

**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman
Minutes for October 23, 2007
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:

Paul Goodrich, representative for Labor's International Union of North America, and representatives of ARC Environmental appeared before the Board to request the Town pre-qualify construction firms prior to going out to bid and that the town not qualify TLT Construction. Mr. Goodrich stated that TLT Construction owes ARC Environmental over \$700,000 from work performed on jobs for the Town and other municipal construction projects. The President of ARC Environmental stated that he is in jeopardy of losing his business and his home. Mr. Matthews suggested the PPBC and Town Manager look into the situation. Mr. Healy stated that the Board's informal session is not the appropriate place to hear this complaint and that the Town should examine the issue and make sure the Town's obligations are being met.

7:00 p.m. Call To Order

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

7:00 p.m. Appointments and Consent Agenda:

Mr. Wasserman asked William Tilburg and Valerie Herman to come before the Board. He stated his support for their appointment as co-chairs of the Tercentennial Celebration of the Town which is happening in 2010.

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

APPOINTMENTS

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| 1. Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoef | Conservation Commission
(6/30/2010) |
| 2. William Tilburg, | Co-Chairs, Needham |

Valerie Herman

Tercentennial Celebration
Executive Committee
(through 1/1/2012)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve a request for a one-day wine and malt special permit from Elizabeth O'Connell for St. Joseph's Parish Church to hold a Parents' Mixer on Thursday, November 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 pm. The event will be held in the St. Joseph's Elementary School Gym.
2. Approve \$50 donation made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund from Andrea and Douglas Rae.
3. Approve \$73,200 donation (\$58,700 for equipment and \$14,500 for services and materials) made to Needham Park and Recreation from Parent Talk, Inc. for the new playground and walkway at Mills Field.
4. Ratify permission for the following residents block parties:

Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Date	Party Time
Mary Hunt	40 Avalon Road	40 Avalon Road	10/14/07	10/21/07	1:00-5:00pm

5. Approve the charge of the Needham Tercentennial Celebration Executive Committee: The Needham Tercentennial Celebration Planning Executive Committee will consist of not less than 12 nor more than 18 members. The Committee will develop, coordinate and oversee a plan for conducting a fitting community wide celebration of the Town of Needham's 300th anniversary. The Committee will create sub-committees to plan and oversee the various aspects of the celebration. The Committee will promote broad participation by encouraging volunteers to serve on those committees, and by reaching out to established organizations within the Town for support and assistance. The Executive Committee will meet regularly with the Town Manager and will provide periodic updates to the Board of Selectmen during the course of the project. An Executive Committee member's term of office will begin on the day the Board of Selectmen approves the appointment, and will end on January 1, 2012. No appointment by the Board is necessary for Subcommittee volunteers. Fundraising activities and financial record keeping by the Executive Committee will adhere to established guidelines for Town appointed committees.
6. Water & Sewer Abatement Order #1058

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

7:10 p.m. Proclamations:

Mr. Wasserman stated that the Board has been asked to sign two proclamations. The first proclaiming Sunday November 11, 2007 as Veteran's Day and the second congratulating Sunita Williams, a NASA astronaut who grew up in Needham for her recent accomplishments. Ms. Williams just returned from a six month mission at the International Space Station.

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign the proclamations honoring Sunita Williams and recognizing November 11, 2007 as Veteran's Day in Needham. Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5-0.

Mr. Healy reminded the public that a parade in honor of Sunita Williams will be held on October 27, 2007 starting at the Fire Station and ending at Town Hall.

7:10 p.m. Senior Center Update:

Ms. Fitzpatrick, Jamie Brenner Gutner - COA Executive Director, and John Catlin - Catlin Associates appeared before the Board to provide an update on the proposed Senior Center at Ridge Hill. Mr. Catlin provided a presentation on the project including the type of services to be offered. He stated that the demographics of the Town are changing and the senior population is growing. He reviewed the key issues regarding the site and showed how the original building would be preserved. Mr. Catlin described the Phase I layout of the building and what it might look like should Phase II be pursued. He stated that the Ridge Hill location offers a great opportunity to utilize a historic building and satisfy the need of the Town for a quality Senior Center. Mr. Catlin stated that most senior centers are not in the middle of downtown because sufficient parking is a necessity.

Ms. Fitzpatrick reminded the Board of the various locations which were considered for the Senior Center. She stated that of all the sites considered the Ridge Hill location offered the

greatest opportunity. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that a package is being mailed to Town Meeting members tomorrow explaining the proposed project in detail.

Mr. Wasserman asked Ms. Brenner Gutner to talk a little about the services that are offered by the COA. Mr. Healy stated that Town Meeting members and residents have many questions that need to be answered. He suggested a number of items that the COA should focus on addressing including the location, size of the building, projected participation at a new senior center and other critical benefits of a new center. Mr. Healy said the Town should be ready to provide numbers to substantiate the demand for services and therefore the benefits of the project. He asked why some seniors have not embraced the proposal. Ms. Brenner Gutner stated that change is hard and that those opposed to the project are usually the most vocal. Mr. Wasserman stated that he participated in the statewide tour of senior facilities and saw many different types of facilities many of which were not located within the downtown area.

8:30 p.m. Mr. Wasserman called for a five minute recess.

8:35 p.m. RTS Sticker Sale Process and Approval of RTS Rate:
David Davison, Assistant Town Manager, and Evelyn Poness, Treasurer/Collector, appeared before the Board to provide a TownStat presentation on the RTS sticker sale process and seek the Board's approval of the new RTS Sticker rates.

Ms. Poness stated that the Town sells nearly 10,000 stickers annually with almost all of the sticker sales taking place in the months of December and January. She explained the process for selling the stickers and how it takes 930 hours a year to process the sticker orders. She identified that by incorporating a scan line on the application the processing time can be cut in half. Ms. Poness also stated that she is looking at putting the application on-line. She

thanked Diane Ryan for all her help in doing the analysis and preparing the presentation.

Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the RTS rates as set forth on the attached sheet, effective January 1, 2008.

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

9:00 p.m. Ms. Fitzpatrick appeared before the Board with three items for the Board's consideration:

1. Sustainable Needham:
Ms Fitzpatrick introduced Carys Lustig, a management intern with the Town, who has been working on a number of issues including improving and documenting the Town's effort to reduce its environmental impact. Ms. Lustig reviewed with the Board the accomplishments of the Town. She highlighted the energy efficiency and conservation initiatives, green building projects and the Town's recycling efforts. The Board thanked Ms. Lustig for her efforts.
2. Position on Warrant Articles:
The Board determined that more information was necessary before taking a position on the remaining articles in the Town Meeting Warrant. The Board discussed Article 10 - Appropriate for Matching Grant/Tennis Courts and how the project is to be funded. The Board also discussed the options available should the Town not receive grant funding. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Board originally agreed to remove the article if the Town did not receive the grant and place the project on the Capital Improvement list. Mr. Healy suggested the Board tell the Finance Committee of its intentions relative to the article.

The Board briefly discussed Article 11 - Appropriate for Senior Center Design.

Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to support an amendment to

Article 11 by deleting the sum \$500,000 and inserting in place thereof the sum "\$260,000."
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

3. Facility Update:

Ms. Fitzpatrick provided the Board with an update on the Town Hall renovation project. She stated that the consultant preparing a feasibility study for the project would be presenting its preliminary recommendations to the Board on November 27, 2007. She stated that one proposed idea has been to conduct some renovations at the DPW building in order to house Town Hall departments during the Town Hall's renovation. The renovations would be conducive to the future renovation plans of the DPW building. The Board thought it would be a creative alternative to renting office space while Town Hall is being renovated. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that a portion of the DPW improvements may also be a recoverable expense under the CPA. The Board agreed with the proposal.

9:30 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports:

Mr. Wasserman stated that although the Golf Course lease was not on the Board's agenda he wanted to clarify the process for determining the future use of the property. Mr. Wasserman highlighted some of the key dates including public meetings to be scheduled. He stated that the Town will be getting an appraisal of the property.

Mr. Matthews congratulated Mr. Healy on receiving the Needham High School Distinguished Career Award.

9:40 p.m. Adjourn:

Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the October 23, 2007 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

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

