

**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman  
Minutes for July 8, 2008  
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 Vice Chairman Daniel P. Matthews at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: John Bulian, Daniel P. Matthews, Gerald Wasserman, Denise Garlick, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick and Committee Secretary Sandy Cincotta. Mr. Healy joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing – NSTAR Petitions:

Christine Crosby, NSTAR Representative, appeared before the Board with to petition requests.

Homestead Park:

NSTAR requested permission to install approximately 7 feet of conduit on Homestead Park. Mr. Healy opened the public hearing for comment. There was no comment.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 7 feet of conduit @ pole 385/9 Homestead Park, Needham. This work is necessary to provide new underground electric service @ 24 Homestead Park, Needham.**

**Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

Greendale Avenue:

NSTAR requested permission to install approximately 18 feet of conduit on Greendale Avenue. Mr. Healy opened the public hearing for comment. There was no comment.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 18 feet of conduit @ pole 6/69 Greendale Avenue, Needham. This work is necessary to provide new underground electric service @ 772 Greendale Avenue, Needham.**

**Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:05 p.m. Public Hearing – RTS Rate Hearing

David Davison, Assistant Town Manager, Chip Laffey, Superintendent Recycling Transfer Station, and Jeff Heller, member of the Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling Advisory Committee (SWDRAC) appeared before the Board to seek the Board's approval of the new RTS Sticker rates.

Mr. Davison stated that the SWDRAC met and is recommending that the Board approve the proposed RTS rates for the calendar year 2009 as shown on Attachments A and B of this document.

Mr. Davison noted that the proposed sticker rates for calendar year 2009 includes a \$10 increase for Standard Stickers, Second Sticker and Replacement Stickers, and a \$5 increase in Senior Stickers. Although rates were not increased for calendar year 2008, the overall number of stickers sold over the last 5 years has seen a slow and steady decline. Mr. Davison stated that Mr. Laffey's efforts in generating a strong revenue stream for recycled materials has kept the amount of the proposed rate increase relatively low. The SWDRAC wanted to lessen the impact of a rate increase for seniors, hence the \$5 increase. The rates for Hauler Stickers will remain the same to stay competitive.

The SWDRAC asked the Board for its guidance with respect to eliminating the second sticker fee for calendar year 2010. A suggestion to increase awareness and usage of the RTS was made to include a token yellow trash bag into the newcomer packets.

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the RTS rates as set forth on the attached sheets, effective January 1, 2009. Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:30 p.m. Appointments & Consent Agenda:

**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept the Appointments and Consent Agenda as presented.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Appointment of Election Workers | As attached list.                 |
| 2. Council on Aging                | Betsy M. Tedoldi (exp. 6/30/2011) |

- |                                                        |                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3. Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund         | Morris Dettman (exp. 6/30/2009)    |
| 4. Needham Community Television Dev. Corp.             | Robert Stegman (exp. 6/30/2009)    |
| 5. Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling Advisory Committee | Irwin Silverstein (exp. 6/30/2009) |
| 6. Cable TV Advisory Board                             | Michael Riley (exp. 6/30/2011)     |

#### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Accept \$1,681.50 in donations for the period of July 2007 through June 2008 made to the Council on Aging's Miscellaneous Transportation Account.
2. Accept \$40 donation made by Mr. & Mrs. Eric Lowitt to the Needham Police Department for child safety seat installation.
3. Accept the following donations made to the Domestic Violence Action Committee from the annual Mother's Day appeal:

|                      |        |                          |        |
|----------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| Ms. Ann C. MacFate   | 25.00  | Lawrence M. Kistler      | 10.00  |
| Angela Fay           | 5.00   | Louise Condon            | 50.00  |
| Miriam Grodberg      | 25.00  | Marilyn Brooks           | 50.00  |
| Mariele Forte        | 25.00  | Richard P. Gotthardt     | 20.00  |
| Bruce Lustig         | 20.00  | Alan K. Stern            | 100.00 |
| Briarwood Healthcare | 100.00 | Elaine Beilin            | 50.00  |
| Joanne Adams         | 25.00  | Lynn & Stephen Baum      | 50.00  |
| Monica Graham        | 50.00  | Angela Jackman           | 30.00  |
| Lois Merrill         | 25.00  | Carol Marin              | 50.00  |
| Daniel Seebert       | 25.00  | Paula Collins Mazzio     | 50.00  |
|                      |        | Law Offices of Cox & Cox | 50.00  |

4. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Public Library during the period of June 4, 2008 to July 2, 2008.
  - Lois and Ron Sockol donated \$20.00 for the purchase of a Chinese cook book in memory of Marge Cohen.
  - The following people made donations in memory of Helen C. Pugh:
    - o Marilyn Stiles (\$25.00)
    - o Linda Smith Nathanson (\$30.00)
  - Ruth and Richard Aronson donated \$25.00 in memory of Edward Berman.
  - The Friends of the Library donated autographed copies of two books by Annual Meeting Speaker Justin Locke:
    - o *Principles of Applied Stupidity* (\$24.95)
    - o *Real Men Don't Rehearse* (\$14.95)
  - Emily Salaun gave the library copies of:
    - o *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Volume 162, April 2008* (\$10.00)
    - o *Prospect* by Bill Littlefield (\$12.00)
  - Edith Piper gave the library a copy of *World*

- Without End* by Ken Follett (\$35.00)
  - The Case Management Department at Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton sent a \$50.00 donation in memory of Jeanie M. Stewart.
  - John Dewey donated the following CDs:
    - o *Fabulous Swing collection* (\$10.00)
    - o *Blue Valentines* (\$10.00)
    - o *The Great Guitars* (\$10.00)
    - o *The Art of Bix Beiderbecke* (\$10.00)
    - o *Color and Light* (\$10.00)
  - M. Paul Shore donated the following language dictionaries:
    - o *Le Petit Larousse Illustre* (\$50.00)
    - o *Dong-A's Prime English-Korean Dictionary* (\$25.00)
    - o *Dons-A's Prime Korean-English Dictionary* (25.00)
  - John A. Russo donated \$35.00 for the purchase of new books in memory of Annette Sherman
  - The library received an \$8,000.00 gift from a charitable trust. The donor wishes to remain anonymous.
  - The library received a \$100.00 anonymous gift.
- 5. Ratify permission for the Exchange Club and the YMCA to conduct their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July road race. The race begins at 8:45 a.m. on Highland Avenue, near Carter Memorial Church, and finishes in front of the library.
- 6. Water & Sewer Abatement #1073
- 7. Grant permission for the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge to place metal signs along the designated roads in Needham of the PMC cycle route. Police & DPW departments have approved.
- 8. Grant permission for the following residents to hold block parties:

| Name           | Address              | Party Location                   | Party Date | Party Rain Date | Party Time  |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Susan Howell   | 58 Livingston Circle | Livingston Circle/Churchill Lane | 7/12/08    |                 | 4-7 p.m.    |
| Barbara Suarez | 201 Tower Ave        | Lindbergh Ave                    | 9/6/08     | 9/7/08          | 3:30-8 p.m. |
| Charlie Hecht  | 59 Walnut Street     | Walnut St.                       | 7/26/08    | 7/27/08         | 12-8 p.m.   |
| Jerome Kassel  | 174 Parker Road      | 147-159 Parker Road              | 9/6/08     | 9/7/08          | 4-8 p.m.    |
| Joseph Foos    | 84 Wilshire Park     | Wilshire Park                    | 7/4/08     |                 | 1-8 p.m.    |

**Second: Mr. Wasserman. Mr. Wasserman added that the Board should consider at a future meeting the extension of the one year appointments into three year appointments. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:30 p.m. Citizen Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Fitzpatrick explained to the Board that this survey was one of the major initiatives of the senior leadership team this past year. This data could be used for evaluation to inform organizational, management, and funding decisions. Some survey results may require an additional survey with targeted questions. The intent is to continue this survey bi-annually. The project was managed by Chief Buckley. Ms. Fitzpatrick introduced Erin Caldwell, Senior Research Analyst at the National Research Center.

Ms. Caldwell thanked Chief Buckley for all of his work with the survey. Ms. Caldwell explained that 1,200 residents were contacted three times: initially via a postcard alerting them of the forthcoming survey, the actual survey itself, and lastly a reminder survey instructing residents to complete or if they had already completed the earlier survey to recycle the second one. The response rate was 51%, which Ms. Caldwell describes as excellent – very high response rate. Overall 90% of responders rated Needham as a good or excellent place to live. Ms. Caldwell presented the survey results to the Board, who thanked her, the Fire Chief, and the Town Manager for this valuable report.

Mr. Healy thanked Mr. Coleman and Mr. Davison, who covered for Ms. Fitzpatrick during her absence during the week of the Fourth of July.

8:10 p.m. Purchase and Sale Agreement – Habitat for Humanity  
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager and David Tobin, Town Counsel

The Board discussed with Town Counsel the Deed Rider for the sale of property related to this project. A consensus was reached that the contents of the rider should continue to be reviewed by the Board and that comments be sent to the Town Manager who would work with Town Counsel for inclusion. The Board will review the documents again at its meeting on August 12, 2008.

8:45 p.m. Capital Facility Update:

Ms. Fitzpatrick appeared before the Board with the following updates:

1. Newman HVAC & Indoor Air Quality Update  
Work is proceeding at the Newman, many classrooms and the Media Center need abatement and carpet removal. Work is also proceeding along the scoping and duct work project. There has been a significant amount of furniture removed from the Media Center.

PPBC interviewed architects on June 24<sup>th</sup> and selected DRA, who is committed to having a series of open meetings with the Newman parents. The School Department has done a lot of work on immediate and long term contingency plans.

Public Works Building: The proposed address of the building is 500 Dedham Avenue. The PPBC is making progress with Winter Street Architects – meetings are being held with management.

- 8:50 p.m. Newman School Statement of Interest  
John Bulian made a motion that the Board approve the following Statement of Interest Resolution, dated July 8, 2008:

**Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on July 8, 2008 the Board of Selectmen of Needham in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated July 8, 2008 for the Newman Elementary School located at 1155 Central Avenue which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which the Town of Needham may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:**

**Priority 1. Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists; the Town of Needham wishes to address immediate serious health and safety issues arising from the failure of the heating**

and ventilation system at the Newman Elementary School;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Needham to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

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

Ms. Garlick made a motion to amend which would include language authorizing the Superintendent of Schools and Town Manager to make technical corrections to the Statement of Interest if deemed appropriate by the M.S.B.A.

Second: Mr. Matthews Unanimously approved 5-0.

9:00 p.m. Board Discussion

1. Operating Override – Needham Public Schools

Mr. Healy asked if the School Committee had voted on the override amount of \$1,887,929, which was confirmed by School Committee Chair Michael Greis, who stated that the vote was taken at the School Committee's June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to place the following question on the November 4, 2008 biennial State Election ballot: Shall the Town of Needham be allowed to assess an additional \$1,887,929 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding operating expenses for the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July first two thousand and nine? YES  
NO

Seconded: Mr. Wasserman

Mr. Healy stated that the Board would not debate their views on this question at this meeting, but would be discussed at their August 12<sup>th</sup> regularly scheduled meeting.

Unanimously approved 5-0.

9:05 p.m. Town Hall Project

Mr. Bulian gave report of the Town Hall Study Committee, which he had attended on July 7<sup>th</sup> at the Historical Society. It was a three hour meeting. The Town Hall Study Committee would be compiling a list of questions regarding cost and design that would be submitted to the PPBC to give to the architects. A questionnaire was distributed to Town Hall Study Committee members to use in a survey of other communities. Information such as the economic benefit would be included. Mr. Bulian will share these results as they progress.

9:25p.m. Adjourn:  
**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the July 8, 2008 Board of Selectmen Meeting.**  
**Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

**Attachment A  
Proposed RTS Rates  
July 3, 2008**

| <b>Description</b>                 | <b>Proposed</b> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Standard Sticker #                 | <b>\$60.00</b>  |
| Senior Standard Sticker #          | <b>\$35.00</b>  |
| Standard Second Sticker Discount * | <b>\$30.00</b>  |
| Hauler Sticker #                   | <b>\$100.00</b> |
| Sticker Replacement                | <b>\$30.00</b>  |
| RTS Week Pass                      | <b>\$10.00</b>  |
| Large Bag 30 LB                    | <b>\$1.50</b>   |
| Small Bag 15 LB                    | <b>\$0.75</b>   |
| Scale (per ton)                    | <b>\$130.00</b> |

# Stickers purchased after June, refer to attached schedule.

\* Discount applies only when the second sticker is purchased at the same time as the first sticker; no second sticker discount is available for Hauler.

**The sticker period runs from January 1 to December 31**