

**Town of Needham  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes for September 20, 2016  
Powers Hall  
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens:  
Paul Murray, 109 Garden Street and Robin Gamrath-Schauman, 11 Glover Road, Co-chairs of YES For Needham Schools Override Campaign Committee introduced themselves to the Board and relayed their plan for reaching out to the community for support of an override to fund construction of a new Hillside School at 585 Central Avenue, Needham. The vote is scheduled for November 8, 2016.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:  
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman Matthew D. Borrelli. Those present were Maurice P. Handel, Marianne B. Cooley, Daniel P. Matthews, John A. Bulian, Assistant Town Manager/Personnel Christopher Coleman, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt. Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick was not present.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing: Verizon and Eversource Energy - 1015-1019 Central Avenue  
Mr. Borrelli said notice from an abutter was received questioning the proposal. He asked for a motion to postpone the agenda item to later in evening until the abutter is in attendance.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to postpone Public Hearing: Verizon and Eversource Energy - 1015-1019 Central Avenue until later in the evening.**

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

Mr. Matthews noted Rick Merson, DPW Director will meet with the concerned parties and the Verizon Representative prior to appearing before the Board of Selectmen.

7:01 p.m. Commercial Single Stream Recycling Rates & RTS Update:  
Dave Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Finance, Rick Merson, Director of Public Works, Gregory Smith, Superintendent of Solid Waste and Recycling, and Jeff Heller, Chair, Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling Advisory Committee appeared before the Board to discuss the fee for single stream recycling brought to the RTS by commercial haulers and to update the Board on RTS operations.

Mr. Davison commented how the recycling market has changed significantly over the last couple of years from a high demand revenue generation operation to a cost item for the Town, particularly in single stream recycling. He said the Town is being charged to have single stream product taken away, and is looking to recover

some of the costs by instituting a fee for single stream recycling brought to the RTS by commercial haulers. He told the Board RTS staff researched what other communities in the area charge and presented the findings to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, noting the SWAC is recommending adoption of the fee.

**Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board approve a Commercial Single Stream Recycling fee of \$45 per ton to become effective on October 1, 2016.**

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

Greg Smith, Superintendent of Solid Waste and Recycling updated the Board on improvements made by staff at the RTS. A powerpoint presentation was viewed. He highlighted items including residential and commercial stickers and the number of residents utilizing the facility, traffic counts taken twice a year, recycling revenues and tonnages, food waste and compost revenues, and RTS improvements comprised of composting, a temporary employee trailer, signage, a new electronic message board on Central Avenue, privacy screening along Central Avenue, gabion wall repair, sharps disposal shed, DEP grants, efforts made with sister communities to bring food waste to Needham, storm water management, household hazardous collection scheduled for October 15, 2015 from 8 a.m. - noon, and outreach to the community during the Needham Harvest Fair to be held on Saturday, October 1, 2016.

Mr. Borrelli thanked Mr. Smith for the presentation and noted the dramatic changes at the RTS over the last few years.

7:40 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 a \$1,500 donation made to the Needham Health Department's Substance Abuse Prevention & Education Program from the Needham High School PTC.
2. Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1223
3. Approve Minutes of September 6, 2016.
4. Grant permission for the Needham Business Association to use the Town Common and surrounding area for its Harvest Fair and Souper Bowl on Saturday, October 1, 2016. Permission includes: Set up Booths on the Town Common; use of the parking lot behind Town Hall for kids activities and portable toilets (to be delivered and picked up on the same day); close Chapel Street from the corner of Great Plain Ave. to the Chapel Street parking lot for Souper Bowl Tent, the food court and The Red Sox Showcase; they may set up approximately 10 merchant booths on Garrity Way due to closure of the sidewalk on Great Plain Avenue. The Town will install a temporary walkway around the area adjacent to the common on the Great Plain Ave. side if ongoing construction blocks traffic; erect a tent to host the soup tasting contest on Chapel Street; use the Town's generator to supply

the electricity for the Souper Bowl and Food Court; use the outlets on the town common (in the dog house and next to the Blue Tree to power booths in that area); DJ in front of Town Hall on Garrity Way; free parking for meters downtown; NBA member businesses may have items for sale on sidewalk in front of their own stores; Hayride that will run from Highland Avenue by the Town Common, will loop around the town, and return to the Town Common; and any changes as recommended by the Needham Police Department.

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

Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Date	Party Time
Ratify - Carol Kallus	54 Fuller Brook Avenue	Howe Avenue	9/17/16	9/18/16	4pm-10pm
Ratify - Seth Bauer	59 Ridgeway Ave	Ridgeway and Newbury Park intersection	9/18/16	N/A	3pm-6pm
Ratify - Jill Oetheimer	75 Coolidge Ave	Mid block of Coolidge Ave	9/18/16	10/3/16	4:30pm-7:30pm
James Rochford	74 Rolling Lane	Rolling Lane	9/24/16	10/1/16	3pm-7pm
Kristen Young	130 Hoover Road	Hoover Road between Webster and Maning	9/24/16	9/25/16	4pm-8pm
Kelly Allen	103 Sylvan Road	Harding Road	9/25/16	N/A	2pm-6pm
Amy Hurley	154 South Street	Green St & Needhamdale	9/25/16	10/2/16	3:30pm-8pm
Kristen Mazzocchi	67 Woodlawn Ave	On Woodlawn from middle to end by Powers	10/1/16	10/15/16	3pm-6:30pm
Lori Whyte Fernandez	19 Bradford Street	Cleveland & Bradford Street Corner	10/16/16	N/A	4pm-7pm
Kevin Keane	88 Lexington Ave	Burnside Ave, between Lexington and Concord Ave	10/28/16	10/29/16	7pm-10pm
Seema Pandya	43 Valley Road	7 Intervale Driveway	10/29/16	10/30/16	12pm-6pm
Chrissy McCourt	181 Richdale Road	80 Richdale Rd	10/30/16	N/A	3pm-7pm

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

7:41 p.m.

Public Hearing: Verizon and Eversource Energy - 1015-1019 Central Avenue  
Ed Davis, Verizon Representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to relocate existing joint owned pole #128 approximately 42 feet easterly and place one new jointly owned pole at 1015-1019 Central Avenue, Needham. He said the pole relocation is requested by the owner to allow access to a new roadway and to continue the existing services to the area.

Mr. Borrelli noted concern on the part of some abutters. He asked if the issue has been resolved? Mr. Davis said he believed the issue has been resolved, and that the concern was due to a prior truck accident at the location in which electric wires were pulled down causing extensive damage to homes. He said when construction is complete, the utility company must make sure the sag in the wires crossing the street to service the homes meets the required height.

Mr. Borrelli invited public comment.

Al Dore, 1018 Central Avenue said his main concern is safety due to a past incident.

Walter Pavasaris, 7 Meetinghouse Circle said safety is his main concern, noting the incident a few years ago was an unanticipated cost. He said he wants to be assured the job will be done properly.

Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Operations stated all paperwork is in order on the application.

Mr. Borrelli asked for Board comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from Verizon and Eversource Energy to relocate existing jointly owned pole #128 approximately 42 feet easterly and place one new jointly owned pole at 1015-1019 Central Avenue, Needham. This pole relocation is requested by the owner to allow access to a new roadway and to continue the existing services to the area as shown on the attached plan.

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

Mr. Borrelli pointed out to Mr. Davis the Town will want to relocate a pole on Mark Lee Road in the near future.

7:45 p.m.

DPW Feasibility Study Public Hearing:

Mr. Borrelli commented tonight's presentation is an update previously presented to the PPBC, noting abutters voiced concern about the use of Parcel 74 as a temporary, seasonal storage site for the DPW. He said public comments were taken under advisement and he has determined the proposal is unsatisfactory. He asked for a motion to remove Parcel 74 from consideration as a temporary DPW facility site at Parcel 74.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to remove Parcel 74 from consideration for use as part of the DPW Feasibility Study.**

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

Jeff Alberti and Mike Richard, Weston and Sampson, Steve Popper, Director of Design and Construction, and Rick Merson, Director of Public Works appeared before the Board with an update on the progress of the DPW feasibility study since the last report on July 19, 2016.

Mr. Popper said Weston and Sampson was hired by the PPBC for a study to assess the need and phasing of a modernized DPW facility. He said the study is complete and he invited representatives from Weston and Sampson to present their findings.

Jeff Alberti, Program Manager briefly discussed the history of the project. He discussed the responsibilities of the DPW in serving the community and why the Town needs a new facility. A Powerpoint presentation was viewed, including schematics for a new facility. He commented on the Town's master plan completed in 2006, which identified deficiencies in the existing facility including size and ability to meet the needs of the Town. He noted the master plan, updated in 2014 reaffirmed the need for a new facility to meet current building code standards. He said in 2015 Town Meeting approved appropriation for the monies for the study, at which point Weston and Sampson was hired. Mr. Alberti highlighted key operations provided to the community by the DPW including maintaining the infrastructure residents rely on everyday. He noted DPW staff are on call 24/7 to handle incidents and emergencies around Needham, including snow and ice removal, hurricane and windstorm clean up, removal of road hazards, and help from flooding. He commented since 2009 the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has identified Public Works as an emergency responder. Mr. Alberti said a new facility needs to take into consideration the effectiveness and efficiency of the operation, noting there are 14 different locations throughout Needham accommodating DPW operations or storage of equipment. Mr. Alberti commented on unsafe working conditions inside the current building, which he said is not ADA accessible or code compliant. Mr. Alberti said 2 potential sites were evaluated including the RTS site at 1421 Central Avenue and the current DPW site on Dedham Avenue. He said an undeveloped parcel of land at the RTS site was the focus of the study, but due to wetlands, topography, and traffic it was determined not to be a viable site. Mr. Alberti said the parcel however, could be suitable for DPW yard storage in the future. Mr. Alberti commented the current DPW site on Dedham Avenue is a viable site and showed a street view of a proposed new facility.

Mr. Borrelli invited public comment.

Ford Peckham, 26 Lawton Road said it is critical for a new building to have a washing facility to extend the life of vehicles. He asked the estimated cost of the

project. Mr. Popper said cost estimates are expected to be in the range of \$30 million.

Lois Sockol, 611 Greendale Avenue asked whether the RTS site was considered as a possible site for seasonal storage. Mr. Borrelli said the consultant noted in the report that use of the undeveloped portion of land at the RTS site is viable as a potential storage site.

Jill Kahn-Boesel, 44 Brookline Street commented on the clear cutting at Parcel 74 and asked why so many trees were taken down? She showed the Board photos of Parcel 74. She asked whether the temporary fire station at Parcel 74 has also been removed from consideration. Mr. Borrelli said the Town has no intent or desire for a temporary fire station at Parcel 74. He said other options are being explored. He said the Town is not currently doing any work on Parcel 74, and asked Mr. Merson for comment. Mr. Merson said a drainage project was done as part of the remediation for some of the work done from the Labor Day storm in 2013. Mr. Matthews clarified with Mr. Merson the Town has no current activity on Parcel 74.

Mr. Borrelli asked for Board comment.

Mr. Handel asked about the parking lot configuration at Dedham Avenue and the number of spaces lost if the old water pumping building were to be retained for a new use. Mike Richard said reuse of the building would result in less parking. Mr. Handel asked if other functions, in addition to seasonal storage, could be relocated to the RTS site to allow for a future school at DeFazio. Mr. Richard said the recommendation would be to not break up core DPW operations.

Ms. Cooley asked about transitioning current operations to a new facility. Mr. Richard said the project would be constructed in 2 phases. He commented having seasonal storage at the RTS site or other site would give the Town some flexibility.

Mr. Borrelli said the next steps include further consideration of the RTS site. Mr. Popper said it is anticipated there will be closure on the location of the seasonal storage, noting it is critical to the following phases. He also noted the need for further design work by Weston and Sampson if the Town wishes to implement the plan.

Mr. Borrelli said the public hearing portion of the discussion will remain open for residents to submit email or written comments.

8:30 p.m.

Representative Update:

Denise Garlick, State Representative appeared before the Board with an update on the upcoming legislative year and her work as Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs.

Ms. Garlick introduced new staff members Robert Reed, Chief of Staff and Anne Weinstein, District Director, as well as Barry Hock, Legal Counsel and Research Director, Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, Ellie Spring, Project Manager, and Rebecca Ruskin, Administrative Aide.

A Powerpoint presentation was viewed.

Ms. Garlick said lately she has been thinking of Needham as the four “T’s” - trees, trains, transportation, and any troubles that may arise. She said she continues as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, meeting with the Council on Aging and with seniors in Town in one of the faith communities. Ms. Garlick commented constituent services remain most important to her, and will now be reinforced by the work of Ms. Weinstein. Ms. Garlick commented on the Eversource Vegetation Management Plan, thanking the Town for mobilizing staff. She said it was the most comprehensive and professional effort by any community in the Commonwealth to deal with the Eversource Vegetation Management Plan, noting only necessary trees were removed, unlike other communities that were clear cut. Ms. Garlick said her efforts to bring the Legislative Aide to Needham as a full time resource for residents was helpful. Ms. Garlick commented on the Needham MBTA commuter line. She said she will continue working to seek solutions with the MBTA and Keolis around scheduling and idling. Ms. Garlick noted it is difficult to get into Boston on the train and by highway, noting the conundrum of efforts over the last 20 years are now happening all at the same time. She acknowledged the opening of the new Kendrick Street ramp. Ms. Garlick said planning and communication are key issues for commuters. Ms. Garlick commended Mr. Matthews for his leadership on the effort to build a new Minuteman Regional High School. Mr. Matthews commented many people in Needham and surrounding towns helped in the effort, and he thanked everyone. He announced unofficial referendum results: 1844 “YES” votes and 164 “NO” votes. Ms. Garlick said as Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs she has traveled around the Commonwealth meeting with residents regarding public policy to craft legislation to address the needs of all older adults. Ms. Garlick shared the 2015-2016 legislative highlights including various bills brought to the floor of the Legislature. Ms. Garlick discussed the budget process. She commented on the increase in Chapter 70 state aid, money related to the Special Education circuit breaker, and the increase in Chapter 90 unrestricted general government aid. Ms. Garlick spoke about her effort to secure \$104,000 for a new stretcher for the Needham Fire Department. She also commented on her work to obtain \$75,000 for Cutler Park.

Ms. Garlick concluded by providing her contact information.

Mr. Borrelli thanked Ms. Garlick for her work and asked if the Board had any questions or comments.

Mr. Matthews commented on the extraordinary amount of constituent services provided by Ms. Garlick and her staff. He thanked her for her work.

9:00 p.m. Town Manager:  
Mr. Coleman appeared before the Board with 1 item to discuss:

1. Positions on Warrant Articles:

Article 1 - defer

**Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to support Article 4 - Amend Zoning By-law Height Limitation Exception in the October 5, 2016 Special Town Meeting Warrant.**

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

**Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to support Article 5 - Amend Zoning By-law Definition of Basement in the October 5, 2016 Special Town Meeting Warrant.**

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

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to support Article 6 - Amend the FY2017 Operating Budget in the October 5, 2016 Special Town Meeting Warrant.**

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

9:08 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports

Mr. Matthews unofficially reported the vote on the Minuteman High School appears to have a 2 to 1 majority in support of the referendum. He thanked everyone for their help on the issue.

Mr. Handel reported he will be representing the Board of Selectmen at the October 26, 2016 meeting of Metropolitan Area Planning Council. He requested a proxy from Mr. Borrelli in order to vote in new members to the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Borrelli said he will give Mr. Handel a proxy.

9:10 p.m. Executive Session: (Exceptions 3 & 6)

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

**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.**

**Exception 6 - To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.**

Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.



**Second: Mr. Handel. Mr. Borrelli 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: The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.