

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for January 13, 2015
Selectmen's Chamber
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens: No Activity.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman John A. Bulian. Those present were Maurice P. Handel, Matthew D. Borrelli, Daniel P. Matthews, Marianne B. Cooley, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing - NSTAR Petition for Elizabeth Circle:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative appeared before the Board requesting permission to install approximately 6 feet of conduit from pole 439/1 on Elizabeth Circle, Needham. Ms. Carroll stated this work is necessary to provide new underground service at 1 Elizabeth Circle, Needham.

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager stated all paperwork is in order.

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

Motion by Mr. Borrelli that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a petition from NSTAR to install approximately 6 feet of conduit from pole 439/1 on Elizabeth Circle, Needham. This work is necessary to provide new underground service at 1 Elizabeth Circle, Needham.
Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:01 p.m. Introduce Director of Public Health:
Christopher Coleman, Assistant Town Manager/Operations appeared before the Board to introduce Tim McDonald the newly appointed Director of Public Health.

Mr. McDonald said he is enjoying working for the Town, but still has a lot to learn. He said he is fortunate to have a very hard working department.

Mr. Borrelli asked Mr. McDonald about his goals and objectives for the department, particularly concerning substance abuse.

Mr. McDonald said he is pushing for additional resources and will apply for grant money for the prevention of underage drinking. He noted a collaborative effort with the towns of Norwood, Dedham, and Westwood.

Mr. Bulian commented on the current flu season and asked how the public can protect itself from contracting the virus.

The Board welcomed Mr. McDonald to the Town and wished him well in his new position.

7:07 p.m. Introduce Assistant Director of Park and Recreation:
Patty Carey, Director of Park and Recreation appeared before the Board to introduce Robyn Fink, the newly appointed Assistant Director of Park and Recreation.

Ms. Carey said Ms. Fink has a degree in Recreation, with a strong background in aquatics. She commented she is pleased to have Ms. Fink in the department and is looking forward to working with her.

Ms. Fink gave a brief outline of her work experience, including therapeutic recreation, aquatics, and indoor football.

The Board welcomed Ms. Fink to the Town of Needham and wished her well in her new position.

7:10 p.m. Appointments and Consent Agenda:
Motion by Mr. Borrelli that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Appointments and Consent Agenda as presented.

APPOINTMENTS:

**Traffic Management Advisory
Committee**

Ford Peckham (term expires 6/30/2017)

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Accept donations to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust fund from the following residents: \$50 from Marjorie Hillback, \$25 from Colin & Mary Coleman, \$50 from Lee & Bob Larkin, \$250 from Maryruth & Richard Perras; \$100 from Anita Olson; \$100 from Lorna & Lawrence Phan; \$200 from Carol & Edward De Lemos**
- 2. Approve minutes from December 23, 2014 and Executive Session minutes from December 23, 2014.**
- 3. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages License request from David Volante of Volante Farms to hold a “Beer Dinner” on January 22, 2015 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The event will be held at Volante Farms, 292 Forest Street, Needham.**
- 4. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages License request from David Volante of Volante Farms to hold a “Terrarium Workshop” on January 31, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The event will be held at Volante Farms, 292 Forest Street, Needham.**
- 5. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages License request from David Volante of Volante Farms to hold a Cooking Class on February 7, 2015**

from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will be held at Volante Farms, 292 Forest Street, Needham.

- 6. Approve a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverages License request from Paul Elias, of Temple Beth Shalom to host its “Marriage Can Be Murder” event on February 7, 2014 from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Temple Beth Shalom, 670 Highland Avenue, Needham.**
- 7. Accept a \$300 donation made to the Needham Park and Recreation Commission from the Norfolk Lodge AF&AM. The monies are to be used towards scholarships for participants of Park and Recreation programs.**
- 8. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Health Department’s Gift of Warmth Fund: \$800 from The Community Concerns Committee of Christ Episcopal Church in Needham; and \$200 from Mary Clare McEnerny Siegel, a Needham resident.**
- 9. Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1190**
- 10. Accept a gift in the amount of \$115,000 from Bay Colony Rail Trail Association Inc. The purpose of the funds is to contribute toward the construction of the rail trail as outlined in the recent Town engineer drawings and upcoming Town bid package.**

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

Mr. Bulian noted the donation received from the Bay Colony Rail Trail of \$115,000 for the Rail Trail. Mr. Bulian thanked the BCRT for its contribution.

7:12 p.m.

Town Manager:

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager appeared before the Board with 4 items to discuss:

1. Board of Selectmen Goal Update
Ms. Fitzpatrick updated the Board on the progress of the Board’s goals and objectives for FY2015 and FY2016. She reviewed “Board of Selectmen/Town Manager, FY2015-FY2016 Board of Selectmen Goals”. She highlighted several of the goals commenting on the Facility Financing Plan, efforts to improve drainage capacity and reduce incidence of flooding in Needham, RTS beautification, Needham Center streetscape and infrastructure project, and renovation of Highland Avenue from Webster Street to the Charles River (State highway).

The Board thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick for the update.

2. Budget Consultation
Ms. Fitzpatrick updated the Board on the progress toward the Proposed Balanced Budget for Fiscal Year 2016. She reviewed “Town Manager Budget Items Under Consideration.”

Ms. Fitzpatrick commented on Property Tax Assistance and the Board’s goal to match the voluntary tax contributions in the prior year of \$10,976 (FY2014).

Mr. Borrelli said the Board should consider increasing the number in light of the property tax reassessments impacting senior citizens.

Motion by Mr. Borrelli that the Board vote to make a one-time increase of the voluntary tax contribution to the Property Tax Assistance program to \$27,500 for FY2016.

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

Ms. Fitzpatrick continued reviewing items requested by departments, including additional staffing, resources, and equipment.

The Board thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick for the update.

3. Open Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board vote to open the warrant for the 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

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

4. Town Manager's Report

Ms. Fitzpatrick reported that the Southern New England branch of AAA presented the Needham police department with a pedestrian safety citation in recognition of six years without a pedestrian fatality.

She also reported Governor Baker has released the remaining \$100,000,000 of Chapter 90 money. She said additional money to the Town of Needham increases the current year allocation to \$1,360,000 from \$912,000.

8:00 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Zoning Proposal - Registered Marijuana Dispensaries

The Board discussed whether or not to provide comment to the Planning Board relative to the proposed RMD zoning, and the need to separate production and retail sale of medical marijuana.

Motion by Mr. Handel that the Board authorize the Town Manager to draft a letter to the Planning Board summarizing the comments by the Board.

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

2. Massachusetts Municipal Association Resolutions

The Board discussed the resolutions proposed for action at the 2015 Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board vote to approve the following resolutions and authorize the Chairman to cast a ballot accordingly at the MMA Annual business meeting:

1. **Proposed Resolution Ensuring a Strong and Enduring Fiscal Partnership Between Cities and Towns and State Government in Fiscal 2016 and Beyond.**
2. **Proposed Resolution Relative to Investments in Municipal Capital Projects to Facilitate Economic Growth and Protect the Health and Safety of Citizens**
3. **Proposed Resolution Ensuring a Modern and Sustainable Personnel Management and Benefit System to Attract and Retain Public Employees, Provide Excellent Municipal Services, and Ensure Prudent Use of Taxpayer Dollars.**
4. **And authorize the Board's designee to use his/her own best judgment on behalf of the Board with respect to any other matters to be voted upon.**

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

3. Committee Reports

No Committee Reports were made.

8:05 p.m.

Executive Session - Exception 3 (potential litigation):

Motion by Mr. Matthews 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 litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares. Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Borrelli. Mr. Bulian 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 9:15 p.m.