

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for June 10, 2014
Selectmen's Chamber
Needham Town Hall**

6:30 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 John A. Bulian. Those present were Maurice P. Handel, Matthew D. Borrelli, Marianne B. Cooley, Daniel P. Matthews, Assistant Town Manager/Personnel Christopher Coleman, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt. Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick was not present.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for Clarke Road:

Chris Cosby, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 141 feet of conduit at manhole #16853 on Clarke Road, Needham. Ms. Cosby said this work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new house at 18 Clarke Road.

Mr. Bulian invited public comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 141 feet of conduit at manhole #16853 on Clarke Road, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new house at 18 Clarke Road.

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

7:02 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for Charles River Street:

Chris Cosby, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 13 feet of conduit at pole 10/13 on Charles River Street, Needham. Ms. Cosby said this work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new house at 121 Charles River Street.

Mr. Bulian invited public comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 13 feet of conduit at pole 10/13 on Charles River Street, Needham. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for a new house at 121 Charles River Street.

Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:03 p.m. Appointments and Consent Agenda:

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

APPOINTMENTS There are no appointments this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approve a request from the Public Health Department for a 20 (b) exemption to allow the following school employees to work as seasonal packers/drivers for The Traveling Meals program: Dawn O’Halloran, KASE Program; Nancy Milliken, Food Manager at Eliot School; and Catherine Murray, Broadmeadow School Cafeteria.**
- 2. Accept the following donation made to the Needham Off Leash dog area account: \$450 from Sami Porter & Cate Brodowski.**
- 3. Grant permission for a fund-raising bicycle ride through Needham on September 12, 2014. The event, Braking Aids Ride, is a three-day bicycle ride to benefit Housing Works, a major AIDS service organization headquartered in New York City. Approximately 130 riders will pass through Needham between 6:15 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Permission has been granted by the Conservation Commission to use Ridge Hill as a rest stop. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments, DPW, Police, Fire, and Park & Recreation. Approval is contingent upon receipt of required completed paperwork.**
- 4. Approve a request from Greg Jundanian, of the Dedham Food Pantry, who is organizing a fundraiser bike ride to benefit food pantries in numerous communities including Needham, to have a portion of its ride to go through Needham. The event is scheduled for September 21, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments, DPW, Police, Fire, and Park and Recreation.**
- 5. Accept donations totaling \$279 in memory of Melvin Roboff made to the Needham Fire Department from the following people: Sydna and Steven Weinstein, Robert M. McGarty, Patricia and Robert DeNoble, Judith and Jeffrey Ogilvie, and Christine and Peter Kenney. The monies will be used to support the activities of the Student Awareness of Fire Education program.**
- 6. Approve minutes from May 27, 2014.**
- 7. Approve a request from the Accounting Department for a 20 (b) exemption to allow Caitlin Concannon, an employee of Needham Extended Day Program, to work in a temporary capacity as payroll clerk.**
- 8. Accept a \$25 donation made to Needham Youth Services from Paul and Christine Cusick. The monies are to be used to sponsor Needham Youth Services Peer tutor program.**
- 9. Grant permission for the following residents to hold a Block Party:**

Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Date	Party Time
Ratify: Robert Klein	11 Andrea Circle	Andrea Circle	6/8/2014		12-5pm
Andrew Allen	955 Webster St	900 Block of Webster	9/13/2014	9/20/2014	12-3pm
Deb Tormey	33 Lawton Rd	Lawton Rd	6/21/2014		3-9pm

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

7:03 p.m.

Public Hearing Water and Sewer Rates:

David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance, Evelyn Poness, Town Treasurer/Collector, John Cosgrove, Chairman, MWRA Advisory Board, and Vincent Roy, MWRA Advisory Board appeared before the Board to discuss changes to the water and sewer rate schedule. Mr. Davison gave a brief history of the Town's effort to keep the rates stable. He said that this will be the first time since 2007 that the water and sewer rate schedule has changed, and the first time since 2005 that the estimated annual bill will increase. Mr. Davison said the major reason for the need for higher rates is to offset the decrease in billable water as residential consumption declines to meet the Department of Environmental Protection's reduced water consumption goals. Mr. Davison also addressed consumption trends, the cost of operations, and rate setting factors.

Mr. Davison said the Water and Sewer Rate Structure Committee met four times over the last three months to discuss the rates and various concepts to address the water and sewer issue. Mr. Davison reviewed with the Board the Rate Calculation Analysis dated June 10, 2014 which includes five possible scenarios for changing rates.

Mr. Bulian noted the Board will take action at its meeting scheduled for June 24, 2014 and asked for Board comments.

Ms. Cooley said it would be helpful to see the distribution of houses for each scenario (i.e. what percentage of users fall within each category and in grid format).

John Cosgrove, Chairman, Water and Sewer Rate Structure Committee said the Committee unanimously supported Scenario 3 as it allows the Town to "get 1/3 of the way there."

Mr. Handel asked if new growth from Needham Crossing was factored in to each scenario. He asked if indexing should be considered.

Mr. Matthews said Scenario 3 appears to make the most sense because the weight of the increase is on irrigation. He asked if the \$66 sewer charge is quarterly, and the effect of the rate structure in future years.

Mr. Borrelli said the irrigation drove a lot of the numbers. He commented Scenarios 1, 1B, and 2 seem too drastic of an increase. He said he agrees that Scenario 3 is best for the Town. He commented Scenario 4 is very creative but there is too much burden on lower/upper tiers. He said Scenario 5 is the least risky, but a 20% increase is too high.

Ms. Cooley asked about gallons per person per day for domestic water only, exclusive of irrigation.

Mr. Bulian invited public comment. No comments were made.

Mr. Bulian said he is comfortable with Scenario 3, and reiterated the Board will vote on the issue at its meeting on June 24, 2014. He thanked the Committee for their work.

8:07 p.m. Town Manager:
Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager/Personnel appeared before the Board with 1 item to discuss:

1. ICMA 100th Anniversary Proclamation

Mr. Coleman told the Board the ICMA is celebrating its 100th anniversary and asked the Board recognize this milestone.

Mr. Handel read a proclamation.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board approve and sign the ICMA's 100th Anniversary Proclamation.

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

8:10 p.m. Board Discussion:
1. Committee Reports
No Reports were made.

8:10 p.m. Adjourn:
Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting of June 10, 2014.
Second: Mr. Handel. Unanimously approved 5-0.

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:
<http://www.needhamma.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID=>