

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for March 27, 2012
Needham Town Hall**

- 6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens: No Activity.
- 7:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman Maurice P. Handel. Those present were Gerald A. Wasserman, Daniel P. Matthews, John A. Bulian, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.
- 7:00 p.m. Recognition of Needham High School Dance Team:
Dan Gutekanst, Superintendent of Schools and Micah Hauben, Director of Athletics appeared before the Board along with members of the Needham High School Dance Team. The Board offered its congratulations to the team, Head Coach Paula Callanan, and Assistant Coach Trish Masi. Mr. Handel pointed out the team captured its second state title in a row, danced during half-time at the division one super bowl, and at Gillette Stadium. A proclamation was read in recognition of the 2012 Needham Dance Team and its win at the Winter State Dance Championship, March 2012.
- 7:00 p.m. Consent Agenda and Appointments:
Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept the Consent Agenda and Appointments as presented.

APPOINTMENTS

- 1. Council of Economic Advisors Walter Collins – NBA representative**

CONSENT AGENDA *=Backup attached

- 1.* Approve application for calendar year 2012 Sale of Second-Hand Articles from Above and Beyond Consignment, located at 1016 Great Plain Avenue.**
- 2.* Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1139**
- 3.* Special Sewer Assessment Order #588**
- 4. Approve a donation of a used stand up freezer made to the Needham Park and Recreation Commission for the Rosemary Pool Complex from the Needham Community Council.**
- 5.* Approve a revision of the Procedure for Designer Selection by Town Agencies to reflect current State procedures.**

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

- 7:00 p.m. Proclamation – National Health Week:
Emily Carroll, Needham Health Department, appeared before the Board. Mr. Handel read a proclamation declaring April 2-8, 2012 as National Public Health

Week, with a theme of “A Healthier America Begins Today: Join the Movement!” in Needham, Massachusetts.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen vote to sign a proclamation declaring April 2-8, 2012 to be National Public Health Week in Needham, Massachusetts.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:10 p.m. Proclamation – Outstanding Work:
Mr. Handel read a proclamation from the Town of Needham awarded to Sandra J. Cincotta in recognition for her outstanding work in making Powers Hall a premier event and meeting space to be enjoyed by the Needham community. The Board congratulated Ms. Cincotta. Ms. Fitzpatrick commented on the many ways Ms. Cincotta has been instrumental in making Powers Hall a leading event space for the Town.

7:12 p.m. Public Hearing – Verizon and NSTAR Petition for Central Avenue:
Ellen Joy, Verizon representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install an anchor and guy at existing Pole #8/76 on Central Avenue. This work is necessary to hold the pole safe.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign petition from Verizon and NSTAR to install an anchor and guy at existing Pole #8/76 on Central Avenue. This work is necessary to hold the pole safe.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:13 p.m. Public Hearing – Verizon and NSTAR Petition for Thorpe Road:
Ellen Joy, Verizon representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install an anchor and guy at existing pole #145/5 on Thorpe Road. This work is necessary to remove a guy wire from a tree that is to be taken down.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign petition from Verizon and NSTAR to install an anchor and guy at existing Pole #145/5 on Thorpe Road. This work is necessary to remove a guy wire from a tree that is being taken down.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:14 p.m. Public Hearing – NSTAR Petition for Wayne Road:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 4 feet of conduit at Pole 343/10 on Wayne Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new home at 47 Wayne Road.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 4 feet of conduit at Pole 343/10 on

**Wayne Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new home at 47 Wayne Road.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:15 p.m. Public Hearing – NSTAR Petition for Glendale Road:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 4 feet of conduit at Pole 211/11 on Glendale Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new home at 84 Glendale Road.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 4 feet of conduit at Pole 211/11 on Glendale Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new home at 84 Glendale Road.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:20 p.m. Babson College Scholarships:
Melissa Shaak, Director of Financial Aid, Babson College appeared before the Board to discuss scholarship recommendations to local residents from a fund made available to the Town of Needham from Babson College. Mr. Wasserman acknowledged the relationship the Town has with Babson College in providing scholarships to Needham residents. He stated the program has worked well and that Babson has been very generous with scholarships over the years. He thanked Ms. Shaak and Babson College. Ms. Shaak said it is a pleasure for Babson College to support Needham residents with scholarships.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen votes to award the Town of Needham Babson Scholarships to the following applicants:

Kelsey Bronski	Current sophomore
Lauren Confort	Current sophomore
Anthony Elian	Current sophomore
Susanna Kroll	Current sophomore
Flynn Lincoln	Current junior
Julia Salamone	Current first-year student (on leave spring 2012)
Nicholas Wong	Current first-year student
Matthew Leskani	Enrolling at Babson Fall 2012

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

7:25 p.m. Department of Public Works:
Richard Merson, DPW Director and Tony Del Gaizo, Town Engineer appeared before the Board with 2 items to discuss:

1. DPW Projects Update

Mr. Merson provided the Board with a status of recently completed work, on-going activities, and upcoming work for the 2012 Construction Season, and projects currently in development. Mr. Merson referred to “DPW Project Report” dated March 27, 2012 and told the Board of recently completed work, on-going work, new work, and projects in the design phase.

Ms. Fitzpatrick highlighted the Highland Avenue water main replacement – Webster Street to Hunting Road/Gould Street and said the DPW is pushing completion of the project as the Town is aggressively pursuing funding for the reconstruction of the roadway.

2. Amendment of Street Permit Procedures and Regulations

Mr. Merson said the DPW is proposing revisions to the April 2, 2010 Street Permit Procedures and Regulations in order to address some of the program’s administration issues. He outlined the key points of the changes to the document and mentioned a new category in the fee schedule relative to homeowners doing work on the public sidewalks in front of their homes. Mr. Del Gaizo said a new license fee will also go into effect for contractors.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to approve Street Permit Procedures & Regulations effective April 1, 2012.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:35 p.m.

Town Manager:

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager appeared before the Board with 5 items to discuss:

1. Determination of Unique Status/59 Lincoln Street and 89 School Street

Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Town has identified two parcels for acquisition that are proposed for funding in the May 14, 2012 Special Town Meeting Warrant. In accordance with M.G.L. c. 30B, she said a public procurement process is not required if the Board of Selectmen determines that advertising will not benefit the Town’s interest because of the unique qualities of the parcel. Ms. Fitzpatrick asked the Board determine that advertising and procuring these parcels is not in the Town’s interest because of the unique qualities of the parcels, noting possible expansion of the police and fire department in the future.

Mr. Bulian said he understands the motion simply makes a determination of unique status. He said he is not necessarily in agreement with the acquisition and wants to discuss the matter at a future Board meeting or public hearing.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board vote to determine that in the case of the proposed acquisition of 59 Lincoln Street and 89 School Street, advertising will not benefit the Town’s interest because of the unique qualities of the location of the property needed. This determination is made

**on the basis that the property abuts the Police and Fire Station and will be used for future expansion of Police and Fire operations.
Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

2. Conveyance of Land to Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC

Ms. Fitzpatrick reminded the Board the November 8, 2010 Special Town Meeting voted to change the use of 375 square feet of land at Ridge Hill (near Mary Chilton Road) from conservation to municipal use and to authorize the sale of the land to Algonquin Gas. She said the action was taken because it was determined that Algonquin's existing data building was built on Town land. She said Special Town Meeting also voted to authorize a home rule petition to obtain Legislative approval for the sale of the land. Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Legislature approved the sale and in return Algonquin Gas provided a \$50,000 contribution to the Conservation Trust Fund of the Town.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen execute the necessary deed to convey 375 sq. ft. of land off Mary Chilton Road to Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, as authorized by Chapter 164 of the Acts of 2011 of the General Court.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.

3. Accept and Refer Zoning Amendment

Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Planning Board has voted to place an article on the warrant for the May 14, 2012 Special Town Meeting Warrant as follows: Amend Zoning By-law; Description of Flood Plain Districts and Flood Plain District Regulations. She asked the Board accept the proposed amendment and refer the amendment back to the Planning Board for its review, hearing, and report.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to accept the proposed zoning amendment and to refer the matter to the Planning Board for review, public hearing, and report.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

4. Open Special Town Meeting Warrant

Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed a draft of the Special Town Meeting Warrant for the May 14, 2012 Special Town Meeting. She asked the Board to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board vote to call for a Special Town Meeting and open the warrant for the meeting to be held on May 14, 2012 at the Needham Town Hall.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.

5. Annual Town Meeting Articles

Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed with the Board the revised Annual Town Meeting Warrant. She asked the Board consider including the following changes:

1. Amend Article 32 Change Ladder Truck from borrowing to cash
2. Amend Article 38 Appropriate \$125,000 to Workers Compensation Fund
3. Amend Article 39 Appropriate \$282,728 to Athletic Facility Improvement Fund
4. Delete Article 42 Stabilization Fund (at the Request of the Finance Committee)

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board vote to approve the proposed changes to articles 32, 38, 39, and 42 in the 2012 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:55 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Town Manager Performance Evaluation

Mr. Handel said in accordance with its policies, the Board of Selectmen prepares an annual performance evaluation of the Town Manager. He said each member of the Board completes an evaluation that are then compiled into a consensus evaluation document containing a numerical average for each point of evaluation and a summary of overall evaluation comments. The Board's policy, he said, calls for the overview to be released at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Handel commented the Town Manager Consensus Evaluation was superb.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board vote to approve the Town Manager Consensus Evaluation Overview Document dated March 27, 2012.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.

Mr. Wasserman commented he knows many Town Managers and Town Administrators, and said Ms. Fitzpatrick ranks among the top qualified Town Managers in the state of Massachusetts.

Mr. Bulian thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick for all of her work.

Mr. Matthews said Ms. Fitzpatrick does an outstanding job for the Town.

Mr. Handel thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick for all of her work.

2. Committee Reports

Mr. Matthews said he met with the Needham Minuteman sub-committee to discuss the annual budget and the capital development plan for the regional high school. He said on the operating side things appear to be in very good order. He said the facilities issues are somewhat harder because unanimous consent is required among all 16 districts. Mr. Wasserman said Needham's enrollment has increased at Minuteman because the school has improved. Mr. Wasserman said he is part of the building committee for the Minuteman School, and the first meeting was held in late February. He said the MSBA lengthened the amount of time the school has to do its feasibility study without losing their approval to support the school. Mr. Wasserman said topics under consideration include enrollment, programs, and construction. Mr. Wasserman discussed a possible timeline for design and construction of a new building.

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting is available at:

<http://www.needham.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID=>

8:00 p.m.

Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting of March 27, 2012.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.