

**Town of Needham
Select Board Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2024
Needham Town Hall
Powers Hall**

6:45 p.m. Call to Order:

A special meeting of the Select Board was convened by Chair Kevin Keane. Present were Heidi Frail, Cathy Dowd, Marianne Cooley, Joshua Levy, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick.

6:45 p.m. Motion: Ms. Frail moved that the Board adjourn its meeting simultaneously with the adjournment of Town Meeting. Second: Ms. Cooley. Unanimously approved 5-0.

The Board discussed pending issues related to the Special Town Meeting.

Ms. Cooley spoke about motions to amend zoning articles on the night of Town Meeting. She said that she believes a preposed motion to amend Article 8 could render an identified project unworkable. She noted that the best course is to proceed with the existing zoning and avoid confusion. Ms. Frail said that she agreed with timing concern, and that the motion to amend itself is not ideal. She said she is inclined to support the motion if the Planning Board does because she doesn't think it would have a financial impact. Mr. Levy agreed noting that the message of the motion is that neighborhood concerns are met. Ms. Dowd stated that the passage of all articles is the number one priority. She worried about unforeseen consequences. Mr. Keane said he did not want to put the neighborhood plan at risk.

The Board took a short recess as the Planning Board was still meeting. Katie King, Deputy Town Manager joined the meeting and reported that the Planning Board voted 3 – 2 to support the motion to amend.

7:30 p.m. Motion: Ms. Frail moved that the Board vote to support the motion to amend Article 8 (the “Mulno Amendment”). Second: Mr. Levy. Ms. Frail and Mr. Levy voting in the affirmative and Mr. Keane. Ms. Dowd, and Ms. Cooley voting in the negative, the motion failed to carry.

Note: The October 21, 2024 Special Town Meeting adjourned on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 12:13 a.m.