

TOWN OF NEEDHAM

Office of the Town Clerk

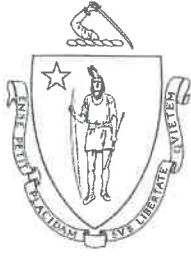


BY-LAWS

Approved By the Attorney General

**Annual Town Meeting
May 1, 2023**

September 15, 2023



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2023 SEP 15 AM 9:30

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION
10 MECHANIC STREET, SUITE 301
WORCESTER, MA 01608

ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(508) 792-7600
(508) 795-1991 fax
www.mass.gov/ago

September 15, 2023

Theodora K. Eaton, Town Clerk
Town of Needham
1471 Highland Avenue
Needham, MA -2492

**Re: Needham Annual Town Meeting of May 1, 2023 -- Case # 11094
Warrant Articles # 18, 19, and 20 (Zoning)
Warrant Articles # 39 (General)**

Dear Ms. Eaton:

Articles 19, 20, and 39 - We approve Articles 19, 20, and 39 from the May 1, 2023 Needham Annual Town Meeting.

Article 18 - The Attorney General's deadline for a decision on Article 18 is extended for an additional 60 days under the authority conferred by G.L. c. 40, § 32. The agreement with Town Counsel for a 60-day extension is attached. We will issue our decision on Article 18 on or before **November 17, 2023**.

Note: Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, neither general nor zoning by-laws take effect unless the Town has first satisfied the posting/publishing requirements of that statute. Once this statutory duty is fulfilled, (1) **general** by-laws and amendments take effect on the date these posting and publishing requirements are satisfied unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law, and (2) **zoning** by-laws and amendments are deemed to have taken effect from the date they were approved by the Town Meeting, unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law.

Very truly yours,
ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Kelli E. Gunagan

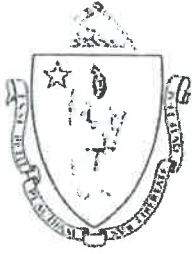
By: Kelli. E. Gunagan
Assistant Attorney General
Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 792-7600

cc: Town Counsel Christopher H. Heep

RECEIVED
2023

TOWN CLERK
September 15, 2023

NEEDHAM
9:30 A.M.



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2023 SEP 15 AM 9:30
CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION
10 MECHANIC STREET, SUITE 301
WORCESTER, MA 01608

ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(508) 792-7600
(508) 795-1991 fax
www.mass.gov/ago

September 14, 2023

Christopher H. Heep, Esq.
Town Counsel, Town of Needham
Miyares and Harrington, LLP
40 Grove Street, Suite 190
Wellesley, MA 02482

**Re: Extension of 90-day review period of Article 18
Needham Annual Town Meeting of May 1, 2023
Case # 11094**

Dear Attorney Heep:

Pursuant to the requirements of G.L. c. 40, § 32 the Attorney General and Town Counsel are authorized to extend the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General's review of town by-laws for not more than an additional 90 days. This letter serves to satisfy the requirements of G.L. c. 40, § 32. In light of our need for time to further discuss the proposed by-law's consistency with state law, we hereby jointly agree to extend the Attorney General's review period of Article 18 for an additional 60 days. Our decision on Article 18 will now be due **November 17, 2023**.

Please sign this letter to reflect your agreement and return the signed letter to us. We will then file the letter with the Town Clerk, with a copy to you. Thank you for your accommodation in this matter.

Very truly yours,
ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Kelli E. Gunagan

By: Kelli E. Gunagan
Assistant Attorney General
Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 792-7600


Town Counsel

9/14/2023
Date



Theodora K. Eaton, MMC
Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEEDHAM

Office of the Town Clerk

1471 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492-0909

Telephone (781) 455-7500 x216

Fax (781) 449-1246

Email: Teaton@needhamma.gov

AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

UNDER ARTICLE 19

VOTED: That the Town will vote to amend the Needham Zoning By-Law as follows:


1. Amend the Needham Zoning By-Law by replacing all references to "Building Inspector" with "Building Commissioner" where it appears in the By-Law.
2. Amendment Section 3.15 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) by renumbering the section as Section 3.16 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and by further renumbering the subsections numerically.
3. Amend Section 5.1.2 Required Parking, by deleting in the first sentence of the second paragraph the words ", 2nd Edition," and inserting the words "the most recent edition of" after the words "recommendations based on" so that sentence now reads as follows (new language underlined):

"In the event that the Building Inspector is unable to determine if a particular use relates to any use within the table of 'Required Parking' (Section 5.1.2), the Planning Board shall recommend to the Building Inspector a reasonable number of spaces to be provided based on the expected parking needs of occupants, users, guests, or employees of the proposed business, with said recommendations based on the most recent edition of the ITE Parking Generation Manual or an alternative technical source determined by the Planning Board to be equally or more applicable."

UNANIMOUS VOTE

A true copy

ATTEST:


Theodora K. Eaton, MMC, Town Clerk



Theodora K. Eaton, MMC
Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEEDHAM

Office of the Town Clerk

1471 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492-0909

Telephone (781) 455-7500 x216

Fax (781) 449-1246

Email: Teaton@needhamma.gov

AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

UNDER ARTICLE 20

VOTED: That the Town will vote to amend the Needham Zoning By-Law as follows:

- (1) Amend Section 4.2, Dimensional Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, General Residence, and Institutional Districts, Subsection 4.2.1 Table of Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, and General Residence Districts, for Buildings and Structures on Lots Created by Deed or Plan Endorsed or Recorded Prior to January 9, 1986 and Not Including New Construction, footnote (e) by revising footnote (e) to now read as follows:

“ (e) The minimum side yard setback is 14 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 14 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in the side yard in excess of 32 linear feet must be offset an additional 2 feet. Notwithstanding the above, the minimum side yard setback requirement for all buildings and structures on any lot that contains less than 80 feet of frontage shall be 12 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 12 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in excess of 32 linear feet must be offset an additional 2 feet. In no case shall a side wall extension extend more than 32 linear feet without a 2-foot offset, regardless of an increased side setback.”

- (2) Amend Section 4.2, Dimensional Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, General Residence, and Institutional Districts, Subsection 4.2.2 Table of Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, and General Residence Districts, for Buildings and Structures, on Lots Created by Deed or Plan, Endorsed or Recorded on or After January 9, 1986 and Not Including New Construction, footnote (a) by revising footnote (a) to now read as follows:

“ (a) The minimum side yard setback is 14 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 14 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in the side yard in excess of 32 linear feet must be

offset an additional 2 feet. Notwithstanding the above, the minimum side yard setback requirement for all buildings and structures on any lot that contains less than 80 feet of frontage shall be 12 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 12 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in excess of 32 linear feet must be offset an additional 2 feet. In no case shall a side wall extension extend more than 32 linear feet without a 2-foot offset, regardless of an increased side setback.”

- (3) Amend Section 4.2, Dimensional Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, General Residence, and Institutional Districts, Subsection 4.2.3 Table of Regulations for Rural Residence-Conservation, Single Residence A, Single Residence B, and General Residence Districts, for Buildings and Structures Created Through New Construction on any Lot, footnote (a) by revising footnote (a) to now read as follows:

“ (a) The minimum side yard setback is 14 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 14 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in the side yard in excess of 32 linear feet must be offset an additional 2 feet. Notwithstanding the above, the minimum side yard setback requirement for all buildings and structures on any lot that contains less than 80 feet of frontage shall be 12 feet as measured parallel to the side lot line, and a maximum of 32 linear feet of structure may be built at or farther back from 12 feet, provided that any additional length of structure in excess of 32 linear feet must be offset an additional 2 feet. In no case shall a side wall extension extend more than 32 linear feet without a 2-foot offset, regardless of an increased side setback.”

UNANIMOUS VOTE

A true copy

ATTEST:



Theodora K. Eaton, MMC, Town Clerk



Theodora K. Eaton, MMC
Town Clerk

TOWN OF NEEDHAM

Office of the Town Clerk

1471 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492-0909

Telephone (781) 455-7500 x216

Fax (781) 449-1246

Email: Teaton@needhamma.gov

AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

UNDER ARTICLE 39

VOTED: That the Town vote to amend the General By-laws by adding a new Section 3.12 to read as follows:

SECTION 3.12: PLASTIC BAGS

3.12.1 Definitions.

The following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

- (a) "Department" means the Town of Needham Public Health Department.
- (b) "Health Agent" shall mean the Director of Health and Human Services or his/her designee.
- (c) "Checkout bag" means a carryout bag provided by a retail establishment to a customer at the point of sale for the purpose of transporting groceries, prepared food, or retail goods. "Checkout bag" shall not include:
 - (i) a paper bag provided by a pharmacy to a customer purchasing a prescription medication;
 - (ii) a bag without handles in which loose produce or products are placed by a consumer to deliver such items to the point of sale or checkout area of a retail establishment;
 - (iii) a bag without handles that is used to protect items from damaging or contaminating other items, (e.g. raw meats, wine bottles);
 - (iv) laundry or dry-cleaner bags;
 - (v) plastic newspaper sleeves;

(vi) a bag used solely to contain live animals, such as fish or insects sold in a pet store or bait shop;

(vi) a bag used to contain unwrapped food, (e.g. deli meats).

(d) "Recyclable Paper Bag" means a paper bag that is 100% recyclable and contains at least 40% post-consumer recycled content, and displays in a visible manner on the outside of the bag (1) the word "recyclable" or a symbol identifying the bag as recyclable and (2) a label identifying the bag as being made from post-consumer recycled content and the percentage of post-consumer recycled content in the bag.

(e) "Reusable Checkout Bag" means (1) a sewn bag with handles that are stitched and not heat fused that is (2) specifically designed and manufactured for at least 175 uses and that (3) can carry 25 pounds over a distance of 300 feet; (4) is made of either (a) natural fibers (such as cotton, hemp, linen) or other machine washable fabric; or (b) made of plastic other than high-density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and polyethylene terephthalate (PET) that is durable, non-toxic, and generally considered a food grade material.

(f) "Retail Establishment" shall mean any business facility that sells goods directly to the consumer whether for or not for profit in the Town of Needham including, but not limited to retail stores, restaurants, pharmacies, food or ice cream truck, convenience, grocery stores, supermarket, liquor stores, seasonal and temporary businesses.

(g) "Single-Use Plastic Checkout Bags" shall mean those bags typically with handles, constructed of high-density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), or polyethylene terephthalate (PET) that is not a Reusable Checkout Bag.

3.12.2 Regulated Conduct.

(a) No Retail Establishment in the Town of Needham shall provide or sell a Single-Use Plastic Checkout Bag to a customer.

(b) If any Retail Establishment provides or sells a Checkout Bag to customers, the bags must be one of the following:

1. Recyclable Paper Bag; or
2. Reusable Checkout Bag.

(c) Each Retail Establishment as defined herein shall comply with this section.

3.12.3 Effective Date.

This by-law shall take effect on January 1, 2024 for Retail Establishments with retail space of 3,500 square feet or larger, or with at least two locations under the same name within the Town of Needham with retail space that totals 3,500 square feet or larger. This by-law shall take effect on July 1, 2024 for all Retail Establishments less than 3,500 square feet.

3.12.4 Penalties and Enforcement.

(a) Needham Public Health Department and its Health Agent shall have the authority to administer and enforce this by-law.

(b) Fines. Any Retail Establishment which violates any provision of this section will be liable for a fine as follows: First offense, warning; second offense, \$100.00; third offense, \$200.00; fourth and subsequent offenses, \$300.00. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Multiple violations on the same day shall constitute a single offense.

3.12.5 Regulations.

The Needham Public Health Department may adopt and amend rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this by-law.

3.12.6 Severability.

Each separate provision of this section shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and if any provision of this section be declared to be invalid by the Attorney General or a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this section shall remain valid and enforceable.

**Passed by Majority Vote on a Voice Vote
Declared by the Moderator**

A true copy

ATTEST:


Theodora K. Eaton, MMC, Town Clerk