Town Of Needham Board of Selectman
Minutes for January 9, 2007
Needham Town Hall

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:
James Powers, Town Meeting Member Precinct F, appeared before the Board to inquire about the Town Meeting Study Committee that was approved at the 2005 Annual Town Meeting. The study was to look at how Town Meeting attendance and participation can be improved. Mr. Powers stated that the Committee has not yet been formed and that he would reintroduce the study for next Town Meeting if the Committee was not established soon. Mr. Matthews hoped that the Committee would be established before the end of January.

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 H. Cogswell, Daniel P. Matthews, John Bulian, Gerald Wasserman, James Healy, Assistant Town Manager/Personnel Director Chris Coleman and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper.

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing – New Wine & Malt License/Manager, and Common Victualler License for Asillem LLC d/b/a Stone Hearth Pizza Company, located at 974 Great Plain Avenue, Christopher Robbins, Manager:
Christopher Robbins and Jonathan Schwartz appeared before the Board to request a Wine & Malt License and a Common Victualler License. Mr. Robbins explained that the restaurant serves predominately pizza and salads and only about 30% of its business is take-out. Mr. Healy asked if, given the nature of the menu, other “pizza only” restaurants in Town may seek similar licenses. Mr. Cogswell stated that there is a seating requirement of 15 to get a wine and malt license.
Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the applications for a Wine & Malt License and a new Common Victualler License under the Town of Needham Rules and

Regulations Applicable to The Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages in Restaurants with a Seating Capacity of Less than 100 Persons for Asillem LLC, d/b/a Stone Hearth Pizza Company, Christopher Robbins, Manager, and forward the approved application to the ABCC for an approval of the liquor license.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Approved 4-1. Mr. Healy voted nay.

7:10 p.m. Consent Agenda:
Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Accept an anonymous donation to the Needham Youth Commission in the amount of $500 to help support program development for the youth and families of Needham.**
2. **Accept $150 donation made to the Kyle Shapiro Memorial Park Donation Fund from Regina E. Bonsignore & Richard S. Garber.**
3. **Accept a donation of $1,500.00 made to the Needham Health Department for the Gift of Warmth Fund from Carter Memorial Methodist Church.**
4. **Accept a donation of $150.00 made to the Needham Health Department for the Gift of Warmth Fund from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Sagafi.**
5. **In accordance with Section 20B (5) of the Town Charter, and upon the recommendation of the Town Manager and Personnel Board, revise the classification and Standard Rates of Compensation Schedule, Schedule C, Activity Instructor, as follows: A: $8.00;**
   B: $10; C: $12; D: $15; E: $18; F: $21; G: $25; H: $28; I: $30; J: $32; and K: $35
   per hour.
6. **Accept the following donations made to the Needham Public Library:**
   - **Needham Art Association, 10% commission from sale of paintings displayed in the Friends' Gallery--$47.50.**
   - **Ford Peckham, in memory of his brother Major R.N. Peckham, Jr. U.S.A.F. (Ret.), donated the following books:**
     - **Gold—*Tower of Babble: How the United Nations Has Fueled Global Chaos* ($25.95)**

- o **Stephens—*Tony Blair: The Making of a World Leader* ($25.95)**
- o **Hennessey—*A History of Northern Ireland* ($16.95)**

▪ ***Left To Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculée Ilibagiza ($24.95)—given to the library in honor of Donna Kidman.**

▪ **Benjamin Sockol donated $20.00 to purchase books on chocolate in memory of his grandfather, Mel Cohen.**

▪ **Painting by Needhamite David Millard (1918-2002), *New England Snow Scene*, donated by Mrs. Millard ($9,000.00—appraised by Childs Gallery December 13, 2006)**

▪ **Needham resident Rick Peckham donated three copies of his compact disc, *Left End* ($50.97).**

▪ **Nancy Simpson-Banker donated a copy of the audiobook, *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote ($34.95)**

▪ **Grant from the Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation, $3,000 for the purchase of Children's materials.**

▪ **Susan Abbott donated a subscription to *Ode Magazine* ($19.95)**

7. **Certify to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission that as of July 10, 2007, the estimated resident population of Needham is 29,490 residents plus 907 inactive voters for a total population of 30,397.**

8. **Declare surplus the following office furniture, in fair to poor condition, from Town Hall and the Council on Aging, having a value of less than $5,000 which will be disposed of using best business practices: 2 metal desk with side returns, 2 wooden desks, one pressboard bookcase, one pressboard TV stand, 2 guest office chairs; and excess & damaged donated furniture from Cabot, Cabot & Forbes consisting of 3 overhead panel cabinets and 2 desk panels. Declare surplus 4 older cell phones to be donated and recycled as 911 calls for people in need.**

9. **Approve the Board of Selectmen minutes of September 12, 2006, October 10, 2006, October 24, 2006, November 28, 2006, and December 19, 2006.**

10. **Ratify the renewal of the all alcohol club license for the Village Club for 2007 (left off**

December 19 list in error).

11. **Accept donation of $2,971.75 in services from Hartney Greymont, Inc. towards the installation of the white holiday lights in Town trees ($2,400 truck & $571.75 discounted labor).**
12. **Accept a donation of $600 made to the Needham Health Department for the Gift of Warmth Fund from the Christ Episcopal Church.**
13. **Accept a donation of $100 made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund from Louise Condon Realty.**
14. **Accept a donation f $50 made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund from Julia F. Ragland and William J. Paulson.**
15. **Accept a donation in the amount of $50 from Fredie Diane Kay & Thomas H. Green III for the Kyle Shapiro Memorial Park Fund.**
16. **Accept a donation in the amount of $75 from Tom Nutile to the Park & Recreation Commission for Arts in the Parks.**
17. **Water & Sewer Consent Order #1043.**

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

7:10 p.m. Special One-Day Liquor License:
Ann Shuman, Applicant on behalf of Temple Beth Shalom, requested approval of a one-day all alcoholic license for an event to be held at Temple Beth Shalom. Mr. Wasserman elected to recuse himself from the discussion and vote because he is a member of the Temple.
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the request of Ann Shuman for a one-day all alcoholic license for the Temple Beth Shalom's ImproveBoston event to be held on January 27, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Temple Beth Shalom. 670 Highland Avenue, Needham.
Second: Mr. Matthews. Approved 4-0. Mr. Wasserman recused himself from the vote.

7:15 p.m. NSTAR Public Hearing – Petition for Curtis Road - Continued:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR Representative, appeared before the Board to request approval of a petition to install conduit on Curtis Road. This hearing was continued from the Board's last

meeting while details of the request were clarified. Sharon Daily, 30 Curtis Road, asked if the work would involve addressing the double poles in the area. Mr. Cogswell stated that it does not specifically, but that NSTAR will be meeting with the Town Manager next week to discuss that issue and other concerns raised by the DPW.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 92 feet of conduit @ pole 160/4 on Curtis Road, Needham. The work is necessary to provide overhead/underground electrical service to Olin College of Engineering, Needham.

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

7:20 p.m. TownStat Performance Measurement Program:

As part of the ongoing performance measurement program, Janice Berns – Director of Public Health and Jon Mattleman – Director of Youth Services provided the Board with a presentation on the Department of Public Health and Youth Commission, respectively.

Ms. Berns stated that the Department of Public Health examined how it allocates its resources by tracking time spent over the course of the year. She stated that emergency preparedness planning, nuisance complaints and replacement of septic systems took up a majority of the Department’s resources. Ms. Berns stated that this was in-part due to grants received by the Department for Homeland Security projects. She stated that several services had been discontinued or significantly reduced such as the Wellness Clinics. Mr. Matthews asked if the analysis helps in allocating the Department’s existing resources. Ms. Berns stated that it definitely helps her understand where the Department’s time is spent and how to improve efficiencies.

Jon Mattleman stated that the Youth Commission examined the statistical gathering process and how evaluation is measured. He stated that many of the Youth Commission programs are difficult to measure quantitatively, but the Department has tried to establish a general surveying mechanism. He stated that evaluation of programs is not just a short term activity but something that must be done long after the service is provided.

7:35 p.m. Mr. Coleman appeared before the Board with one item for the Board’s consideration:

1. Utility Rates:
David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director, appeared before the Board to request the Board approve a water credit to ratepayers because revenue growth is good and reserves are sufficient. He also requested that the Board authorize the Town Manager to issue a sewer usage credit not to exceed $50 if it is determined that resources allow it.
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the following credits as rate relief set forth below:

Regular water usage billed between January 1, 2007 and June 30, 2007

- **Step two – a credit of $0.75 per hundred cubic feet of usage**
- **Step three – a credit of $0.75 per hundred cubic feet of usage**

Further move that the Board authorizes the Town Manager for the fourth quarter of FY 2007, and upon a written recommendation of the Finance Director, to allow a sewer usage credit not to exceed $50.
Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

7:50 p.m. Board Discussion:
Mr. Cogswell stated that he would like to continue to have Board member reports on Committee work but asked that Board members contact Sandy Cincotta by the Friday before each meeting to have it put on the agenda.

1. Field Study Committee:

Mr. Healy announced that the Roche Family has commit to contributing $2 million to the field renovations if an additional $1 million in private funding is raised. He stated that this would allow for completion of Phase 1 of the project. Mr. Healy expressed his gratitude to the Roche Family for making such a kind and generous offer.

2. Massachusetts Municipal Resolutions:
Mr. Wasserman stated that the Board needs to take a position on the MMA resolution that is to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on January 14, 2007. Mr. Wasserman stated that there is only one resolution and it is a broad endorsement of additional local aid. Mr. Wasserman stated that there are some elements that the Board may not agree with but not significant enough to support the overall resolution.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and authorize the Chairman to cast the Town's vote in support of a proposed MMA Resolution on Renewing and Revitalizing a Strong State-Local Fiscal Partnership and to authorize the Chairman to act on any other issues raised at the MMA's Annual Meeting.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.

8:05 p.m. Adjourn:
Motion by Mr. Healy that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the January 9, 2007 Board of Selectmen Meeting.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.