

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for January 14, 2014
Powers Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens:

Leo Sullivan, Global Companies spoke with the Board asking to make a presentation to the Town for the Community Choice Aggregation program, designed by the State, to allow lower electric power rates for residents and businesses.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Vice Chairman Daniel P. Matthews. Those present were John A. Bulian, Maurice P. Handel, Matthew D. Borrelli, Marianne Cooley, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

7:00 p.m. Representative Denise Garlick:

State Representative Garlick appeared before the Board advising that the State has appropriated \$70,000 for the rail trail project. She said this is very good news and she was pleased to work on the project along with Tad Staley of the Bay Colony Rail Trail.

Mr. Matthews thanked Ms. Garlick for her work in obtaining the funds. He noted the funds were previously appropriated but tied to approvals in Medfield and Dover, which have not yet taken place. He said he is appreciative of the extra effort made by Ms. Garlick in securing the funds.

Ms. Garlick said she is hopeful the Needham Bike Trail will serve as inspiration for Medfield and Dover.

7:05 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for Woodbine Circle:

Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 5 feet of conduit at Pole #391/9 on Woodbine Circle. She told the Board this work is necessary to provide electric service to a new home at 88 Woodbine Circle.

Mr. Matthews invited public comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 5 feet of conduit at Pole 391/9 on Woodbine Circle, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electric service for a new home at 88 Woodbine Circle, Needham.

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

7:06 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for 30 Webster Street:

Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 9 feet of conduit at Pole 2/5 on Webster Street. She said this work is necessary to provide electric service for Building #1 and include 4 residential units at 30 Webster Street, Needham.

Mr. Matthews invited public comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 9 feet of conduit at Pole 2/5 on Webster Street, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electric service for Building #1 and include 4 residential units at 30 Webster Street, Needham.

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

7:07 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for 34 Webster Street:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 38 feet of conduit at Pole 2/4 on Webster Street, Needham. Ms. Carroll said this work is necessary to provide electric service for Building #2 and include 4 residential units at 34 Webster Street, Needham.

Mr. Matthews invited public comment. No comments were made.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 38 feet of conduit at Pole 2/4 on Webster Street, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electric service for Building #2 and include 4 residential units at 34 Webster Street, Needham.

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

7:08 p.m. Public Hearing - Proposed Parking Meter Rates and Permit Parking Fees:

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager and Dave Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance appeared before the Board regarding proposed parking meter rates, permit parking fees and the installation of additional parking meters in the downtown and Heights areas. Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Town has made a concerted effort to expand the availability of permit parking with its purchase of several lots along Lincoln and School Streets. She indicated the Town has incurred debt to purchase and construct the expanded parking, and increased its maintenance efforts on all the lots. She said the proposed increase in Permit Parking Rates is to offset the costs and would be phased-in over three years. Ms. Fitzpatrick said the current \$75 rate would be increased to \$125 for the May 2014 renewal, to \$165 for the May 2015, and to \$200 for the May 2016 renewal.

Mr. Davison discussed the proposed increase in Parking Meter Rates saying the new meter rates serve to: 1) discourage long-term parking along the street, 2) encourage turnover of the on-street parking spaces, 3) make enforcement easier, and 4) help to defray some of the costs associated with public parking. He said

new meters will allow for shorter time increments to be purchased as well as acceptance of multiple coins. Mr. Davison said the proposal is to set the rate at \$0.25 (quarter) for thirty minutes, \$0.10 (dime) for ten minutes, and \$0.05 (nickel) for 5 minutes.

A Powerpoint presentation was viewed showing maps of several areas of Town and included current and proposed locations of parking meters.

Mr. Matthews asked the current hours of operation for parking meters.

Mr. Davison said parking meter hours are currently Monday – Thursday, and Saturday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. He said parking meters are not in operation on Sundays and holidays.

Mr. Matthews invited public comment.

Tom Jacob, 67 Clarke Road indicated he is a member of the Downtown Streetscape Committee and the Council of Economic Advisors. He commented the overwhelming sentiment from members of the Council of Economic Advisors is that raising the parking meter fees is not shopper friendly. He said it is not the cost of the fee, but rather the nuisance of finding the change to fill the meter. He said the rate should remain at sixty minutes per quarter, twenty minutes per dime, and ten minutes per nickel. He noted if the goal is to turn over parking spaces more frequently, he fails to see how it would be accomplished by raising the rates. He said changing the time limit from two hours to one hour would be a better solution. He noted the Town allows for free two hour parking during the holidays to encourage shopping, and said it is counterintuitive to raise fees as it would not encourage shopping in the downtown. He asked the Board of Selectmen delay any changes until the Streetscape Committee has made its recommendations. He also said he feels raising the fee for permit parking may encourage employees to park on the street, rather than to purchase a permit.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said one of the reasons the Town has metered parking is to ensure turnover of parking spaces. She also noted fees associated with having parking meters include maintenance, staff, and DPW costs.

Janice Flynn, 47 Mellen Street said she is not opposed to changes in the parking meter structure, but is concerned with congestion at the Trader Joe's parking lot. She said many people are already opting to park on Mellen Street. She said adding parking meters on Mellen Street will only encourage shoppers to park on Mellen Street in front of the homes. She asked the Board reconsider placing parking meters on Mellen Street.

The Board agreed there must be a better solution than installing parking meters on Mellen Street.

Mr. Bulian said parking meter hours be consistent, suggesting Monday - Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Matthews agreed parking meter hours should be consistent. He said the Town has invested in new parking to help the downtown area, and suggested it is reasonable to ask people using parking space to contribute to the cost. He noted the Board is not scheduled to make its decision until its meeting on January 28, 2014. He invited written comment from residents.

7:50 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. Artie Crocker Facility Master Plan Working Group (term expires 6/30/2015)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes from November 12, 2013 (Executive Session), November 19, 2013 (Open Meeting and Executive Session), December 10, 2013 (Open Meeting), and December 17, 2013 (Open Meeting and Executive Session).
2. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Health Department's Domestic Violence Action Committee: \$250 from Shahin Soli Sagafi; and \$200 from Mary Clare Siegel.
3. Accept a \$250 donation made to the Needham Park and Recreation Commission from Anonymous Content, LLC for any project at DeFazio Park.
4. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Off-Leash Dog Area gift account: \$25 from Jay & Susan Kaplan, \$50 from Helene Presskreischer; \$500 from Michelle Feinberg; \$100 from Roscoe Oberle; \$50 from Jodi Block; \$100 from Leslie Nelken; \$100 from Gary & Carol Crossen; \$25 from Angela Cox; \$100 from Lisa Tanzer; \$25 from Peter Fox; and \$500 from Heidi Fischer, MD.
5. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Health Department's Gift of Warmth fund: \$150 from Mr. Andrew N. Thoresen of the First Baptist Church in Needham; \$1,500 from St. Joseph Parish; and \$800 from Christ Church Episcopal Needham.
6. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund from the following residents: \$200 from Carol & Edward De Lemos; \$200 from Maryruth & Richard Perras; \$25 from Andrea &

Douglas Rae.

7. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages License for Michael Fraini of the Knights of Columbus to hold a Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 2, 2013 from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Knights of Columbus, 1211 Highland Avenue, Needham.

8. Approve two Special One Day Wine & Malt Beverage Licenses for Steve Volante of Volante Farms to hold winter cooking classes on January 25, 2013 and February 8, 2013 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The classes will be held at Volante Farms, 292 Forest Street, Needham.

9. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Public Library during the period October 1, 2013 through January 8, 2014: Received donations from the following in memory of Margaret M. Wellington: Nancy A. Kostelega (\$25.00), Wellesley Centers for Women (\$50.00), Ellen & Dean Lewis (\$100.00); Dennis Sullivan gave the library a copy of his book, Senior and Boomers Guide to Health Care Reform and Avoiding Nursing Home Poverty (\$14.95); Edwin Harwood donated a copy of Stephen King's new book, Doctor Sleep (\$30.00); Cathy Collishaw donated \$25.00 in memory of Marguerite Farrell; Kathi Seifert donated \$100.00 in memory of Bertha Marram; Drew Winkler made a donation in honor of Jacob Smith (\$15.00); Sharon Slayton Howell gave the library a copy of her newest book of poems, Words Far-Reaching (\$20.00);

Needham Author Tamar Ossowski gave the library two copies of her new book, Left: A Novel (25.00 each); Former Needham resident and Needham High School Graduate Steven P. Marini gave the library a copy of his new book, Aberration (\$14.99); Ron and Lois Sockol donated \$20.00 to the library in memory of Barbara Popper; Ray and Maureen Sleight and Family donated a copy of Shel Silverstein's book, The Giving Tree in memory of James L. Galvin, Jr. and Eleanor M. Galvin (\$19.99); Familias Latinas de Needham gave the library nine children's books in Spanish (\$76.00); Anne Kinsman and Margaret Diefenderfer donated \$25.00 to the library, in memory of Bruce Nagler; Shirley Pratt gave the library a copy of her book, Don't Wait to be Rescued (\$8.50); Edwin Harwood donated a copy of Preston and Child's new book, White Fire (\$27.00); Margaret and Don Gray gave the Children's Room three large bags of Legos (Priceless); Gail Eckberg sent the library a check for \$42.50, commission from the sale of a painting that was exhibited in the library.

10. Approve a Special One Day Wine & Malt Beverages License for Steve Volante of Volante Farms to hold a Winter Beer Dinner on Thursday, February 27, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This event will be held at Volante Farms, 292 Forest Street, Needham.

11. Approve a Special One Day Wine & Malt Beverages License for Gloria Gries of the Needham Historical Society to hold its Winter Social event on Saturday, February 1, 2014 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. This event will be held in Powers Hall at Town Hall, 1471 Highland Avenue, Needham.

12. Upon the recommendation of the Assistant Town Manager/Director of Finance, approve an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate for employee's use of personal vehicles from 48.5 cents to 56 cents effective January 1, 2014.

13. Vote to designate David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance, as the Town's designated voting delegate for the MIIA and MIIA Property and Casualty Board elections at the MMA Annual Meeting on January 25, 2014.

14. Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1172

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

7:50 p.m. Town Manager:
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager appeared before the Board with 3 items to discuss:

1. Declaration of Restrictive Covenant and Agreements - Belle Lane
Mr. Roy Cramer, Attorney appeared before the Board to discuss Belle Lane, an 8 lot sub-division approved in 2010. He said there are several easements relating to the sub-division including a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants, Grant of Water Easement, Grant of Pedestrian Access Easement and Boat Landing Easement, Grant of Emergency Access Easement and Water Easement, and Emergency Access Easement Agreement.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept and authorize the Chairman to execute a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants by Belle Lane Realty Trust, Grant of Water Easement by Belle Lane Realty Trust, Grant of Pedestrian Access Easement and Boat Landing Easement by Belle Lane Realty Trust, Grant of Emergency Access Easement and Water Easement by 155 Whitman Road Realty Trust and the Belle Lane Homeowners Trust, and Emergency Access Easement Agreement by Belle Lane Realty Trust and the Belle Lane Homeowners Trust to the Town of Needham.

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

2. Open Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Ms. Fitzpatrick told the Board it is scheduled to open the warrant for the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting. She said the warrant is scheduled to be closed on February 25, 2014.

Motion by Mr. Borrelli that the Board vote to open the warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting.

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

3. Budget Consultation & Budget Priorities

Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed with the Board the "Proposed Board of Selectmen Statement of FY2015 Operating Budget Priorities" dated January 14, 2014.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to adopt a statement on operating budget priorities for fiscal year 2015.

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

7:55 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. MMA Resolutions

The Board discussed resolutions to be presented at the MMA Annual Business Meeting to be held on January 25, 2014. Mr. Matthews said he would be in attendance to vote on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to endorse and authorize the Chairman to cast a vote in favor of Proposed Resolution ensuring a Strong Partnership Between Cities and Towns and the Commonwealth for Fiscal 2015 and beyond.

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

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to endorse and authorize the Chairman to cast a vote in favor of Proposed Resolution Ensuring a Strong and Productive Role for Cities, Towns, and Community Residents to Promote and Ensure Effective Land Use and Housing Policies.

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

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to endorse and authorize the Chairman to cast a vote in favor of Proposed Resolution on the Urgent Need to Ensure Sustainability for Other Post Employment Benefit Costs.

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

2. Committee Reports

Mr. Handel reported the Facilities Working Group began its work and the Board will hear from the group in the coming year.

Mr. Matthews recognized the New Years Needham Committee. He thanked all the members, especially Artie Crocker and Suzanne Saevitz for their efforts in leading the Committee. He said he received many wonderful comments from residents.

8:00 p.m. Executive Session - Exception 3 (potential litigation):

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. Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Handel. Mr. Matthews polled the Board. Unanimously approved 5-0.

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:

<http://www.needham.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID=>

Please note the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.