Town Of Needham Board of Selectman
Minutes for October 24, 2006
Needham Town Hall

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:
Kathleen Rothenberg appeared before the Board to express her support for the renovation of the High Rock School to alleviate increased student enrollment.

7:00 p.m. Call To Order
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman John H. Cogswell at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: John Bulian, John H. Cogswell, Daniel P. Matthews, James Healy, Gerald Wasserman, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing – NSTAR Petition for Ellicott Street:
Christine Crosby, NSTAR Representative, appeared before the Board to request permission to install conduit on Ellicott Street to provide residential service.
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install 7 feet of conduit @ pole 103/9 on Ellicott Street, Needham. This work is necessary to provide electrical service to #38 Ellicott Street, Needham.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:00 p.m. Special One-day All Alcohol License:
Stuart Kaplan, Applicant, and Bob Pepetti, Village Club Member, appeared before the Board to request a one-day all alcohol license for a fundraising event to benefit Starlight/Starbright Children's Foundation. Mr. Kaplan provided a description of the Starlight/Starbright Children's Foundation.
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the request of Stuart Kaplan on behalf of the Starlight/Starbright Children's Foundation for a one-day all alcohol license for its Annual Charity Poker Event to be held on November 17, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to midnight at the Village Club.

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

7:05 p.m. Use of Athletic Field Lights at Memorial Park and DeFaizo Park:
Bill Dermody, Chairman of the Park and Recreation Commmission, and Patty Carey, Director of Park and Recreation, appeared before the Board to request that the Board consider endorsing the draft policy regarding the use of athletic field lights at Memorial Park and Defazio Park. Mr. Dermody stated that the policy was jointly developed by the Park and Recreation Commission and Memorial Park Trustees and has already been endorsed by the School Committee. Mr. Healy stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals will be holding a public meeting to take comment on the proposal for lights at Memorial Park and DeFazio Park. Mr. Matthews expressed his displeasure with recent distribution of materials opposing the lights and suggesting there has not been enough public input. He stated that there have been many opportunitites and there will be several more.
Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to endorse the draft, joint policy entitled Use of Field Lights at Memorial Park and DeFazio Park, dated October 10, 2006 for the purpose of providing Town Meeting with an understanding of the proposed use, and with the understanding that the final policy will be amended if the lights are authorized by Town Meeting and constructed at Memorial or Defaizo. Second: Mr. Healy. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:20 p.m. Consent Agenda:
Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Ratify permission to the following residents to hold Block Parties:**

Name	Address	Party Location	Date	Rain Date	Party Time
Mary Hunt	**40 Avalon Rd.**	**Avalon Rd.**	**10.15.06**	**n/a**	**12-4 p.m.**
Barbara Mason	**45 Washington Ave.**	**Washington Ave.**	**10.14.06**	**10.15.06**	**3-7 p.m.**

Suzanne Jantzen	**55 Dunster Rd.**	**Dartmouth Ave.**	**10.8.06**	**n/a**	**4:30-10 p.m.**

2. Accept a donation of $250.00 made to the Needham Youth Commission from the Rotary Club of Needham, Inc., to be used to help fund the Books and Bridges Program.

3. Approve Certificates of Appreciation for retiring firefighters: James A. Broadley, Charles R. Lambert, Leonard A. Marini, Ronald C. Rossi and David J. Wainwright

4. Water & Sewer Abatement, Order #1038

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

7:25 p.m. Board of Assessors Vacancy:

James Zeiger, Chairman of the Needham Board of Assessors, and Chip Davis, Town Assessor, appeared before the Board to recommend the appointment of Lois M. Duffy to the Board of Assessors to replace Tom Mulhern who recently resigned. Ms. Duffy has volunteered to serve on the Board until the April, 2007 election.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors vote to appoint Lois M. Duffy to serve as Board of Assessors member until April 10, 2007.

Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 6-0. Mr. Zeiger voted on behalf of the Board of Assessors.

7:35 p.m. School Committee Vacancy:

Members of the School Committee (Marianne Cooley, Gary Crossen, Laura Flueckiger, Donald Gratz, Jeffrey Simmons, Micheal Greis) appeared before the Board to conduct interviews to fill a vacancy on the School Committee. The appointment will last until the April, 2007 election. Five candidates were interviewed – Robert L. Arendell, Joseph P. Barnes, Holly T. Horrigan, Kim Marie Nicols and G. David Riedell. The Board interviewed each candidate and asked a similar set of questions. Candidates were asked why they wanted to serve on the Committee, what skills they would bring to the Committee, what are the major challenge faced by Needham's schools, previous experience on volunteer boards, and each candidate's position on the current issue regarding the middle school overcrowding and potential solutions.

After the interviews, Board and School Committee members each identified their top candidates. The Board and Committee were very impressed with all the candidates and hoped that those not selected to fill the current vacancy would consider serving on other Town committees or running for election in April. Joseph P. Barnes and G. David Riedell were top candidates of almost all the members of the interview panel.

Mr. Cogswell asked for Board and Committee members to identify their preferred candidate. Board and Committee preferences were as follows:

School Committee:	
Marianne Cooley	Joseph P. Barnes
Gary Crossen	Joseph P. Barnes
Laura Flueckiger	G. David Riedell
Donald Gratz	Joseph P. Barnes
Jeffrey Simmons	Joseph P. Barnes
Micheal Greis	Joseph P. Barnes
Board:	
James Healy	G. David Riedell
Gerry Wasserman	Joseph P. Barnes
John Bulian	Joseph P. Barnes
Dan Matthews	G. David Riedell
John Cogswell	G. David Riedell

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen and School Committee vote to appoint Joseph P. Barnes to serve as School Committee member until April 10, 2007.
Second: Mr. Healy. Unanimously approved by both the Board and Committee 11-0.

9:50 p.m. School Committee Decision on the High Rock School:
Marianne Cooley informed the Board that the School Committee voted 5-1 to recommend to Town Meeting that the High Rock School be renovated as a 6th grade center. She asked for the Board's support.

The Board discussed whether to take a position on Article 9 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend support for Article 9 – High Rock School Renovation Design in the 2006 Special Town Meeting Warrant.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Approved 3-1-1. Mr. Healy voted nay. Mr. Wasserman abstained.

Mr. Healy suggested that the Town consider adding some additional money to the design to examine the issue of the need for a second middle school and to perform a cost comparison of renovating the High Rock School to building a new middle school. Ms. Cooley stated that it was recommended by the Board of Selectmen not to pursue a second middle school. The Board discussed the issue of whether to build a new middle school at DeFazio now or to renovate the High Rock School as a short term solution while working on a long-term solution for the Town's middle school needs. Ms. Cooley stated that the School Committee would only pursue a new middle school option now if both the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee were in unanimous support of the plan. The Board agreed to have Mr. Healy and Mr. Wasserman attend the Finance Committee's meeting to discuss whether to examine the option of a second middle school at DeFazio.

10:40p.m. Ms. Fitzpatrick appeared before the Board with three items for the Board's consideration:

1. Approve Sale of Bonds and Refunding Bonds:
Ms. Fitzpatrick, David Davison – Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director, and Evelyn Poness – Treasurer/Collector, appeared before the Board to request approval for the sale of bonds and refunding of bonds for a variety of projects within Town. Mr. Davison stated that the Town continues to maintain its Triple A rating. There were five motions necessary to approve the sale of bonds and refunding bonds.

Motion A

Move that the Town issue $5,525,000 Refunding Bonds under G.L. c.44, §21A to refund the remaining outstanding principal amount of the Town's Municipal Purpose Loan of 1999 Bonds dated June 15, 1999 and maturing in the years 2010 through 2019, including the payment of the principal amount of such bonds, the redemption premium, any interest accrued thereon and the costs of issuance related to the refunding bonds.

Motion B

Move that the sale of the $5,525,000 Refunding Bonds of the Town dated November 1, 2006, to Fidelity Capital Markets at the price of $5,574,167.35 and accrued interest is hereby confirmed. The bonds shall be payable on May 1 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows, subject to earlier redemption at the option of the Town as provided in the Official Statement dated October 19, 2006:

Year	Amount	Interest Rate	Year	Amount	Interest Rate
2007	$125,000	4.50%	2014	$520,000	4.00%
2008	20,000	4.25	2015	545,000	4.00
2009	20,000	4.25	2016	565,000	4.00
2010	450,000	4.00	2017	585,000	4.00
2011	465,000	3.75	2018	610,000	4.05
2012	485,000	3.75	2019	635,000	4.00
2013	500,000	4.00			

Motion C

Move to confirm the provisions of the Bond Purchase Agreement dated October 19, 2006 relating to the $5,525,000 Refunding Bonds.

Motion D

Move that the sale of the $11,970,000 Municipal Purpose Loan of 2006 Bonds of the Town dated November 1, 2006, to Fidelity Capital Markets at the price of $11,974,393.10 and accrued interest is hereby confirmed. The bonds shall be payable on May

1 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows, subject to earlier redemption at the option of the Town as provided in the Official Statement dated October 19, 2006:

Year	Amount	Interest Rate	Year	Amount	Interest Rate
2007	$ 500,000	4.50%	2017	$550,000	4.00%
2008	1,000,000	4.25	2018	550,000	4.00
2009	1,000,000	4.25	2019	550,000	4.00
2010	1,000,000	4.00	2020	500,000	4.00
2011	570,000	3.75	2021	500,000	4.00
2012	550,000	3.75	2022	500,000	4.00
2013	550,000	4.00	2023	500,000	4.00
2014	550,000	4.00	2024	500,000	4.00
2015	550,000	4.00	2025	500,000	4.125
2016	550,000	4.00	2026	500,000	4.125

Motion E

Move that the consent to the financial advisor bidding for the $11,970,000 Municipal Purpose Loan of 2006 Bonds, as executed prior to the bidding for the bonds, is hereby confirmed.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the five motions (Motion A, B, C, D, E) contained in the Board of Selectmen’s Agenda Package related to the sale of bonds and refunding bonds as presented, subject to copies being made available to all those present at the meeting and made available at the Board of Selectmen’s Office.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.

2. Designer Selection Criteria:
Ms. Fitzpatrick requested the Board approve the policy update for the Town of Needham’s procedure for selecting a designer for construction projects.
Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the revised Town of Needham Procedure for Designer Selection by Town Agencies dated October 24, 2006.

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

3. Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Consultation:
Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Davison appeared before the Board to discuss a preliminary debt analysis summary. Mr. Davison reviewed the summary with the Board and highlighted some of the assumptions and contingencies made in preparing the analysis. The analysis showed the impacts of various capital construction projects on the Town’s overall debt service over the coming years. The Board agreed that a shorter version of the analysis would be good for Town Meeting Members.

11:10p.m. Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session to:

Exception 3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, or to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; and

Exception 6 – to consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property if such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body.

Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Healy.

Several Board members expressed a desire to continue and finish covering the items on the agenda.

Mr. Matthews withdrew the motion.

11:10p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Position on Warrant Articles:
The Board took the following positions on Articles for the 2006 Special Town Meeting.

Article 2 – Zoning Change:
The Board decided to wait on taking a position.

Article 4 – Amend the FY07 Operating Budget:
The Board decided to wait on taking a position.

Article 8 – Field Study Design:
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend adoption of Article 8 – Field Study Design of the 2006 Special Town Meeting Warrant.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 10 – Pollard Electrical/Technology Design:
The Board decided to wait on taking a position.

Article 11 – Pollard Portable Classrooms:
Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to recommend adoption of Article 11 – Pollard Portable Classrooms of the 2006 Special Town Meeting Warrant.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Article 12 – Mitchell School Roof:
The Board decided to wait on taking a position.

11:15p.m. Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session to:

Exception 3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, or to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; and

Exception 6 – to consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property if such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body.

Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Mr. Cogswell polled the Board members. Unanimously approved 5-0.

(The Board adjourned the meeting at 12:15 a.m.)