

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for June 26, 2018
Needham Town Hall
Selectmen's Chamber**

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 Chair Daniel P. Matthews. Those present were John A. Bulian, Maurice P. Handel, Matthew D. Borrelli, Marianne B. Cooley, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

7:00 p.m. Set Water and Sewer Rates:
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager and Dave Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance appeared before the Board to discuss proposed water and sewer rates to become effective July 1, 2018. Mr. Davison reminded the Board that at its last meeting on June 12, 2018, a public hearing was held regarding the Sewer and Water Rates. He noted the Water and Sewer Rate Structure Committee voted to recommend the rate structure that was presented to the Board, which is a continuation of a phased approach with sewer rates. He said the decrease to the step two and step three regular water rates was done to help mitigate the impact of the increase to the sewer step rates on the average user. Mr. Davison said the net change is, effectively, no change to the annual water and sewer bill.

Motion by Mr. Borrelli that the Board approve the proposed water and sewer rates identified on schedule below and that they be effective July 1, 2018; further that the Board approve a Septage Disposal fee of \$85.00 per 1,000 gallons.

Water and Sewer Rates

Description	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ Change
Basic Service Fee - Quarterly	\$15.00	\$15.00	
Basic Service Fee - Monthly	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Water - Regular			
Step 1	\$3.10	\$3.10	
Step 2	\$3.40	\$3.30	-\$0.10
Step 3	\$4.30	\$4.15	-\$0.15
Step 4	\$5.10	\$5.10	
Water - Irrigation			
Second Meter Fee - Quarterly	\$4.00	\$4.00	
Second Meter Fee - Monthly	\$1.34	\$1.34	
Step 1	\$5.10	\$5.10	
Step 2	\$5.50	\$5.50	
Step 3	\$6.10	\$6.10	
Step 4	\$8.10	\$8.10	
Sewer			
Basic Sewer Fee - Quarterly	\$9.00	\$9.00	
Basic Sewer Fee - Monthly	\$3.00	\$3.00	
Step 1	\$8.82	\$8.82	
Step 2	\$9.64	\$9.74	\$0.10
Step 3	\$10.40	\$10.51	\$0.11
Step 4	\$11.32	\$11.46	\$0.14

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

7:02 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: See attached.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approve the Notice of Experimental Traffic Regulation in accordance with the Needham Traffic Rules and Regulations Section 3-6 for A Street, Food Vendor Parking Only, East sideline of A Street 80 foot section across from 40 A Street- Tuesday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and for 4th Avenue Food Vendor Parking Only, West sideline of 4th Avenue 50 foot section in front of 115-117 4th Avenue Tuesday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the period June 26, 2018 to July 26, 2018.**
- 2. Accept donations made to Needham Youth & Family Services to be used to sponsor the VAN program from the following: \$75 from Elizabeth Schneider, a Needham resident; \$25 from Robin Zucker, a Needham resident; and \$500 from Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Needham to sponsor the showing of “The Masks You Live in.”**
- 3. Accept the following donations made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund for the Brenda Stark Celebration Bench: \$30 from**

Allchores LLC, \$50 from FASTSIGNS Needham, and \$600 from an Anonymous donor.

4. Approve Open Session minutes from May 3, 2018, and Executive Session minutes from June 12, 2018.
5. Approve a request from the Charles River YMCA to hold its 4th of July Road Race in Needham on July 4, 2018 from 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The route of the race has been approved by the following departments: Police, Fire, DPW and Park and Recreation.
6. Ratify a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages License for Maxwell Sparr of Trip Advisor who hosted a Global Volunteer Month Celebration event on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event was held at Trip Advisor, 400 First Avenue, Needham.
7. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages license for Leslie J. Laputz of the Pan Mass Challenge to host an event at the end of the Pan Mass Challenge on Sunday August 5, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event will be held in Trim Lot (in Needham), which is at Babson College, 231 Forest Street, Babson Park.
8. Approve a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverages License for Susan Banez of Needham Pool and Racquet to hold its Beers and Bags Cornhole Tournament event on July 13, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will be held at Needham Pool and Racquet Club, 1550 Central Avenue, Needham.
9. Water and Sewer Abatement Order #1257
10. Approve a 2018 Class II Used Car Dealer License for Needham Service Center Inc. located at 1401 Highland Avenue, Needham.
11. Approve a request from New Garden, located at 45 Chestnut Place, to extend their hours to 1:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2018.
12. Grant permission for the following residents to hold block parties:

Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Date	Party Time
Robert Petitt	80 Robinwood Avenue	56-96 Robinwood Avenue	7/21/18	n/a	3pm- 9pm

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

7:02 p.m.

Town Manager:

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

1. LED Project

Ms. Fitzpatrick explained research completed after the last Board of Selectmen meeting on June 12, 2018 by Carys Lustig, Director of A&F, Public Services and Tony Del Gaizo, Town Engineer, led to a recommendation that the Board vote to approve the recommended 2,700 kelvin LED light for local roads and the 3,000 kelvin LED light for through streets for installation in 2018. Ms. Lustig explained the process with the MAPC and the fact that incentives and grants for municipalities will no longer be offered, as this is the last year of the program. Ms. Lustig explained the Town of Wellesley was helpful in sharing their light fixture and

pricing information. She said Needham anticipates installing shielding on fixtures if requested by residents, and the possibility of remote lighting controls.

Ms. Fitzpatrick stated the vendor certified the amount of light is the same as the high pressure sodium lights currently in use.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the recommended LED installation including 2700 kelvin lights on local roads and 3000 kelvin lights on through streets, as depicted below:

- Charles River Street, entire length
- South Street - Charles River Street to Great Plain Avenue
- Chestnut Street - entire length
- Dedham Avenue - entire length
- Great Plain Avenue - entire length
- Central Avenue - entire length
- High Rock Street - entire length
- Marked Tree Road - entire length
- Chapel Street - entire length
- Highland Avenue - entire length
- Greendale Avenue - entire length
- Greendale Avenue - High Street to Kendrick Street
- Broad Meadow Road - Great Plain Avenue to Greendale Avenue
- Bird Street - entire length
- Brookline Street - entire length
- Webster Street - entire length
- High Street - entire length
- West Street - entire length
- Kendrick Street - entire length
- Hunting Road - entire length
- Gould Street - entire length
- Cedar Street - entire length
- Hunnewell Street - entire length
- West Street - Central Avenue to Webster Street
- Forest Street - entire length
- Brookside Road - entire length
- Manning Street - entire length
- Hillside Avenue - entire length
- Rosemary Street - entire length
- Nehoiden Street - entire length
- Oak Street - entire length
- May Street - entire length
- Garden Street - entire length

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

2. Public Safety Communications Update

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager and George Kent, Chair, PPBC provided the Board an update on the public safety communications project.

Mr. Matthews gave a brief explanation of planning and design thus far for replacement of the Police and Fire stations. He said the project includes replacing the existing communication system for public safety, noting the current system does not cover the entire town. Mr. Matthews explained two of the elements of the initial proposal included using monopole antenna on Birds Hill and Tower Hill. He said the public strongly objected to the use of monopoles, asking for a different solution.

Mr. Kent said the PPBC looked for additional possible sites. He noted Verizon informed the Town it will no longer provide copper wire used with the current system, so finding a new system for communicating is crucial to the project. He said the tower currently in the center of Needham at Station #1 remains part of the design, as well as erecting a 199 ft. tower at the RTS adjacent to the new seasonal storage building. The northeast and southeast sections of Needham are proving difficult. He said one location under consideration is the existing tower locations in the Cabot Circle area. He commented two options include leasing space on a 400 ft. tower or building a tower in the Cabot Circle area. He commented further information will be presented to the Board of Selectman at a future meeting. Mr. Kent said the southeast section of Needham is more difficult, however a suggestion to consider the Norfolk County Jail site at the top of the hill turns out to be an outstanding site due to its elevation. Mr. Kent said discussions will continue and it is hoped the design will be completed sometime in mid-July 2018.

Mr. Borrelli said the potential sites are a positive development.

Ms. Fitzpatrick commented the Town of Dedham is also considering partnering with Needham on the tower project, and perhaps a joint venture with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. Kent pointed out the current communication system is working, but the Town does not believe it can give the coverage needed for the future. However, he noted the new buildings could still be built with the current system.

Mr. Matthews commented if the Town does not meet all the reasonable objections, work will continue until "we get it right."

Mr. Kent said extra cost in design would be involved if the communication system is done at a later time than during construction of the buildings.

A brief discussion ensued on the project timeline.

The Board thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Kent for the update.

3. Town Manager's Report
No Report was made.

7:35 p.m.

Public Hearing: Town Meeting Start Time

Mr. Matthews said historically Town Meeting has started at 7:30 p.m., recognizing most Town Boards and Committees have changed their start time from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A related question, he said, is whether or not Town Meeting should aim to adjourn earlier, depending on the pace of business. He noted a survey completed last year asking members their preference on the two questions indicated a significant majority were in favor of the earlier start time, while showing a more mixed opinion on the ending time. Mr. Matthews said an idea being considered is piloting an earlier start time for the 2018 fall Town Meeting. He referenced a Town Meeting Study Committee survey completed a number of years ago indicating a majority preferred an earlier start time. He noted comments heard at a public hearing indicated people were overwhelmingly opposed to the earlier start time, particularly due to work commitments in Boston. Mr. Matthews explained philosophically that democracy is not just about the rule or majority, but about the protection of the reasonable interest of the minority. Mr. Matthews stated all of the emails, except for one, received leading up to tonight's public hearing favored an earlier start time. He noted the Board of Selectmen, as Warrant Committee, are responsible for scheduling the start time, but the decision to adjourn is in the hands of Town Meeting Members.

Mr. Matthews opened the public hearing and invited public comment.

Eric Bailey, 64 Hillside Avenue favors an earlier start time, agreeing the ending time is in the hands of Town Meeting Members, suggesting a guideline of 10:30 p.m.

Michael Fee, 137 Fox Hill Road, elected Town Meeting Moderator, Town Meeting Member at large said as moderator for 21 years, not a single person has spoken to him, complained, or requested a change in the start time of Town Meeting. He said, while mindful of the 2009 survey by the Town Meeting Study Committee, personally he is not in favor of changing the start time to 7 p.m. He commented it is incredibly important that Town Meeting be accessible to every citizen of the Town, explaining there should be few to no barriers in participating in Town Meeting. Mr. Fee said moving the start time to 7 p.m. erects a barrier to participation. He commented the Town must think about deterring people from choosing to run or participate in Town Meeting. Mr. Fee said the ability to attend Town Meeting is critically dependent on the ability to get to Town Meeting. He recognized commuting from Boston or elsewhere has not gotten better over the years, and the 1/2 hour difference can be substantial. Mr. Fee asked, "How does moving Town Meeting to an earlier start time make it more accessible?" He surmised an earlier start time does not make Town Meeting more accessible, and that people should have the opportunity to participate and be given the luxury a

little bit of time. He noted the later time allows people to see their family and have a bite to eat before heading out for the evening. Mr. Fee relayed the opinion of Theodora Eaton, Town Clerk who favors a start time of 7:30 p.m. Lastly, Mr. Fee said the considerations of smaller number of people who volunteer their time on a Board or Committee is quite different from the considerations of nearly 250 members who have to make it to Town Meeting.

Lois Sockol, 611 Greendale Avenue, Town Meeting Member said personally she prefers a 7 p.m. start time. However, she said including people in the process is more important, concurring with Mr. Matthews that democracy needs to care for all, not just a majority. She asked that the Town Meeting start time remain at 7:30 p.m.

Ford Peckham, 26 Lawton Road, Town Meeting Member said he personally would love to have an earlier start time. However, he acknowledged people who are busy are unlikely to make it to a 7 p.m. meeting. Mr. Peckham said from a practical standpoint, he would like to see the start time remain at 7:30 p.m.

Bill Dermody, 12 Concord Street, Town Meeting Member said he is concerned young potential members would not be able to make it to an earlier meeting time. He strongly suggested keeping the start time at 7:30 p.m. He said if the October 2018 Town Meeting starts at 7 p.m., a survey of the number of people in attendance at 7 p.m. should be noted, as a quorum may just be met. He said he believes Town Meeting will not "speed up" with an earlier start time.

Thomas Harkins, 24 May Street, Town Meeting Member said he favors an earlier start time, but after hearing testimony tonight, he believes the start time should remain 7:30 p.m. He suggested piloting an earlier start time at the October 2018 Special Town Meeting to see how it works. He noted other considerations could speed up Town Meeting.

Nancy McCarthy, 29 Sterling Road, Town Meeting Member said she personally prefers starting at 7 p.m. She relayed a conversation she had with a young father who is a Town Meeting Member, who finds it very difficult to attend while he has small children, noting the late hour at which the meeting adjourns. She acknowledged she is concerned with the accessibility of Town Meeting for current and future members. She expressed a frustration with the pace of Town Meeting.

Paul Milligan, 224 Elmwood Road, Town Meeting Member echoed the thoughts of Mr. Fee, agreeing Town Meeting must be accessible for all. He said he enjoys the balance of family, work, and community service. Mr. Milligan said an earlier start time would make it very difficult for him to attend Town Meeting, as he works in Boston. He urged the Board of Selectmen to keep the start time of Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Matthews asked for questions and comments from the Board.

Mr. Bulian said he prefers an earlier start and end time. He said he gets tired as it gets later, noting he also gets up early the next day. He said the balance cuts all different ways. He supports trying an earlier start time for the October 2018 Special Town Meeting. Mr. Bulian said if something is a priority, people will make it a priority to get there. He said he knows people who get to work early and leave early on the few occasions necessary to get to Town Meeting. He acknowledged the world is changing and more people are working from home or have flexibility to work from home on certain days.

Mr. Borrelli said he likes a 7 p.m. start time as it is convenient for him. He acknowledged starting at 7:30 p.m. is a necessity for some to get to Town Meeting. Mr. Borrelli noted some Boards and Committees meet before Town Meeting, and will therefore need to start even earlier. He suggested keeping the start time 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Handel said he is moved by the logic of the discussion regarding accessibility. He agreed on the importance of getting more people to attend Town Meeting. Mr. Handel said he is not interested in changing the start time to 7 p.m.

Ms. Cooley commented reaction is mixed, but either plan cuts one way or the other. She said people who serve the Town will probably continue to serve the Town whatever the start time. She said she is willing to listen to comments, but the start time does not matter to her.

Mr. Matthews closed the public hearing, suggesting the record remain open for three weeks for people to submit additional testimony in writing or by email to selectmen@needhamma.gov. He said the Board of Selectmen will take the issue up again at its next meeting on July 24, 2018.

8:15 p.m.

Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to recess the Board of Selectmen meeting of June 26, 2018 to reconvene at the Planning Board meeting in Powers Hall for the purpose of discussing the Public Safety Building Project, and to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at the close of the Planning Board meeting.

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

Note: The Planning Board meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Committee Member Reappointments 6/26/2018

Committee	Name	Term Exp
Board Of Appeals	Jonathan D. Tamkin	6/30/2021
Cable Television Advisory Board	Michael J. Greis	6/30/2021
Cable Television Advisory Board	Jonathan D. Tamkin	6/30/2021
Commission on Disabilities	Deborah Heller	6/30/2021
Commission on Disabilities	Elaine Saunders	6/30/2021
Commission on Disabilities	Dale Wise	6/30/2021
Commission on Disabilities	Barbara Moss	6/30/2021
Conservation Commission	Stephen Farr	6/30/2021
Conservation Commission	Alison G. Richardson	6/30/2021
Council of Economic Advisors	Peter Atallah	6/30/2021
Council of Economic Advisors	Ted Owens	6/30/2021
Council of Economic Advisors	Stuart B. Agler	6/30/2021
Council of Economic Advisors	Adam Block	6/30/2021
Council On Aging	Carol de Lemos	6/30/2021
Council On Aging	Daniel Goldberg	6/30/2021
Council On Aging	Lianne Relich	6/30/2021
Council On Aging	Gary Crossen	6/30/2021
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Paul Good	6/30/2019
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Gloria Greis	6/30/2019
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Nelson Hammer	6/30/2019
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Maurice P. Handel	6/30/2019
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Bob Hentschel	6/30/2019
Downtown Streetscape Working Group	Dale Wise	6/30/2019
Golf Course Advisory Committee	Roy Cramer	6/30/2021
Golf Course Advisory Committee	Daniel Dain	6/30/2021
Historical Commission	Gloria Greis	6/30/2021
Historical Commission	Jeffrey Heller	6/30/2021
Human Rights Committee	Amelia Klein	6/30/2021
Human Rights Committee	Ashok Mehta	6/30/2021
Human Rights Committee	Jennifer Howard Schroeder	6/30/2021
Needham Cmt. Revitalization Trust Fund	Carol de Lemos	6/30/2021
Needham Cmt. Revitalization Trust Fund	Paul Good	6/30/2021
Needham Community Television Dev Corp	Arnold Goldstein	6/30/2021
Needham Community Television Dev Corp	Michael J. Greis	6/30/2021
Needham Community Television Dev Corp	Jonathan D. Tamkin	6/30/2021
Norfolk County Advisory Board	Ronald Furman	7/31/2019
Registrars of Voters	Ann Cosgrove	6/30/2021
Solid Waste Disposal/Recycling Advisory	Jeffrey Heller	6/30/2021
Solid Waste Disposal/Recycling Advisory	Steve Rosenstock	6/30/2021
Town Counsel	David S. Tobin	6/30/2019
Traffic Management Advisory Committee	Rhain Hoyland	6/30/2021
Traffic Management Advisory Committee	Anthony L Delgaizo	6/30/2021
Traffic Management Advisory Committee	Stephen Delisi	6/30/2021
Youth Commission	Kevin Keane	6/30/2021