Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Center at the Heights
December 13, 2019

1:00 p.m. A special meeting of the Select Board was convened by Chair John Bulian. Present were Moe Handel, Matthew Borrelli, Marianne Cooley, Daniel Matthews, Assistant Town Manager David Davison, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick.

The Board discussed the fiscal year 2020/2021 proposed goals and objectives:

Maximize the use of Town assets and ensure that Town and School services are housed in buildings that provide suitable and effective environments. The Board asked the Town Manager to schedule a "blue sky" session on the proposed future uses of the Ridge Hill/Nike Site, as well as a walking tour of the area. The meeting will also include an update on the proposed demolition of structures at Ridge Hill. Ms. Fitzpatrick reported that the Cogswell Building is now in use. The Board discussed options for School Administration including the Emery Grover site and the Stephen Palmer site.

Ensure appropriate regulation and assessment of, and investment in infrastructure. Ms. Cooley updated the Board on the progress of the N2025 report. The Board agreed to hold a public hearing on stormwater fees prior to Town Meeting. Ms. Fitzpatrick told the Board that a public workshop would be scheduled on the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan.

Maintain and improve the vitality and economic success of the Town. The Board suggested that Ms. Fitzpatrick seek a Reserve Fund Transfer to obtain additional information on the Highway Commercial 1 zoning. Board members said they would like to move the zoning to May 2020 if the Planning Board is so inclined. Ms. Fitzpatrick updated the Board on the status of the Economic Development Director position and reported on the CEA's priorities from a chairs meeting in October.

Expand energy efficient and environmentally sound operations for the Town and its residents and businesses. Ms. Fitzpatrick noted that the Town's application for Green Community Status was submitted in late November.

Maintain and develop amenities that contribute to the desirability of Needham as a place to live and work. The Board discussed the letter from the General Manager of the MBTA and determined that a Town-funded feasibility study for the Golf Club crossing elimination was not a priority. The Board agreed to hold a public discussion on the Quiet Zone issue and to take no further action on the matter. The Board agreed to pursue other issues such as idling and noise levels. Ms. Fitzpatrick said that a request for funding for community celebrations was included in the FY2021 budget request. The Board discussed the upcoming joint meeting with the Park & Recreation Commission. Ms. Fitzpatrick updated the Board on the small grant repair program.

Maintain and enhance the Town's Financial Sustainability. The Board discussed its budget priorities and agreed that a focus should be on building maintenance and asset preservation. The Board discussed the impact of capital projects on the tax levy, spending and revenue growth. Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she will work with Children's Hospital on an agreement for tax revenue if the zoning passes.

Evaluate Town Operations and Administration. The Board discussed options for ensuring liquor license requirements, and the need to schedule a meeting in the spring with the Board of Health. The Board discussed the meeting with Babson and the future of the Burrill Lane house. The Board discussed options for legal services, the role of the Personnel Board, and the need for a study on the mix of parking regulations in the business districts. Ms. Cooley asked the Board to revisit the concept of a tree by-law in the future.

4:10 p.m. **Motion: Mr. Matthews moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Borrelli seconded the motion. Unanimous: 5-0.**