

**Select Board Special Meeting Agenda**  
**4:00 p.m. August 3, 2022**  
**Memorial Park Field House (Second Floor)**  
**92 Rosemary Street**  
**&**  
**Zoom**

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Webinar ID: 852 4605 5366

<b>1.</b>	Review FY 2022-23 Goals
<b>2.</b>	Review Feedback from Boards & Committees & Members of the Public
<b>3.</b>	Review proposed additional goals for FY 2023-24
<b>4.</b>	Discuss prioritization of goals

**APPOINTMENTS**

1.	Helen Newton	Taxation Aid Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2025
2.	Jonathan Robbins	Taxation Aid Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2025

**CONSENT AGENDA      \*=Backup attached**

1.*	Approve a One Day Special License for Jeffrey Rimpas of the PanMass Challenge for Sunday, August 7, 2022. The event will be held at Babson College, 231 Forest Street. All documents are in order. Police and Fire Department have approved the event.
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## Status of FY 2021-22 Select Board Goals

Goal	Initiative	Description (as revised by SB 1/11/2022)	Updates - July 2022	Status - July 2022
1 - Livable	1.1	Seek Funding for Ridge Hill Building Demolition.	October 2021 STM approved funding for this project (Article 6). The bids received were higher than the appropriation. The project will be bid again in time for the October 2022 STM and additional funding will be requested at that time.	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.2	Begin the Ridge Hill/Nike Assessment Phase 2 Project, including working with the Community Farm to make a decision on the long-term plan for the farm at the site as well as considering potential future uses of the site.	FY2023 project .	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.3	Seek Funding for DPW Facility Refresh.	Town Meeting appropriated \$60,000 under Article 27 of the 2022 ATM.	COMPLETED
1 - Livable	1.4	Participate on the Planning Board's Affordable Housing Study Committee.	Marcus Nelson and Heidi Frail are Select Board appointees. The Working Group will continue into Fall 2022.	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.5	Evaluate RTS Service Delivery Model to Guide Long-term Investment and Review Operational Efficiencies in the Short-term.	Town Meeting appropriated \$50,000 under Article 7 of the 2022 ATM	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.6	Explore options for reducing amount of public litter including General By-law re: Household trash & Funding for trash removal efforts.	TM appropriated funding for park ranger. TM approved bylaw change for illegal disposal of household waste.	COMPLETED
1 - Livable	1.7	Work with stakeholders to manage the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Town of Needham.	Officials are continuing to manage the evolving landscape of COVID-19 impact	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.8	Seek Funding for School Administration Building.	Emery Grover Renovation funding of \$19,400,000 was approved under Article 21 of the 2022 ATM. The contract to prepare Hillside School for temporary offices for school administration was signed June 14, 2022. The construction project will be bid this summer and the PPBC has forecast that additional funding will be required.	COMPLETED
1 - Livable	1.9	Identify funding for School Master Plan projects & Participate in the Planning Process.	Facility Financing WG to reconvene after Labor Day.	ONGOING
1 - Livable	1.10	Review Cheney St. Zoning Referred by TM.	Applicant no longer has an interest in this proposal.	COMPLETED
1 - Livable	1.11	Evaluate use of ARPA Funding for Identified Infrastructure Projects.	The Board has reviewed and approved preliminary project budgets.	ONGOING
2 - Economically Vital	2.1	Evaluate Chestnut Street Redevelopment.	FY2023 project .	ONGOING
2 - Economically Vital	2.2	Identify Relief Programs for Small Businesses through ARPA Funding.	Two rounds of grants have been awarded.	COMPLETED

2 - Economically Vital	2.3	Evaluate Expansion of Snow Removal Efforts, including sidewalk plowing strategies.	FY2023 project.	ONGOING
2 - Economically Vital	2.4	Support Zoning Proposals for Outside Seating.	Article 4 adopted by unanimous consent at the October 25, 2021 STM.	COMPLETED
2 - Economically Vital	2.5	Develop & Implement Regulations Guiding Outdoor Seating.	Select Board policy adopted in October 2021. Implementation is ongoing. State-granted pandemic relief extended until April 2023.	COMPLETED
3 - Accessible & Connected	3.1	Seek Funding for a Parking Study that will evaluate parking needs, options, and types in the business districts and identify technology to manage parking.	Town Meeting appropriated \$135,000 under Article 8 of the 2022 ATM	COMPLETED
3 - Accessible & Connected	3.2	Evaluate the role and composition of the TMAC, Transportation Committee, Rail Trail Advisory Committee and Complete Streets Committee.	Committee recommendation pending Summer 2022.	ONGOING
3 - Accessible & Connected	3.3	Seek Funding for Noise Reduction/Quiet Zone Feasibility & Design.	FY2023-2027 CIP includes funding for design & construction of quad gates at grade crossings.	ONGOING
3 - Accessible & Connected	3.4	Evaluate Future Use of the Rail Corridor between Dover and Newton.	State earmark secured for Heights to Newton study.	ONGOING
3 - Accessible & Connected	3.5	Implement the Downtown Redesign Phase 2.	Select Board held a refresh meeting. A public hearing will be scheduled.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.1	Explore use of ARPA for public Art projects.	Funding approved; NCAC will select a mural artist in Fall 2022.	COMPLETED
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.2	Seek additional funding and expand services for mental and behavioral health needs.	Funding approved for Youth and Aging Services staff and programmatic support.	COMPLETED
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.3	Identify and implement strategies to hire, support and retain diverse staff at every level of the organization; measure efforts and provide quarterly updates on progress.	Expanded recruitment efforts through diversityjobs.com subscription and targeted postings; implemented applicant tracking software that blinds personally identifiable information; hired a consultant to support our Employee Resource Group to support BIPOC staff.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.4	Continue to provide diversity, equity and inclusion professional development opportunities for all staff geared towards deepening understanding and becoming culturally responsive, anti-racist, and anti-biased members of the Needham community.	Contracted with Right to Be to offer two sessions of Active Bystander Training for all Town employees. Contracted with William James College Center for Behavioral Health, Equity, and Leadership to offer a 5-session training series to Town leadership staff (Department Directors and Assistant Directors). Session 1 is completed.	ONGOING

4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.5	Create a framework for how community members can effectively engage in conversations around race, diversity, equity, and inclusion, to build relationships and a stronger understanding of different perspectives and lived experiences.	Convened Planning Group and implemented successful 3-part series, Connections: Cops & Community, held March - June 2022.	COMPLETED
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.6	Make intentional efforts and identify creative ideas for community outreach to diversify the candidate pool for all appointed Boards and Committees; measure progress.	Vacancies continued to be published to community groups e.g. ICON and CFN - potential to include demographic info collection in discussion on appointment policy in FY2023.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.7	Continue NUARI meetings for FY2022, reviewing and providing guidance on recommendations, and provide support to other Boards & Committees on how to apply NUARI principles to their work.	NUARI next steps workshop held June 22, 2022.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.8	Encourage Needham non-profit organizations, civic groups, and businesses to adopt or endorse, as appropriate, the vision statement.	28 Town Boards & Committees and 16 civic groups endorsed the NUARI vision statement.	COMPLETED
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.9	Include a question in the bi-annual Town survey to gauge residents' perceptions of how welcoming and inclusive the Needham community is.	The survey will be presented to the Select Board in July.	COMPLETED
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.10	Provide support to other Boards & Committees on how to apply NUARI principles to their work.	FY2023 project	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.11	Work with the Human Rights Committee to develop a discrimination complaint process and provide forums where individuals feel comfortable discussing their concerns related to diversity, equity, and/or inclusion. Consult with the HRC on their role and next steps.	HRC has drafted a discrimination complaint process, and received feedback from the Chairs. They are making final revisions before presenting to the full Select Board.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.12	Gather information about appropriate acknowledgement of the history of slavery in Needham; ask HRC if this is something that they can take the lead on.	HRC is in touch with the community group working on this. They have not identified a specific project to date.	ONGOING
4 - Healthy and Socially Thriving	4.13	Develop a plan for use of ARPA funding to continue public health response to COVID-19.	Preliminary funding approved.	COMPLETED
5 - Safe	5.1	Actively monitor progress on the law enforcement recommendations that NPD Chief Schlittler presented to the Select Board on June 8, 2021.	The Police Chief updated the Board on the recommendations in October, 2021 and presented NPD's CY2021 Annual Report in March, 2022.	COMPLETED

5 - Safe	5.2	Work with public safety unions to reach agreement on alternatives to the Civil Service system.	The Town and the Police Union and the Superior Officers Union reached agreement for CBA through 2025 which includes agreement on the Town's moving forward with withdrawing from Civil Service.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.1	Meet regularly with other boards and committees.	The Vice Chari is meeting face to face with each committee chair during the reappointment process as a way to re-engage. FY2023 goal of scheduling joint update meetings at SB meetings.	ONGOING
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.1.a	Meet with the Park & Recreation Commission to discuss, among other items, access to bathrooms at fields and playgrounds, consideration of creating a skate park, and upgrading tennis courts and playgrounds.	An initial meeting was held 11/9/2021. Another meeting to be scheduled in Summer 2022.	ONGOING
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.1.b	Meet with the Planning Board to discuss, among other items, zoning to allow brewery/pub uses and tree preservation strategies.	The Select Board and Plannign Board met on 10/12/21 and 11/23/21. The Brewery zoning is proposed for October 2022 STM.	ONGOING
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.1.c	Meet with the League of Women Voters to discuss their recent study recommendation and the concept of term limits.	Members of the League presented their findings and recommendations to the Board.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.2	Expand the number of boards and committees that can host hybrid meetings by investing in technology and facility improvements (potentially ARPA funded).	Hybrid-ready rooms are available throughout Town buildings.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.3	Seek additional package store licenses by filing a Home Rule petition to match the State quota system.	The petition was approved by the House. The petition is awaiting a Senate vote, then the Governor's signature.	ONGOING
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.4	Create a Public Comment Component at Select Board Meetings as part of the formal agenda.	The police was adopted on 10/12/21.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.5	Develop a Select Board orientation package.	Created and distributed.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.6	Develop a Select Board/Committee code of conduct – policy manual.	FY2023 project	ONGOING
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.7	Expand community engagement efforts including growing the newsletter distribution and implementing micro-polling and restoring the citizen satisfaction survey.	The Citizen Survey is complete, and will be presented to the Board in July, 2022. Subscribers to newsletter now total 3,600 and growing.	COMPLETED
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.8	Update the Town website.	The Town website redesign process is complete. Newly designed site was launched April 14, 2022, and the mobile app soon after that.	COMPLETED

6 - Responsibly Governed	6.9	Renew all three cable franchise licenses.	RCN completed November 2021, Verizon completed June 2022, Comcast Scheduled for July 2022	ON SCHEDULE
6 - Responsibly Governed	6.10	Discuss Goal Setting Process for future years, building in time to seek input from other boards and the community.	OTM sought input from other Boards.	COMPLETED
7 - Environmentally Sustainable	7.1	Develop a Climate Action Plan.	Climate Action Plan Committee was created.	ONGOING
7 - Environmentally Sustainable	7.2	Identify parcel acquisition to comply with LWCF requirements.	FY2023 project	ONGOING
7 - Environmentally Sustainable	7.3	Consider Tree preservation strategies.	FY2023 project	ONGOING
		Update Appointment Protocol (BOS-ADMIN-003)	FY2023 Project	ONGOING

**Select Board Goal Setting FY2023 – FY2024**  
**Feedback from Boards and Committees & Members of the Public**

**Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee received a copy of the Select Board goals for FY23 and FY24, along with a request for feedback, on May 16 after the conclusion of the Annual Town Meeting. The Finance Committee reviewed the goals at its next scheduled meeting on June 27, during which members were given an opportunity to provide feedback. Please note that the Finance Committee did not deliberate upon each point of feedback. The Finance Committee welcomes the opportunity to meet with the Select Board at a joint meeting this summer or fall to discuss the feedback in greater depth. The Finance Committee members offer the following feedback:

1. Increased priority for establishing a financing plan of the School Master Plan (Initiative 1.9) – The initiative might warrant higher priority and could be stated as an overall funding plan for projects in the capital improvement plan and known long-term needs. Currently, there are additionally initiatives listed separately for particular capital projects, which may promote short-term priorities over long-term priorities.
2. Additional priority to curb the rate of increase in property taxes – One of the stated purposes of the goals is to “guide the development of the budget”. The budget is a significant factor in determining the rate of property tax, and many residents have faced difficulty in affording the rapidly rising property taxes in Needham. Currently, property tax relief is available by application, subject to qualification, and the needs have increased in recent years. Recent common practice has been to increase the budget close to the maximum allowed by Proposition 2 ½ to be funded by the tax levy. Curbing the rate of increase in property taxes may help young people to afford housing in Needham and may help people to stay in their homes as they age.
3. Additional priority to examine Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding – Needham property taxes have been subject to a 2% surcharge since Needham adopted the CPA in 2004. As a result of increasing property taxes, this surcharge has also increased on a dollar-per-dollar basis. It is reasonable after 18 years to review the rate of surcharge and whether the CPA funding mechanism remains advantageous to the Town.
4. Comments on acquisition of targeted real estate goals – Acquisition of targeted real estate appears twice in the list of goals (in Goal #1 and in Initiative 7.2). Both the Finance Committee and Select Board have devoted many hours to discussing the potential acquisition of real estate in recent years. There is concern that some of these hours may have been better spent addressing other goals.
5. Achievement of goals and initiatives – Given the large number of initiatives serving each identified goal, it may be helpful to include a mechanism to measure progress or success in achieving the stated goals. It may also be helpful to expand upon the Purpose section to explain the broader overarching vision that unifies the stated goals.

6. Evaluate Chestnut Street redevelopment – It is unclear whether this goal has a particular outcome in mind or whether the goal is to encourage general discussion.
7. Quiet zone feasibility & design – It is unclear whether this goal is exploratory in nature or whether the Town has already committed to implementing a Quiet Zone.
8. Legal Services RFP – at its meeting on July 30, 2021, the Select Board considered adding a goal to solicit Legal Services through a public RFP process following the passing of the previous long-time Town Council. Though the Select Board decided against including such a goal, members of the Finance Committee have independently raised the suggestion throughout the year, particularly in connection with the potential financial implications of the TIF Forbearance Agreement between the Town and Trip Advisor.

### **Needham Library Board of Trustees**

Thank you for reaching out to the Needham Library Board of Trustees for input and suggestions regarding the Select Board Goals Statement for 2022.

Library Board members discussed the document at our meeting of June 14, 2022 and reached an informal consensus to submit these additions for your consideration.

### **Select Board Goals 2022 Goal #3 Description**

Prioritize the installation of a new, modernized phone system for the Needham Free Public Library and other Town Departments.

### **Goal #4 FY2022-2023 Description**

Support the mission and efforts of the Needham Free Public Library, the town's largest and most visible cultural institution, to provide access to materials, resources and information that can expand minds, celebrate diversity, embrace differences, and build community.

### **Needham Council for Arts & Culture**

Art made it on there! I love this goal: " Promotes the installation of art and opportunities for community-led art projects. " I don't see a reference to the municipal art funding, which is definitely a win in the initiative category, so they may want to add that.

### **Planning Board**

The Planning Board at its meeting of June 21, 2022 discussed the Select Board's goals and offers the following feedback. The Planning Board offers that the Select Board goals should additionally include responding to the MBTA Communities Act requirements as well as to the Housing Plan strategies and implementation protocol as developed by Housing Plan Working Group.

The Planning Board endorses the goals of the Select Board, recognizing that there are certain intersections of the goals of the Select Board and the initiatives of the Planning Board. The Planning Board looks forward to playing an active part in those areas of overlapping interest.



The Planning Board looks forward to sharing its goals with the Select Board and working collaboratively to improve the Town.

## **Board of Health**

At the Board of Health meeting on June 23, 2022, the Board discussed their feedback for the Select Board on their goals for FY22-23. These are the Board member's collective feedback.

1. Goal 4: Healthy and Socially Thriving:
  - Would like to see more things pertaining to health, especially things that have not had good results since COVID. Some examples could include but is not limited to; healthy eating promotion, improved playground space including access to them, mental health promotion, and physical activity promotion.
  - The Board asked that there be more specifics about how these will be addressed and could be addresses using ARPA funds.
2. The Board of Health is willing to work closely and collaborate on initiatives 1.7, 4.2, and 4.12.
3. Initiative 6.1:
  - The Board of Health would like to be added as a board that the Select Board meets with regularly.

## **NUARI**

- Evaluate ways to increase minority and women-owned business participation in construction and building maintenance projects.
- Conduct focus groups with BIPOC community
- Draft sample equity goals for boards and committees

## **Historic Commission**

Historic Preservation – Needham enjoys a rich historical heritage that extends throughout the town and seen in its wealth of houses built in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Needham's historical assets, however, are under threat from maintenance and development pressures. Needham seeks to protect, preserve, enhance, restore, or rehabilitate:

- Resources of historical, cultural, architectural, or archaeological significance, especially those that are threatened with demolition.
- Historic properties for adaptive reuse.
- Sites on the Needham Historical Commission's Inventory.

## Initiatives

1.1 Create a voluntary local historic district under Chapter 40C for the property of Moe Handel at 3 Rosemary Street, built by Jonathan and Jemima Kingsbury in 1779, the oldest house in 02494 and the 11th oldest in Needham.

1.2 Appoint a Local Historic District Study Committee consistent with 40C to establish the efficacy and conditions that should be required and report to the Select Board.

1.3 Approve a Preliminary Study Report by the Study Committee, including recommendations for a bylaw, to be submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) and Planning Board for review, endorsement, and/or recommendations.

1.4 Conduct a public hearing not less than 60 days from Study Report transmittal to MHC.

1.5 Prepare the Warrant Article and Final Report including bylaw and submit to Town Meeting for approval.

1.6 Submit the bylaw for Attorney General Review.

### **From the Climate Action Planning Committee**

At its May 23, 2022 meeting, the Climate Action Plan Committee (CAPC) unanimously voted to request that the Select Board include consider the following as part of their 2022-23 Sustainability Goals:

1. Begin planning for the development of a Community Electricity Aggregation (CEA), starting with a Warrant on the Fall 2022 Special Town Meeting. The proposed warrant article would authorize the Select Board to initiate the process of seeking to aggregate electrical load through a Community Electricity Aggregation. The proposed explore of a CEA would not obligate the Town to pursue aggregation if conditions are not favorable.

A CEA is a program allows local governments to procure power from an alternative supplier, on behalf of their residents and businesses. Eversource would remain as the provider of electric transmission and distribution service. Nearly half of Massachusetts cities and towns have engaged with CEA programs since this was authorized by the Mass. Utility Restructuring Act (1997). The procurement process would require the supplier to source a substantial amount of the electricity from renewable sources. A primary goal of the CEA will be to maximize the use of renewable energy, preferably from New England sources, while providing cost benefits and stability to Needham residents and businesses.

**Note:** The CAPC has identified pursuing a CEA the most impactful action the Town can take in the immediate term to reduce its GHG emissions. Electricity generation for all sectors (residential, municipal, commercial) currently accounts for ~23% of Needham's GHG emissions.

2. Begin development of sustainability guidelines for the construction and renovation of for existing and future municipal buildings, and large commercial buildings. Adoption of this goal would give Town boards and committees a common directive regarding reducing the environmental impact of buildings' construction, renovation, and operations. (Note: Wellesley

has a set of guidelines it has been using for several years that could be the starting point for something similar in Needham.)

3. Support for the completion and validation of the town wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory. This was begun in 2021 by Green Needham, using the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's tools and methodology. The CAPC agrees that the GHG inventory would benefit from an update and outside review.
4. Support and encouragement of improving access to equitable solar energy opportunities, including assessment, planning and funding.
5. Support for a tree conservation by-law. Protecting Needham's tree cover, while respecting property owners' rights, is an important part of the Town's evaluation of carbon sequestration opportunities.

**From Carol Thomas**

GOAL #1 LIVABLE, GOAL #3 ACCESSIBLE & CONNECTED, and GOAL #7. ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE:

Explore options for reducing amount of noise including General By-law **limiting days/hours and maximum decibels for mowing, blowing and other landscaping equipment/operations, whether professional or household, and possibly requiring blowers to be electric**, as Newton is doing. The noise from these machines is incessant and difficult to tolerate as we homeowners are doing more and more "grooming" of our yards.

GOAL #3: ACCESSIBLE & CONNECTED:

**Prioritize a new phone system at library**, where phone equipment pre-dates the library major addition and static reigns on the only two remaining functional lines. Other town buildings' phone systems may have similar problems, but I do not know that. The library promotes so many of the town's other goals related to diversity and community, business, etc.

GOAL #1 LIVABLE and GOAL #3: ACCESSIBLE & CONNECTED: *Re* Explore targeted opportunities for parcel acquisition:

**Target parcels adjacent to the library to acquire (or lease) to expand parking** for library patrons. As the library patrons come back after the pandemic, the same parking shortage will probably recur as pre-pandemic, especially as high schoolers are apt to use the lot on Highland Ave. despite requests not to do so. These parcels would not be specified in the plan, but they (realistically probably only 2) parcels should be on the Town Manager's list to explore and keep an eye on.

**From Moe Handel**

I would request that the Select Board adopt an Historic Preservation Goal that would allow for the creation of a pilot voluntary historic district under Chapter 40C when it meets to set goals for the upcoming year.

I have made the Needham Historical Commission aware of my desire to have my property at 3 Rosemary Street to become a test case for the establishment of a such a pilot.

If created, this pilot district would consist solely of the Jonathan Kingsbury House, which was built by Jonathan and Jemima Kingsbury in 1779 and is the oldest house in 02494 and the 11<sup>th</sup> oldest in Needham.

The creation of this pilot district would provide the Town with the experience of creating such a district, and would require that the Select Board appoint a “study committee” consistent with 40C to establish the efficacy and conditions that should be required. The study committee cannot be the Historical Commission itself. It would report to the Select Board and any proposed district would require Town Meeting approval. If approved, a district commission would be appointed to oversee proposed changes to the property and to prevent demolition for re-use. That commission could consist of the members of the Needham Historical Commission or be a completely separate entity.

It is clear that Needham’s historic home inventory is threatened by the current market for high end homes in the face of a shortage of available land. This results in the destruction of historic buildings for which a 6-month demolition delay is all but meaningless.

I believe that a **voluntary** Historic District program would benefit the Town.

Speaking for myself, I would be willing to establish a modest endowment to cover the very minimal administrative costs that might result from the Town’s oversight of a “Jonathan and Jemima Kingsbury District” at 3 Rosemary Street were such a district to be established.

**From David Hruska**

Consider mandatory undergrounding of all electrical wires.

**Select Board Goal Setting FY2023 – FY2024**  
**New Items for Consideration**

Select Board and Staff Feedback

- Prioritize funding for the Central Avenue/Centre Street Bridge
- Review alternative service delivery methods for Weights and Measures
- Review the funding goal and use of athletic facilities fund (w/P&R Commission)
- Secure funding for an arts and culture strategic plan (w/NCAC, NCRTF, others?)
- Implement Valor Act and consider aligning the Valor Act and Senior Corps
- Work with the Park & Recreation Commission to set priorities for capital spending including an action park and expanded active and passive recreation facilities
- Evaluate Sidewalk policy
- Consider regulation of Leaf blowers
- Evaluate expansion of off-leash dog areas
- Develop short videos on how town government works
- Evaluate Plastic bag ban by-law and/or home rule petition for fees
- Review/establish electric vehicle charging rates
- Review & recodify the non-criminal disposition by-law
- Review and update alcohol regulations
- Complete formal appointment of Town Counsel
- Evaluate expanded permitting of outdoor spaces (e.g. Avery Square, Amity Path, etc.) and clarify appropriate uses on the Town Common
- Discuss and support PPBC recommended funding levels
- Review updated demographics and impact on anticipated transit-oriented development and schools.
- Develop a plan for compliance with DHCD regulations for multi-family housing near transit (w/Planning Board)
- Evaluate the feasibility of last mile in-town transportation options (if earmark is funded)
- Recommend Community Energy Aggregation
- Implement a Green Community dashboard (baseline and progress)
- Evaluate solar canopies (High School and Newman)
- Review Elected/Appointed status
- Conduct a general governance review – By-Law/Charter
- Improve trailhead access and ensure that access is clear and accessible. Create a trails app.
- Increase tree plantings
- Consider installation of additional boat ramps
- Evaluate regulations governing asbestos and lead protection/mitigation on knockdowns
- Support passive recreation opportunities
- support funding for the Arts

- Consider a summit, in which the Select Board, the Planning Board and the School Committee (and others that might be relevant/interested) could devise some town-wide guiding principles that would direct the goal-setting and agendas devised independently by each Board.
- Increase community engagement (office hours, coffees, improved public comments)
- Maintain/repair the barn at Ridge Hill
- Review/upgrade Town building codes for environmental sustainability
- Explore ways to create Needham downtown and Heights as a destination rather than a cut-through
- Pursue further traffic safety measures on Webster Street
- Evaluate Street calming, pedestrian safety & interest
- Rename Hemlock Gorge to “Nehoiden’s Grant”
- Upgrade the Town Seal for better art and historical accuracy
- Evaluate Stephen Palmer Building Next Steps
- Consider extension of Golf Course Lease period to allow Club to finance improvements
- Consider Indigenous Peoples Day
- Develop a plan for a community observance of Juneteenth
- Evaluate outdoor water use trends
- Support employee recruitment and retention initiatives

**Select Board Goal Setting  
Sample Criteria for Prioritization  
FY2023 – FY2024**

	No (0 points)	Yes. Minimal (1 point)	Yes. Some (2 points)	Yes. Significant (3 points)	Yes. Major (4 points)
Is Town Meeting Approval Required?					
Significant Impact on Staff Workload?					
Significant Involvement of individual Select Board Members					
Significant Involvement of other boards required?					
Will this require stakeholder engagement?					
What is the level of impact this will have on the community?					

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_