

**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman
Minutes for October 9, 2007
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 Gerald Wasserman at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: John Bulian, John H. Cogswell, Daniel P. Matthews, Gerald Wasserman, James Healy, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing - Layout Street for Town Acceptance for "a portion of Frank Street": Tony DelGaizo, Town Engineer, appeared before the Board to seek approval of the third step in the street acceptance procedure for a portion of Frank Street. Larry Schind, Counsel for Marilyn Lichtman, stated that Ms. Lichtman had no objection to the intent of the project but requested some particular issues be addressed at the Planning Board stage. Bob Barton, proponent, stated that he has agreed to the proposed changes.

Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign the street layout plan to accept "a portion of Frank Street."

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:10 p.m. Appointments and Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Appointments and Consent Agenda.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Cultural Council

Alice Kelleher (6/30/09)
Kathleen Rowe (6/30/08)
Suzanne Heffernan
(6/30/09)
Kathleen Leahy (6/30/09)
Noreen Burdett (6/30/09)
Caryl Johnson (6/30/10)
Suzanne Saevitz (6/30/10)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve minutes of September 25, 2007.
2. Approve request from the Needham Cultural Council to use the inside of Town Hall, the Town Common, Garrity Way, Town Hall parking lot and the Stephen Palmer Center on December 31, 2007 for various events associated with New Year's Needham, from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Additional request to use the Town Common on December 30 through January 1st for the building and display of an ice sculpture.
3. Approve request from Park & Recreation Department to host their annual Spooky Walk on the Town Common on Saturday, October 20, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. The rain date for this event is Saturday, October 27, 2007.
4. Approve a request for a one-day all alcoholic special permit from Scott Milliken for the Village Club to hold a Halloween Dance on Friday, October 26 from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. The event will be held upstairs in the Highlandville Hall.
5. Approve a request for a one-day wine and malt special permit from Don LaValle to hold a 60's dance at the Village Club on Saturday, October 20 from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. The event will be held upstairs in the Highlandville Hall.
6. Approve a request for a one-day all alcoholic special permit from Patricia Hadge representing St. Sebastian's School to hold a Christmas Gala (auction and dinner) on Saturday, December 1, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. The event will be held at St. Sebastians School, 1191 Greendale Avenue, Needham.
7. Water and Sewer Abatement #1057
8. Accept \$71 in donations made to the Park and Recreation Department's Miscellaneous Parks Trust Fund Donations Account for the period September 18, 2007 to September 28, 2007.
9. Accept \$500 donation made to the Needham Youth Commission from the Needham Women's Club to sponsor the "A Conversation for Parents of Teens" program.
10. Accept \$40 donation made to the Needham Police Department from Mr. & Mrs. Eric Lowitt for child safety seat installation.
11. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Free Public Library during the period September 6, 2007 - October 3, 2007:
 - The following people made donations in memory of Priscilla C. Stover:
 - Marjorie R. Koebler (\$25.00)

- George and Christine Hoffmeister (\$50.00)
- Richard and Jane d'Entremont (\$50.00)
- Nancy and Kenneth Hartshorn (\$25.00)
- Joseph P. Hernon (\$50.00)
- Barbara H. Leader (\$50.00)
- Dorothy and Frank Brown (\$100.00)
- Paul and Janet Selvitelli (\$25.00)
- Stewart S. Stover (\$100.00)
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Newton (\$50.00)
- Patricia M. Campion (\$25.00)
- Ford H. Peckham gave the library a copy of the DVD, *The Beanpot: Where Dreams Come True (50th Anniversary)* (\$20.00)
- John J. Laracy donated \$25.00 for the purchase of nonfiction books-on-tape.
- John F. Dewey donated the following CDs:
 - Tchaikovsky—Symphony 5 (\$17.98)
 - Earl Bostic—Flamingo (\$9.49)
 - Lee Wiley—West of the Moon (\$36.97)
 - Bud Freeman—Chicago/Austin High School Jazz (\$14.95)
 - Benny Carter—New York Nights (\$14.65)
- Peter Zheutlin gave the library a copy of his book, *Around the World on Two Wheels* (\$22.95)
- Gay Ellen Dennett donated the following books:
 - Christopher Price—*The Blueprint* (\$24.95)
 - Tedy Bruschi—*Never Give Up* (\$24.95)
 - Gordon Campbell—*Missing Witness* (\$24.95)
 - Adrienne Kress—*Alex and the Ironic Gentleman* (\$16.95)
 - Peter Arenstam—*Nicholas: A Massachusetts Tale* (\$14.95)
 - Alison Paul—*The Crow: A not so Scary Story* (\$16.00)
 - Robert Kinerk—*Clorinda Takes Flight* (\$16.99)

12. Grant permission for the following residents to hold block parties:

Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Date	Party Time
Joseph Foos	84 Wilshire Park	Wilshire Park	10/14	10/21	2-6 p.m.
Sheila Eisenstadt	91 Fairfield St.	Fairfield St.	10/20	10/21	2-10 p.m.

Liz Berkman	113 Melrose Ave	Melrose Ave Park	10/13	10/14	11-3 p.m.
Christine McCourt	18 Rolling Lane	Rolling Lane	10/27	None	3-6 p.m.
Hilary Rosenbaum	35 Homsy Lane	Homsy Lane	10/21	None	3-7 p.m.
Ratify the following:					
Maureen Callahan	67 Bradford St	Cleveland Rd/Bradford St	9/30	None	4:30 -7 p.m.

Second: Mr. Healy. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:10 p.m. Review FY08 Recycling Transfer Station (RTS) Rates:
David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director, and Chip Laffey, Superintendent of RTS, appeared before the Board to recommend the RTS rates for FY08. Mr. Davison stated that the Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee voted to recommend no increases in sticker, bag or scale fees for FY08. The Board discussed the distribution of stickers and reasons for some slight shifting in sticker sales. Mr. Wasserman stated that the Board will take action on the rates at its next meeting on October 23, 2007.

7:15 p.m. Cultural Council/NeedArts:
Louise Miller and Jean Connolly, Co-chairs of the Needham Cultural Council, appeared before the Board to provide an update on activities of the Council and upcoming events. Ms. Connolly gave a presentation that provided an overview of the work of the Council and the recent creation of NeedArts. NeedArts is a collaboration of various cultural organizations focused on supporting cultural life in Town. She stated that the organization has a website, www.needarts.org, and is coordinating several events including an upcoming Needham First Night event. The New Year's Eve event will have several cultural activities and exhibits. It will run from noon until 10 p.m. on December 31st. NeedArts will be selling buttons for \$5,

which will allow access to all the events throughout town. Ms. Connolly also stated that the Needham Cultural Council's long-term goal is to create an Arts Center within Town. The Board was impressed with the work of the Council.

Ms. Miller stated that the Council would request that the Board approve its revised charge and composition to better reflect the current work of the group.

Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Cultural Council Proposed Charge and Composition dated October 5, 2007.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:35 p.m. Technology Advisory Board:

Carl Rubin, Chairman of the Technology Advisory Board, appeared before the Board to provide an update on the Board's work and future initiatives. Mr. Rubin stated that the Board's role is to provide input and advise the Town on technology issues. He stated that the Board has helped on a number of issues including the Pollard Technology upgrade, the high school and library technology investments, and the hiring of the Town's technology director just to name a few. Mr. Rubin stated that the Board is currently working on efforts to identify town-wide technology staffing needs. He also stated that the Board is looking into scanning of documents which would eliminate the need for a significant portion of on-site storage.

Lastly, Mr. Rubin mentioned the recent decision by Town Counsel that ex-officio members of the Board are eligible to vote. He asked the Board to think about this issue and how it impacts the makeup and functionality of the Board. Mr. Wasserman stated that the Board would review the issue.

8:05 p.m. Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager/Personnel Director appeared before the Board with two items for the Board's consideration:

1. Economic Development/Regional Technology Center:

Mr. Coleman and Ms. Joyce Moss, Economic Development Coordinator, provided the Board with an update on the Town's efforts to become an Economic Target Area. Ms. Moss stated that the application to the State has been developed and submitted. The application will go before the State Board on October 25th. She stated that there are many benefits to being an economic target area including state tax credits and the ability to negotiate TIF agreements. These agreements deal with local tax impacts. Ms. Moss provided a few examples of other communities' use of TIF agreements. Mr. Matthews stated that the ability to negotiate these issues is a nice tool but he believes a central issue to further development of the business center involves zoning and permit changes.

2. Position of Warrant Articles:

Mr. Coleman and Mr. Davison asked the Board to begin the process of identifying which Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles the Board will support.

Article 1 - Non-Betterment Street Acceptance
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support of Article 1 - Non-Betterment Street Acceptance in the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 7 - Appropriate For Payment of Unpaid Bills of Prior Years

Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support of Article 7 - Appropriate for Payment of Unpaid Bills of Prior Years in the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 8 - Appropriate to Capital Improvement Fund

Mr. Davison provided the Board with a sum to be included in the Article of \$11,261.

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to amend Article 8 - Appropriate to Capital Improvement Fund in the Special Town Meeting Warrant to include the sum of \$11,261. Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support of Article 8 - Appropriate to Capital Improvement Fund, as amended, in the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 9 - Appropriate for Capital Facility Fund

Mr. Davison provided the Board with a sum to be included in the Article of \$18,957.

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to amend Article 9 - Appropriate for Capital Facility Fund in the Special Town Meeting Warrant to include the sum of \$18,957. Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support of Article 9 - Appropriate for Capital Facility Fund, as amended, in the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 11 - Appropriate for Senior Center Design

The Board discussed the need to move forward with design of a senior center at Ridge Hill. Mr. Healy stated that the issue has been examined thoroughly, including several alternative locations, and the Ridge Hill proposal is the most viable. He stated that the location has been an issue but most evidence shows that seniors drive to the senior center therefore a downtown site is not essential. Mr. Matthews stated that the location is the key issue and that he feels the Ridge Hill site is the best option available. He emphasized the importance of the article because it commits \$500,000 for design work. The Board was in

agreement that the project should appear on the Warrant and should receive the Board's support.
Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support of Article 11 - Appropriate for Senior Center Design in the Special Town Meeting Warrant.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

8:55 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports:
Mr. Wasserman mentioned that the Massachusetts Board of Selectmen Association is having its annual conference on Saturday and the big topic is economic development.

Mr. Bulian announced that the League of Women Voters is having its annual forum on October 17th at 7:15 p.m. at the Newman School. The topic of the event is "Global Warming: How you can make a difference."

Mr. Healy announced that the Town will be having a celebration on October 27th for Sunita Williams at Town Hall. He encouraged everyone to attend to honor a local hero.

9:00p.m. Adjourn:
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the October 9, 2007 Board of Selectmen Meeting.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.