

**Town of Needham  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes for March 8, 2016  
Powers Hall  
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens: Ivan Millan-Pulecio, Owner/Manager, Hearth Pizzeria spoke with the Board about a proposed change in his restaurant - from malt/wine to All Alcohol with the addition of a bar and 10-12 stools. The proposed change will put the restaurant over the 10% as stipulated in the Board's regulations. Board members referred Mr. Millan-Pulecio to the Building and Planning Departments and indicated that the restaurant must comply with existing regulations.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:  
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman Maurice P. Handel. Those present were Matthew D. Borrelli, Marianne B. Cooley, Daniel P. Matthews, John A. Bulian, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

7:00 p.m. Introduce Police Officers:  
John Schlittler, Chief of Police introduced newly appointed Police Officers Matthew Doukas, Edward Timmerman, and Adrienne Anderson.

Chief Schlittler said the officers recently graduated from a 26 week training program. He said the recruits excelled during the 26 week program, finishing near the top of the class in all categories. He gave a brief background of each officer, noting they are all lifelong residents of Needham. Chief Schlittler pointed out the past involvement in community service related events, commenting each officer has very strong ties to Needham. He welcomed Officers Doukas, Timmerman, and Anderson to the service of the Town.

The Board congratulated the officers and wished them well while serving the Town of Needham.

7:10 p.m. West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project:  
Jack Lopes, Community Relations Representative, Eversource Energy, Domenic Nicotera, Project Manager, Eversource Energy, and Mike Howard, Epsilon Associates outlined for the Board plans for improving the reliability of the transmission lines between West Roxbury and Needham.

A powerpoint presentation was viewed.

Mr. Lopes explained a strong transmission line is vital to the safety, security, and economic prosperity of the Greater Boston region, noting the transmission system

serves a critical role to ensuring that electricity flows with a high degree of reliability to where power is needed. He commented on a recent study, and ways to proactively address inadequate transmission resources to serve the electrical needs in the Great Boston and Southern New Hampshire area.

Mr. Nicotera said Eversource has worked closely with the Town over the last year, planning the project and determining the preferred route of the new transmission lines. He said the project consists of both overhead and underground sections of transmission line from West Roxbury to Needham, including 2.5 miles of new underground cable construction located primarily in public streets generally between the Valley Road area and Chestnut Street. Maps of the area were shown. Mr. Nicotera said the preferred route of the new lines requires State approval, as well as the approval of the Town and the Park and Recreation Commission, as an easement is necessary at the point that the lines cross Town property near Route 128. He said a traffic management plan will be developed with the Town maintaining access to businesses, residences, and for pedestrian safety. Mr. Nicotera said prior to starting the project Eversource will communicate and work closely with neighbors in the community throughout the process by providing door to door outreach, informational mailings, door hangings, advertisements, and website project updates. He said input from residents and business owners is welcome. He commented Eversource is in the process of preparing the final petition, including seeking environmental permits from various government agencies. Mr. Nicotera said two open houses will be held; one on March 23, 2016 in Boston and one on March 30, 2016 at the Broadmeadow School. He said construction is anticipated to commence in the summer 2017 continuing over an 18-month period, with completion by the end of 2018.

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager indicated the preferred route includes an easement over Park and Recreation land, requiring approval of the Park and Recreation Commission and Town Meeting. She said Mr. Lopes and Mr. Nicotera will meet with the Park and Recreation Commission on Monday, March 14, 2016.

Mr. Handel asked how tall and how close will the towers be to residential property?

Mr. Nicotera said 2 towers will be located west of Route 128. He said a transition tower will be located at or around the Valley Road cul-de-sac, the point at which the transmission wires go from overhead to underground. He said the tower will be no closer than the current tower, commenting there is space in between what will be the new towers and the existing remaining towers. He said the 2.5 miles of underground construction is estimated to be 6-7 months.

Mr. Bulian asked for a larger map of the area of Valley Road, Peacedale Road, and Intervale Road. Mr. Bulian said he will review the map in detail after the hearing and make sure residents know about the March 30, 2016 informational meeting.

Mr. Borrelli said using door hangings is a great way to communicate with residents. Mr. Nicotera said a mailing will be sent to residents via a certified abutters list detailing the March 30, 2016 Open House. Ms. Fitzpatrick said at the request of the Town of Needham, Eversource has included all residents along the existing transmission right-of-way so that they have an understanding of what is happening. Mr. Lopes pointed out the Open Houses are not required by the Department of Public Utilities, but rather Eversource feels it needs to engage the community at the start of the project. He said advertisements will appear in the local newspapers and the Boston Globe. Mr. Lopes said his contact information will be made available in all communications.

Mr. Borrelli asked about a traffic detour plan. Mr. Nicotera said final design is not yet complete, but minor detouring is typical with approval by the Town.

Ms. Cooley asked if the project will overlap with other scheduled projects? Ms. Fitzpatrick said the project will commence after other major construction projects.

The Board thanked Mr. Lopes and Mr. Nicotera for the presentation.

7:35 p.m.

Appointments and Consent Agenda:

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

**APPOINTMENTS No Appointments were made at this meeting.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Public Health Department's Gift of Warmth Fund: \$6,000 from the Needham Community Council, and \$1,000 from the First Baptist Church in Needham.**
- 2. Accept a donation of \$25 made to the Needham Police Department's Car Safety Seat Installation Program from Vivian Bendix, a Framingham resident.**
- 3. Accept a gift of \$250 made to the Needham Police Department from Jonathan T. Lee, a Needham resident.**
- 4. Approve a One Day Special Wines & Malt Beverages License for Hannah M. Mecaskey of The Last Call Foundation to host its "Bowl for a Cause" event at the Needham Bowlway, 16 Chestnut Street, Needham, on Thursday, March 10, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**
- 5. Approve a One Day Special Wines & Malt Beverages License for Nicki Ramshaw, of Needham Community Theatre, Inc. to host its 60th Anniversary Reception at the Needham Historical Society, 1147 Central Avenue, on Friday, April 1, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**
- 6. Authorize the Town Manager to appoint David Davison as Acting Town Manager for the period March 23 through April 10, 2016, and to authorize Christopher Coleman to serve as Acting Town Manger in the event that David Davison is unable to perform the duties of Acting Town Manager for any reason.**

7. **Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1213**
8. **Approve a One Day Special Wines & Malt Beverages License for Barry Goldemberg, of Restaurant Associates at TripAdvisor, to host the Needham Community Council's 86th Annual Celebration event on Thursday, March 24, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. TripAdvisor is located at 400 First Avenue, Needham.**
9. **Approve a request from Elana Sable of The Walker School to have its "Walk/Run for Walker" event on Sunday, October 2, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Walkers/Runners will participate in either a one mile or three mile walk/run through town. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments: DPW, Police, Fire, and Park and Recreation.**
10. **Approve road event form from Stephen Mortimer of Needham Baseball and Softball, to hold its opening day parade in Needham on May 1, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments: DPW, Police, Fire, and Park and Recreation.**
11. **Approve a request from Michelle Harris, of PLGA Foundation d/b/a A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure, to ride a large portion of its "Geared Up for Kids 2016" bike ride through Needham. The bike ride will be starting at 8:00 a.m. at Needham High School and ending at 12:00 p.m. at Needham High School. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments: DPW, Police, Fire, and Park and Recreation.**
12. **Approve minutes of February 19, 2016 and February 23, 2016 meetings.**

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

7:35 p.m.

Community Preservation Committee - Proposals Under Review:

Gary Crossen, Chair and Patty Carey, Director of Park and Recreation consulted with the Board about the projects currently under review by the Community Preservation Committee for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Crossen commented the Seabeds Way Emergency Repairs project has been withdrawn as alternative funding has been identified. He reviewed 7 projects including proposals for a Community Housing Specialist, Memorial Park Drainage, Trail Improvements - Student Conservation Association, Transfer of Funds to Conservation Fund, Rosemary Lake Sediment Removal, and the Rosemary Recreation Complex. Mr. Crossen also commented on a \$1,000,000 placeholder for the purchase of any potential open space parcel. He said currently there is no particular parcel under consideration.

Ms. Cooley asked for clarification on funding of the Trail Improvements - Student Conservation Association and the amount of money currently in the fund. Mr. Crossen said the authorized funding is for 2 years allowing for flexibility in scheduling and projects. Mr. Crossen said the current balance of the fund is just under \$200,000.

Ms. Fitzpatrick reiterated the purpose of the consultation is for the Board to give input to the CPC. She said the Board is already familiar with the projects that involve the capital plan. She noted the Rosemary Lake Sediment Removal project is funding for design, and part of the community's response to storm water and water quality permits. She said the project also has implications on the timing and ability of the Town to construct the Rosemary Pool within the lake.

Mr. Borrelli commented he supports all the projects. He noted the Memorial Park Drainage and the Rosemary Recreation Complex, and that he is grateful to the CPC for its consideration, as the projects are very important to the Town.

Mr. Crossen stated there is some desire by the CPC and some stakeholders to understand how the Rosemary Pool Complex and other capital needs fits together before voting on the project in a few weeks. He asked the Board for additional input. Mr. Crossen said the Community Preservation Committee will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 7:30 at Town Hall, and will vote on March 23, 2016.

7:40 p.m.

Public Hearing - Regulation of Food Trucks and Carts:

Mr. Handel said the purpose of the public hearing is to gather input with respect to the Board of Selectmen's policy on food trucks and other vendors in Town, not to hold a public hearing on a Citizen's Petition. He said the matter of the Citizen's Petition will be heard before Town Meeting in May 2016.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Board adopted a goal of reviewing its policy on food trucks to determine whether there are any changes that should be made based on feedback and comments from the community. She said some stakeholders from different Boards met over the fall and came up with some questions to ask the Board of Selectmen, where they may want to see changes in the policy, or even perhaps amendments in the Town by-laws. Ms. Fitzpatrick noted the amount of pending construction in Needham Crossing and the one good location for food trucks is probably ok for this summer. She said there are a couple of other places on the right-of-way that could be considered but none rose to the level of making sense right now. She commented conversation also centered on whether people wanted to see the policy expanded beyond the underserved area. She considered the difference between a food truck and food cart, and the possibility of locating in areas with pedestrian access. She commented on the possibility of food trucks and/or carts at athletic events, sidewalk sales, and the July 4th celebration. Ms. Fitzpatrick commented on a possible food truck rally held once a year or "food truck Friday" at Claxton Field. She said many of the ideas would require a change to the Town by-law which limits where hawkers and peddlers can set up.

Mr. Handel explained the reason the Board adopted a policy with respect to the issue was because it was mindful of the efforts the Town has made over the last several years to enhance the viability of the downtown businesses, especially the restaurants which have blossomed and made Needham a "go to" place. He said the

Board was mindful of not creating a situation unfair to restaurants. He noted much public comment and discussion on the issue has already occurred.

Mr. Handel invited Devra Bailin, Director of Economic Development and Peter Atallah, member of the Council of Economic Advisors to comment. Ms. Bailin referred to a letter date February 24, 2016 to the Board of Selectmen from the Council of Economic Advisors outlining concerns with respect to allowing food trucks in the downtown and Avery Square. She said the CEA is concerned about the unfair nature of competition. She said many restaurants struggle for lunch trade and pay considerable rent, taxes, and permitting fees. She said by allowing food trucks to be placed in close proximity to “brick and mortar” establishments is unfair and detrimental to other businesses in the downtown. Ms. Bailin said the CEA is concerned about using public parking spaces to accommodate food trucks. Mr. Atallah said the CEA understands the interest in having food trucks, but there needs to be a balance with existing retail vendors.

Mr. Handel opened the public hearing.

Letiana Yin-Tate, General Manager, Bertucci’s is opposed to food trucks in downtown Needham. She agreed with Ms. Bailin, that restaurants struggle for lunch business while employing staff under all conditions.

Steve Waller, Owner, Center Cafe said he and his wife are not against food trucks in underserved areas of Needham (DeFazio and Memorial Fields) or at athletic events. He said he is concerned about the overall personality and look of Needham, and is opposed to food trucks in the downtown and Avery Square.

Diane Wang, Partner, Gari Restaurant said her experience has shown a 10% drop in business in Brookline when food trucks were allowed to operate. She shared her concern about parking and traffic, and said she is opposed to allowing food trucks in Needham.

Doug Fox, 43 Marked Tree Road said food trucks are the fastest growing sector of the restaurant industry, with \$2.7 billion in sales expected in 2017. He commented Needham had the start of a thriving food truck business until regulations were put in place and included a \$1000 fee. He said the fee is 2 times the fee paid in Boston for much more volume. He referred to a survey he conducted on-line in which 446 Needham residents responded, commenting 83.79% of respondents said they wanted more access to food trucks, while 73.39% of the respondents said they wanted food truck access in Needham Center or Needham Heights. He said 72.58% of respondents support sacrificing 2 to 4 parking spaces for trucks. Mr. Fox agreed there is an amazing restaurant scene in Needham, but said there is a lack of fast, casual, take out establishments. He said he does not want food trucks to compete with local restaurants, but rather keep people from going to fast, casual, chain restaurants outside of Needham. Mr. Fox commented on the fear of restaurants going out of business because of a couple of food trucks, pointing out Needham

survived for 10 years with the “hot dog guy.” He urged the Board consider paying for a proper survey to gather additional data. He said it is important elected officials meet the needs of the citizens and not just the needs of the businesses.

Michael Niden, 79 Maple Street read a letter from Aaron Krug, Owner, 3 Squares restaurant who opposes allowing food trucks in Needham. Mr. Niden said he is an active organizer of the Great Hall concert series saying 50% of funding comes from sponsors. He said if restaurants lose money due to food trucks, the Great Hall concert series will lose sponsorships. Mr. Niden said too many people would be affected.

Glenn Mulno, 40 Morten Street is opposed to allowing food trucks in Needham Center, Needham Heights, or DeFazio Field. He suggested a compromise suggesting Memorial Field may be a good location when the parking lot is not in use.

Kevin Tortorella, Owner, Boston’s Baddest Burger and Sandwich Company said the food truck industry will not set up in where they are not welcome. He commented there are many risks as a food truck owner and that his business survives in industrial areas, not in downtown locations. He said many types of subcontractors, including plumbers and electricians, work in Needham without paying any fee and millions of dollars of food is delivered by FEDEX, UPS, and Amazon.

Ron Stoloff, 48 Linden Street, Owner, Blue Ribbon BBQ (restaurants and food truck) said competition is good. He said restaurants have competitive advantages such as shelter from the weather and bathrooms, noting the food truck season is typically limited to nicer weather. He said he appreciates the concern restaurant owners have about competition, but competition is good. He commented there is a segment of the population not being served by “brick and mortar” restaurants and food trucks would enhance the dining experience in Needham.

Konstantina Choros, Owner, Sweet Corner said Needham has a population of 30,000 residents and less than 500 people responded to the survey done by Doug Fox. She said it is not a good sample of what Needham residents really want. She said many of her customers do not want food trucks and it would be unfair to her business. She commented she gives back to the community by supporting various organizations and if food trucks are allowed, she will not be able to continue to do so. Ms. Choros pointed out that while she can provide shelter and a bathroom, they come at a cost to heat and provide air conditioning.

Robert Larson, 150 Tudor Road said it is important to support the health and vitality of the mercantile businesses. He said customers to shops would diminish by the intrusion of any other kind of commerce, and is self defeating. Mr. Larson said he does not feel Needham needs any food trucks as there are plenty of places to eat.

Ford Peckham, 26 Lawton Road is opposed to food trucks or carts in the downtown or Avery Square. He is concerned about traffic and the danger for pedestrians. He said the Citizen's Petition is using a political process to get an economical advantage, and is just plain wrong.

Brian Weinstein, 79 South Street said he is a proponent for a less restrictive approach to food trucks in Needham Center. He said the food trucks would provide residents quick, healthy food options. He acknowledged the downside of more traffic. He said expanding food truck regulations is good for business. He commented the farmers market did not decimate Roche Brothers or Sudbury Farms. He suggested a compromise.

Steve Gilman, Sante Mobile Farmhouse Cafe said his business is based in Needham, and would love to do business in the Town, but not necessarily by being parked outside a restaurant everyday. He said he is not looking to hurt anyone's business in any way, but wants to add value to Needham. He said competition is a good thing and forces people to do better. He commented exploring different areas of Needham on an interim basis, perhaps starting with special or athletic events. He suggested a food truck festival would be a step in the right direction.

Steve Rosenstock, 44 Bess Road said he favors competition but that it must be fair and equal. He said having a food truck at special events or festivities would enhance the program, but he is not in favor of food trucks on a regular basis. He said there is too much traffic already and would interfere with the impending streetscape project. Mr. Rosenstock said he does not object to a canteen truck at a construction site, but is opposed to having food trucks on an on-going basis.

Paul Good, 30 Walnut Street, member of the Needham Business Association said the Board of the NBA voted not to support the Citizen's Petition. He said food trucks have a function within Needham, but must be in an appropriate way. He said there are economic contributions from individual businesses to the Town through many charitable donations and by hiring workers.

Olivia Fraini, 58 Spring Road said food trucks would bring a variety of affordable dining options to Needham, especially for teens looking for a quick meal.

Greg Reibman, President, Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce, supports the food truck regulations adopted in 2013. He said he opposes expanding the regulations because "brick and mortar" restaurants pay taxes and other fees in excess of what food truck operators would contribute. He noted restaurants provide jobs and are always willing to help when civic and youth groups look for donations and volunteers. He said the vibrancy of "brick and mortar" establishments is essential to the success of the downtown streetscape project, retailers, and services. He noted the Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voted unanimously, with 1 abstention, to oppose expansion of the regulations. Mr. Reibman urged the Board of Selectmen to do the same.

Mr. Handel asked for Board comment.

Mr. Bulian said he is a fan of food trucks, but acknowledged not every downtown is appropriate for food trucks. He said the Board of Selectmen, working with other Town boards, has worked hard over the years to create an environment that has led to the attraction of restaurants in the downtown. He said having food trucks in the downtown is not a fair playing field. Mr. Bulian said for the Town to give up 4 parking spaces in prime downtown isn't fair. He acknowledged the interest in food trucks, but cautioned a thoughtful, careful approach is needed. He noted Town Meeting approved the streetscape project beginning in July 2016. Mr. Bulian said after full build out of Needham Crossing it may make sense to have food trucks as part of the ability to feed the population working in the area.

Mr. Borrelli said it is the job of the Board of Selectmen to balance the needs of citizens and businesses. He said rent, overhead, commercial taxes, sponsorships, jobs, and the money spent in Needham leads him to believe that "brick and mortar" businesses must be protected. Mr. Borrelli suggested a food truck day or at events at Claxton and DeFazio Fields.

Ms. Cooley said she favors loosening food truck restrictions, but not in Needham Center or Avery Square.

Mr. Matthews challenged the notion there is not affordable, healthy options available in Needham. He said food trucks serve a purpose for quick, seasonal, vacation, or special events. Mr. Matthews recognized the rapid expansion of delivery, which he said is another reason for him to not get the Town government to favor one group over another, in terms of public resources. He suggested calling "brick and mortar" establishments "fixed location" restaurants and food trucks "mobile/temporary" facility. He commented he does not believe Town government is protecting the "fixed location" restaurant, but rather regulating them. He said the cost to open an ice cream store is expensive and many "amenities" are actually required mandates. He commented the food offered by food trucks may not be different from what is already available from restaurants. He noted Town regulations were put in place decades ago, noting the limited number of drive thru restaurants. Mr. Matthews said if the food truck industry is as big and profitable as purported be, then a \$1000 annual fee should not be an obstacle. He commented all the fixed location restaurants, except in rare occurrences, are all on private property. He said there has to be an awfully strong reason to take a public space and provide it for a temporary business. Mr. Matthews said Needham's restaurants are highly regulated and required to do many things at their own expense in order to do business in the Town. He said he would not look to expanding food trucks, but the idea of having them in certain places could be considered.

Mr. Handel said establishing a business in the downtown is an arduous, time consuming, and expensive process because zoning governs land use, and not

activity that happens on the street. He said the by-law does not allow for fast food in the downtown, and by any definition a food truck is fast food. Mr. Handel said the Board is interested in finding ways to accommodate the need for food alternatives at sporting and private events in Needham in a way that preserves the viability of the downtown. He pointed out the streetscape project is set to begin in July 2016 in the downtown and continue for 3 or 4 years. He challenged the notion that food served from a food truck is healthy. Mr. Handel asked for a motion to continue the public hearing until March 22, 2016.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to continue the Public Hearing - Regulation of Food Trucks & Carts until March 22, 2016.**

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

The Board recessed for 2 minutes.

9:00 p.m. Planning & Community Development Projects Presentation - Center 128 and 2nd Avenue Residences:

Lee Newman, Director of Planning & Community Development appeared before the Board with an update on the Center 128 East, Center 128 West, and 2nd Avenue Residences projects located in the area of Needham Crossing. A Powerpoint presentation was viewed showing aerial photographs and maps. She spoke about the existing conditions of the parcel and the the overall urban design plan for the 3 individual pieces of land. Ms. Newman said the project includes 4 new office buildings, 1 structured parking garage, 2 hotels, 2 renovated General Dynamics buildings, and a residential development of 390 units of housing. She said the project is expected to last approximately 5 years.

Mr. Handel thanked Ms. Newman for the presentation. Ms. Newman said it has been exciting to be to be involved in zoning which started in 2001 and with highway improvements, she said the infrastructure is ready to be implemented. She said the Town was smart in its planning to take advantage of its strategic position.

Mr. Matthews commented on zoning and asked how retail service fits within the project. Ms. Newman said it is hoped that once the housing and jobs are created, the demand for retail will follow.

Mr. Borrelli said Needham is very lucky to have Ms. Newman and various boards and committees working together to move the project along. He thanked Ms. Newman for her work.

Mr. Bulian commented it is a phenomenal project and the presentation shows what the future holds in Needham Crossing.

Ms. Fitzpatrick commented it is “Needham Rising.”

Mr. Handel commented Needham is viewed as a model for dealing with development in a timely and effective way. He thanked Ms. Newman for the presentation.

9:15 p.m. Water Bill Credit:  
Dave Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Finance and Evelyn Poness, Treasurer/Collector discussed the current outlook for utility rates for next year and the recommendation for a one-time water rate credit for the 4th quarter.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board authorize a one-time \$90.00 flat rate credit for residential regular water accounts billed during the fourth quarter of FY2016.**

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

9:20 p.m. Town Manager:  
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager appeared before the Board with 3 items to discuss:

1. Determination of Unique Status

Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Town is contemplating the acquisition of the property known as 609 Central Avenue for educational use. She said the parcel is immediately adjacent to property acquired by the Town that will be the location of a new elementary school to replace the Hillside School, and the proposed acquisition will benefit the design of the project. In accordance of M.G.L. c. 30B, 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.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to determine that in the case of the proposed acquisition of 609 Central Avenue, 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 is immediately adjacent to property acquired by the Town that will be the location of a new elementary school to replace the Hillside School, and the acquisition will benefit the design of the project.**

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

2. Sister City Arrangement - Daxing, Beijing, PCR

Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Daxing District, Beijing has invited Moe Handel, Matt Borrelli, and Ms. Fitzpatrick to visit Daxing as part of a cultural exchange. She said the visit is intended to expand the "sister city" relationship that has developed between the Daxing and Needham School Districts to incorporate the general government side of each community. Ms. Fitzpatrick provided the Board with a description of the purpose of the trip and votes required for acceptance of reimbursement of expenses for Town officials by a third party. Ms. Fitzpatrick said The Needham Channel will also take part in the visit and film a documentary of the trip.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to authorize the Town Manager to sign a sister city letter of intent with the Mayor of Daxing District, Beijing, PRC to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the two communities, and to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a Form for Disclosure by Non-Elected Public Employee of Travel Expenses Serving a Legitimate Public Purpose as required by 930 CMR 5.08 (2)(d)1, finding that the acceptance of the reimbursement, waiver or payment of travel expenses will serve a legitimate public purpose, and will promote the interests of the Town of Needham, and that such public purpose outweighs any special non-work related benefit to the Town officials or the person providing the reimbursement, waiver or payment.**

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

3. 2016 Annual Town Meeting

Ms. Fitzpatrick discussed the revised Annual Town Meeting Warrant and asked the Board for its endorsement of several changes. The changes affect Article 10 - Appropriate For Emergency Preparedness Program, Article 43 - Appropriate For General Fund Cash Capital, and removal of Article 50 - Appropriate To Capital Improvement Fund and Article 51 - Appropriate To Capital Facility Fund, both of which she said would appear in the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to approve the proposed changes to the 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.**

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

9:30 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports

No Committee Reports were made at this meeting.

9:35 p.m. Executive Session - (Exceptions 2 and 3):

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session.**

**Exception 2 - To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel.**

**Exception 3 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.**

**Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.**

**Second: Mr. Borrelli. Mr. Handel polled the Board. 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=>**

Note: Meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.