buckley stated that response times are a little longer but he did not believe the additional response time would be a problem. The Fire Department has only responded to a call from the current senior center twice in two years. The Board discussed the potential to add additional emergency services and expand revenue potential.

7:35 p.m. Ms. Fitzpatrick appeared before the Board with three items for the Board's consideration:

1. Town of Needham Liquor Regulations Update: Ms. Fitzpatrick requested the Board accept the proposed changes to the Town's regulations on the sale of alcoholic beverages. She stated that the changes were relatively minor and that she continues to work with public safety departments on refining and reviewing the regulations. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the changes include inclusion of new text relative to the Fire Safety Act and purchasing conditions on one-day special licenses. The Board discussed liquor liability insurance for special licenses and whether the insurance

should be required. The Board asked Ms. Fitzpatrick to identify what other towns are requiring insurance.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept the changes included in the updated version of the Town of Needham Regulation for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages. Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

2. Open Space/Recreation Plan:  
Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Open Space/Recreation Plan Steering Committee has drafted proposed goals and objectives for inclusion in the plan. The Committee is interested in getting input from the Board and other Town Boards and Committees in order to gather broad support for implementation of the Plan. The Board agreed to get feedback to Ms. Fitzpatrick prior to the Board's next meeting. Mr. Matthews asked that the issue be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda. Mr. Cogswell agreed to put it on the agenda for the Board's December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
3. Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Consultation:  
Ms. Fitzpatrick presented the Board with a draft list of core budget priorities. The Board discussed the priority assigned to each item.

8:10 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports:

Field Study Committee:

Mr. Healy stated that the Committee was pleased that Town Meeting approved the amendment regarding the use of lights. He would like the Board to discuss establishing a policy on dedicating funding for field renovation and maintenance. Mr. Healy stated that Town fields are an important asset used by a majority of residents. Mr. Matthews believes that some members of the Finance Committee got the impression that all the renovations and maintenance of fields was going to be paid for through user fees and donations. The Board

agreed that it needs to have a discussion about how to maintain the fields and Mr. Cogswell agreed to put the issue on a future agenda.

8:20 p.m. Consent Agenda:

**Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Appointments and Consent Agenda as presented.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

1. Timothy Kickham, Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Grant permission to the Sheraton Needham Hotel to extend their hours of operation by one hour for the service of alcoholic beverages on Sunday, December 31, 2006 for a wedding reception. Hours of operation on that date would be 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
2. Accept the following donations made to the Council on Aging from:

Dorothy Piligian	\$20.00
Geraldine Esposito	\$20.00
Celeste Garr	\$25.00
Eric Notkin	\$25.00
Estate - Margaret Kentley	\$7000.00
Shine Program	\$460.00

3. Accept the following donations made to the Library from:

David Millard	Picture	Value to come
The Needham Garden Club in Memory of Lurline Haugen	Books	Value \$25.00
Anonymous	DVD	Value (\$12.98)
Chaim M. Rosenberg	Book	Value \$24.99
Library Foundation of Needham In Recognition of retiring board member - Maureen Boisvert	Books	Value \$20.00

<b>Andrew Novick</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>Value \$49.95</b>
<b>Victor Milligan</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>Value \$26.95</b>

**4. Water & Sewer Abatement, Order #1039  
Second: Mr. Healy. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

8:20 p.m. Board Discussion - Continued

Massachusetts Municipal Association:

Mr. Wasserman stated that MMA has calculated the impact on communities of the Governor's recent budget cuts. He stated that the biggest impact is coming from the cut in funding for the MWRA Sewer Rate Relief and a cut on the SPED circuit breaker.

Minuteman Advisory Committee

Mr. Matthews stated that the Committee meets twice a year and recently met. He stated that enrollment is stabilizing which is good for the Town.

League of Women Voters Warrant Meetings:

Mr. Matthews suggested that the Board have a discussion with the League of Women Voters about the format for the Town Warrant Meetings. He stated that he favors returning to the format of having a number of small meetings. Mr. Matthews believes it fosters more discussion and questions. The Board was in agreement but asked the Town Manager to provide some recommendations on the issue.

8:35 p.m. Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session to:

Exception 3 - to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, or to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; and

Exception 6 - to consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property if such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body.

Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Mr. Cogswell polled the Board members. Unanimously approved 4-0.

(The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:05.)