

**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman
Minutes for September 12, 2006
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:

7:00 p.m. Call To Order

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman John H. Cogswell at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: John Bulian, John H. Cogswell, Daniel P. Matthews, Gerald Wasserman, Assistant Town Manager Christopher Coleman and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper. James Healy was not present at the meeting.

7:00 p.m. Announcements:

Mr. Bulian announced that the public hearing on the layout of Rosemary Street, which was initially proposed for tonight's Board meeting, will be held at the Board's next meeting on September 26.

Mr. Bulian also congratulated Mr. Matthews on his new role as the Director of Operations for Norfolk County.

7:00 p.m. Certificate of Recognition - Harry Y. Bauer, M.D.

The Board approved and signed a certificate of recognition for Harry Y. Bauer, M.D. Dr. Bauer has provided over 50 years of medical service to the Needham community.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign the Certificate of Recognition for Harry Y. Bauer, M.D. for his service to the Needham community. Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:05 p.m. Change of Manager - HST Lessee Needham LLC d/b/a Sheraton Needham Hotel:

Leonard Archer, applicant, appeared before the Board to request a change in manager for the Sheraton Needham Hotel. Mr. Archer provided the Board with a background on his qualifications and experience. Mr. Matthews informed him of the Town's policies on the sale and distribution of alcohol.

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign an application for a change in manager, submitted by Leonard Archer, General Manager and to forward this application to the ABCC for approval.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:20 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

1. Local Emergency Planning Committee: Thomas McCormack (6/30/07), Wolfgang Floitgraf (6/30/07), Christopher Coleman (Indefinite), Kate Fitzpatrick (Indefinite), Patricia Small (6/30/07), Mike Fahey (6/30/07), Kevin Trottier (6/30/07), Marc Mandel (6/30/07), John O'Brien (6/30/07), Seymour Bigman (6/30/07), Kathy Lewis (6/30/07), John D. Fountain (6/30/07), Sheila Hamwey (6/30/07), Michael Schwinden (6/30/07), Donna Carmichael (6/30/07)
2. Conservation Commission: Paul Alpert (6/30/08), Carl Shapiro (6/30/09), Sharon Saltzberg (6/30/09)
3. Commission on Disabilities: Elaine Saunders (6/30/09), Susan Crowell (6/30/09), Susan Rains (6/30/08), Dale Wise (6/30/09)
4. Registrar of Voters: Mary McCarthy (6/30/09)
5. Cable Television Advisory Board: Michael Greis (6/30/09), Jonathan Tamkin (6/30/09)
6. Community Preservation Committee: Mary Ellen Herd (6/30/09)
7. Council of Economic Advisors: Kate Fitzpatrick (6/30/07), John Edgar (6/30/07), Matt Talcoff (6/30/07), Howard Goldman (6/30/07), Bob Hentchel (6/30/07), Jay Doherty (6/30/07), Jack Cogswell (6/30/07), Seth Medalie (6/30/07)
8. Cultural Council: Cynthia McDermott (6/30/07), Jean Cronin Connolly (6/30/07), Claire Messing (6/30/07), Norman Abbott (6/30/07), Gail Gordon (6/30/07)
9. Golf Course Advisory Committee: Jonathan Bean (6/30/07), Roy Cramer (6/30/07), Jon Schneider (6/30/07), Jane Howard (6/30/07)

10. Historic Commission: Elizabeth Rich (6/30/09), Sandra Tobin (6/30/09)
11. Human Rights Committee: Debbie Watters (6/30/07), Sandra Walters (6/30/07), Michael Vaughn (6/30/07), John Buehrens (6/30/07)
12. Insurance Advisory Committee: Niels Fischer (6/30/08), Al Shapiro (6/30/09), Paul Winnick (6/30/08), Rick Davis (6/30/09)
13. Needham Community Revitalization Fund Committee: Maryruth Perras (6/30/07), Morris Dettman (6/30/07), Paul Good (6/30/07)
14. Solid Waste Disposal/Recycling Advisory Committee: William Connors (6/30/09)
15. Taxation Aid Committee: Patricia Harris (6/30/07), Helen Newton (6/30/07), Elizabeth Handler (6/30/07), Evelyn Poness (6/30/07)
16. Town Counsel: David Tobin (6/30/07)
17. Traffic Management Advisory Committee: Meredith Page (6/30/07), Kate Fitzpatrick (6/30/07), Jack Cogswell (6/30/07), Anthony DelGaizo (6/30/07), John Kraemer (6/30/07), Ivan Sever (6/30/07)
18. Water/Sewer Rate Structure Committee: John Cosgrove (6/30/07), John Tallarico (6/30/07), Nick Renzulli (6/30/07)
19. Youth Commission: Deborah Winnick (6/30/09)
20. Council on Aging: Nina Silverstein (6/30/07), Carol deLemos (6/30/09), Susanne Hughes (6/30/08), Mary Elizabeth Weadlock (6/30/08), Morris D. Dettman (6/30/09), Daniel Goldberg (6/30/09), Helen Hicks (6/30/09)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Ratify permission to Carin Coyne for the residents of Mayo Avenue to hold a Block Party on Sunday, September 10, 2006 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. with a rain date of September 17, 2006: same time.
2. Grant permission to Michael Gallen for the residents of Henderson Street to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 23, 2006 from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. with a rain date of September 24, 2006: same time.
3. Grant permission to Katherine Vettraino for the residents of Walnut Street to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 16, 2006 from 1:00

- 8:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 17, 2006:same time.
- 4. Accept a donation of \$5,000.00 made to The Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund from C. Bruce Johnstone Charitable Fund of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund.
- 5. Grant permission to Kate Deeley for the residents of Kenney Street to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 16, 2006 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m with a rain date of Sunday, September 17, 2006: same time.
- 6. Ratify permission to Ellen Nickles for the residents of Laurel Drive to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 9, 2006 from 5:00 - 12:00 p.m. with a rain date of Saturday, September 16, 2006: same time.
- 7. Ratify permission to Kathleen DeMayo for the residents of Lewis Street to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 9, 2006 from 3:00-8:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 10, 2006: same time.
- 8. Ratify permission to Virginia E. Stevens for the residents of Emerson Place to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 9, 2006 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. with a rain date of Saturday, September 16, 2006: same time.
- 9. Ratify permission to Nicholas Shaheen for the residents of Washburn Avenue to hold a Block party on Saturday, September 9, 2006 from 2:00 - 11:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 10, 2006: same time.
- 10. Ratify permission to Lauren Voelz for the residents of Coolidge Avenue to hold a Block Party on Sunday, September 10, 2006 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 17, 2006.
- 11. Approve a refund to equal pro-rated amount for Malt & Wine license for L.B Bistro d/b/a Euro Taste Bistro. License was issued in late July and full year amount (\$1,225) was paid by applicant. Refund amount is \$612.50.
- 12. Accept a donation of Signboards for the Summer Arts in the Parks Concert-Series and Children's Theatre Performances valued at \$100.00 made to the Needham Parks and Recreation Commission from Champion-Nationwide Contractor.

13. Approve a change of Board of Selectmen scheduled meeting dates for the month of December 2006: FROM Tuesday, December 12 and Tuesday, December 26 TO Tuesday, December 5 and Tuesday, December 19. Meeting times and place remain the same.
14. Grant and sign Lodging License to Babson College. License will expire on 12/31/06.
15. Grant permission to Judith Olshansky Gragg for the residents of Dawson Drive to hold a Block Party on Saturday, September 16, 2006 from 3:00 - 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. with rain date of Sunday, September 17, 2006: same time.
16. Ratify permission to Lauren Kinghorn for the residents of Needhamdale Road to hold a Block Party on September 10, 2006 from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. with a rain date of September 17, 2006: same time.
17. Ratify permission to Jennifer Quinn for the residents of Newell Avenue to hold a Block Party on September 9, 2006 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
18. Ratify permission to Amy Sweeney for the residents of Prospect Street to hold a Block Party on Newell Avenue on September 9, 2006 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. with a rain date of September 10, 2006: same time.
19. Accept a donation of a 1994 Ford Explorer, valued at approximately \$500, to the Needham Fire Department from Mr. & Mrs. Henry Feldman of Needham. This vehicle will be used for hands-on extrication training using the "Jaws of Life" and other rescue equipment.
20. Accept a donation of \$1,100 from the Exchange Club of Needham to the Needham Youth Commission.
21. Ratify permission to (Swaroop) Roopa Bhide for the residents of Fay Lane to hold a Block Party on September 9, 2006 from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. (Rain date from 8/27).
22. Accept the following donations which total \$4,620 made to the Council on Aging from the following donors:

Vivian McIver, Needham	\$ 25
Carolyn McIver, Needham	\$ 25
Friends of Needham Elderly	\$1,350

Nancy Mullahy, in memory of Patty Marcus	\$ 100
Celeste Garr, Needham	\$ 25
Winifred Tannetta, Needham	\$ 40
James Kenefick, Needham	\$ 10
Louis Barksy, in memory of Patty Marcus	\$ 10
Ruth Hoag	\$3,000
Marion Pedersen	\$ 25
Fitzroy-Danaglad	\$ 10

23. Grant permission to Katherine Fitzgerald for the residents of Richard Road to hold a Block Party on September 17, 2006 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

24. Water Sewer Abatement # 1035

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:10 p.m. Public Hearing for the removal of Seventeen (17) Public Shade Trees located at Saint Sebastian's School, southerly along Greendale Ave. from the driveway of 146 Great Plain Ave. for a distance of approximately 400 ft.:

Lance Remsen, Tree Warden/Parks & Forestry Superintendent, and Rob Olsen, Robert Olson & Associates, appeared before the Board for a public hearing on the removal of public shade trees. Mr. Olson stated that St. Sebastian's is interested in improving the landscaping along Greendale Ave. by removing several shrubs and trees and planting some new trees. Mr. Remsen stated that the trees proposed to be removed are understory trees in poor or fair condition. He recommended approval of the request. Mr. Cogswell opened the public hearing for comment.

Mary Wasserman, 1204 Greendale Ave., stated that after hearing the plan she is more comfortable with the project. She asked if there was any connection between the work and the future use of athletic fields. Mr. Olson stated that the trees planned for removal are not an area suitable for expansion of athletic fields.

Walt Power, 1208 Greendale Ave., stated that some of the trees proposed for removal don't look too bad, but that he is impressed with the overall plan and okay with the project.

John Lechner, 152 Great Plain Ave., asked if there was any way to preserve some of the lilac bushes. Mr. Olson stated that the plan relies on rhythm and spacing of the trees, which entails removing the lilacs back to the driveway. Mr. Lechner asked if the white fence would be affected. Mr. Olson stated that it would not be touched.

Walt Power expressed his support for trying to save some of the lilacs.

Mr. Cogswell closed the public hearing.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the removal of the Public Shade trees requested at Saint Sebastian's School, and sign the Public Shade Tree Hearing Approval form.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.**

7:25 p.m. Needham Police Department Update:
Police Chief Leary appeared before the Board to update the Board on the recent string of robberies. He stated that three robberies have taken place since July. All three were at night and the victims were walking alone. The robbers demanded the victims' personal belonging at gun point and fled. The assailants were reportedly 2 black males (July 25th and 27th) and three black males (September 5th).

Chief Leary stated that additional patrols have been instituted and the Department is working with other law enforcement agencies on the cases. He provided some tips to residents on how to protect themselves such as walking only in well lit areas and not walking alone. He also asked that residents report any strange or suspicious activities to the Police.

Mr. Bulian asked if the Heights parking lots are lit well enough. Chief Leary stated that he would be looking into the matter.

7:30 p.m. Health Department Training Update:

Janice Berns, Health Director, appeared before the Board to provide an update recent training activities. Mr. Cogswell announced that the Town received full certification from the state on emergency preparedness which improves the Town's chances of receiving grant funding.

Ms. Berns stated that, as part of a Homeland Security grant to seven local communities, two emergency drills were conducted. The drills were designed by the Harvard University of Public Health. The first was a communications drill whereby the seven towns contacted their volunteer medical corps. Ms. Berns stated that 70% of the volunteers responded. The second drill was a full scale drill. It was held at the Broadmeadow School and involved establishing a medical treatment facility. Ms. Berns stated that the drill was very successful and the seven community health departments worked well together.

Mr. Wasserman asked if the Town is prepared for a pandemic event. Ms. Berns stated that the Town is ahead of most towns but there is still work and planning to be done.

7:40 p.m. Mr. Coleman and Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director David Davison appeared before the Board with three items for the Board's consideration:

1. Call for Special Town Meeting:
Mr. Coleman requested the Board call for a Special Town Meeting and open the warrant. The Special Town Meeting will be held on November 1st.
Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to call for a Special Town Meeting and open the warrant for the meeting to be held on November 1, 2006.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.
2. Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Consultation:
Mr. Davison stated that the FY2008 budget process has begun and the Town Manager has been meeting with various Town Boards and Committees

to outline the process. Mr. Wasserman suggested the Board discuss priorities with the Town Manager early in the budget process to avoid misunderstandings. Mr. Davison stated that the schedule has specific time for that discussion. He also stated that Town Departments will be receiving the budget guidelines shortly.

3. Revenue Update Community Preservation Funds (CPF):
Mr. Coleman, Mr. Davison and Mary Ellen Herd, CPC Chair, provided the Board with a revenue forecast and funding stream for the CPA for the next ten years. Mr. Davison stated that the forecast is based on several assumptions and takes into consideration the requirements and restrictions on spending from the CPF. Mr. Davison reviewed the pro forma with the Board and discussed the likelihood that the State match will drop over time.

Mr. Wasserman pointed out that as more communities join less funding is available. Mr. Davison distributed a map showing the communities that have or plan on joining the program.

Mr. Davison explained the impact of the requirements for spending from the CPF and how that can impact decisions on which projects to pursue.

8:10 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Mr. Wasserman reported on the MMA Board of Director Meeting he recently attended. He stated that revenue projections for FY07 are not materializing and that the projected 5.5% growth is really only 2.5% thus far. He stated that there is also an expected shortfall in the lottery revenue.

8:20 p.m. Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the September 12, 2006 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 4-0.