**Town Of Needham Board of Selectman**
**Minutes for May 22, 2007**
**Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Session:

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, James Healy, Daniel P. Matthews, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick and Recording Secretary Greg Cooper.

7:00 p.m. Proclamation and Certificate of Recognition:

Proclamation - Needham Market, England:
Mr. Wasserman read a proclamation recognizing the special bond between the Town of Needham and Needham Market, England.
**Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to sign a proclamation recognizing Needham Market, England and its relationship with the Town of Needham.**
**Second: Mr. Matthews. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

Certificate of Recognition:
Mr. Wasserman read a certificate of recognition for Karl Lehmann on Mr. Lehmann's $100^{th}$ birthday.
**Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to recognize Karl Lehamnn on his $100^{th}$ Birthday.**
**Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:05 p.m. Public Hearing – NSTAR:
Maureen Carroll, NSTAR representative, appeared before the Board with four requests for permission to install conduit and move poles throughout town.

Petition for 397 Dedham Avenue:
This request is to provide underground service to 397 Dedham Avenue.
**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petitions from NSTAR to relocate one (1) pole 15/46 Dedham Avenue, Needham and to install approximately 3**

**feet of conduit at pole 15/46 Dedham Avenue, Needham. This work is necessary to provide service and to replace existing overhead service to underground at #397 Dedham Avenue, Needham. Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

Petition for 97 Jarvis Circle:
This request is to provide underground service to 97 Jarvis Circle.
**Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 37 feet of conduit at pole 157/12 on #97 Jarvis Circle, Needham. This work is necessary to provide new underground electric service at #97 Jarvis Circle, Needham.**
**Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

Petition for 132-138 Forest Street @ Burrill Lane:
This request is to provide underground service to improve reliability in the area of Forest Street.
**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 48 feet of conduit at pole 18/18 on #138 Forest Street, #132 Forest Street to Burrill Lane, Needham. This work is necessary to improve reliability in area @ Forest Street, Needham.**
**Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

Petition for 77 Mayflower Road:
This request is to re-feed underground service to 77 Mayflower Road.
**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign petition from NSTAR to install approximately 9 feet of conduit from pole 021/011. This work is necessary to provide service to re-feed underground electric service to 77 Mayflower Road, Needham.**
**Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:10 p.m. Richard Merson, Director of Public Works, appeared before the Board with two items for the Board’s consideration.

1. Order of Taking for Town Way (Form 3) for Andrea Circle, Gerber Circle, Stonecrest Drive, and Stonefield Court:
Mr. Merson requested the Board approve the fourth step in the process for the Town's acceptance of the four streets.
**Motion by Mr. Cogswell that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve and sign the Order of Taking for Town Way (Form 3) for the following streets; Andrea Circle, Gerber Circle, Stonecrest Drive, and Stonefield Court.**
**Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

The Board asked for Mr. Merson to return later in the meeting for the update on the Webster Road Project.

7:10 p.m. Ms. Fitzpatrick appeared before the Board with two items for the Board's consideration:

1. Town Manager Update:
Ms. Fitzpatrick provide the Board with an update on some current initiatives. She stated that the Ridge Hill/Senior Center Project is proceeding and receiving positive feedback. Ms. Fitzpatrick also stated that the approach to consolidating cash capital items into one article for Town Meeting worked well and the Town is currently working to address the critical needs of the DPW rolling stock that were funded through the article. She also stated that a recent investment report on pension system returns showed that Needham's was one of the top performers.

The Board asked Ms. Fitzpatrick to return later in the meeting to address her other item.

7:20 p.m. Webster Street Project Update:
Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Merson provided an overview of the Webster Street Project. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that after the public meeting last week on the project the Town has reconsidered its approach to the project. The Town is now recommending that the proposed road width be reduced from 30 feet to 26 feet. The Road is less than 24 feet in some locations.

Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that industry standard is 30 feet but the increased width would require the removal of at least 14 trees. Under the new proposal only four trees would need to be removed. Ms. Fitzpatrick described the concerns from the public meeting including worries about increased speed and traffic and the loss of character resulting from the tree removals. The Board discussed the issue of pedestrian and bicycle use of Webster and how Webster is designated a through connector street.

Mr. Merson identified the four trees proposed to be removed and stated that a tree removal hearing would be held at the Board’s next meeting. The trees need to be removed in order to widen the road to an average of 26 feet. Mr. Merson reviewed the standard conditions for tree removal.

Mr. Healy summarized some of the issues that were identified during an informal meeting held by residents which he and Mr. Merson attended. He stated that many of the resident’s questions have been answered tonight but others still remain, including the need to look at traffic counts along the road. Mr. Healy stated that residents feel the project is being rushed. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Town has been planning the project for over a year and would be happy to hold more meetings to gather additional resident input.

Dave Herrer, 857 Webster Street, and Bob Denoble, 871 Webster Street, were offered an opportunity to speak to the Board. Both expressed their gratitude to the Town for being responsive to resident’s questions. They also expressed hope that the dialogue would continue and result in an agreeable solution. Mr. Wasserman stated that the Town will have more opportunities for public input on the project.

8:20 p.m. Consent Agenda

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Approve One Day Special Liquor Application received from Patricia Hadge, for St. Sebastian's School to be held at 1191 Greendale Ave.,Needham, for a reunion Clam bake to be held on June 9, 2007 from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm.**
2. **Approve One Day Special Liquor Application received from Patricia Hadge, for St. Sebastian's School to be held at 1191 Greendale Avenue, Needham, for a reunion Dinners for 25th and 50th reunion to be held on June 8, 2007 from 6:00pm to 11:00pm.**
3. **Approve the following Block Party Requests:**

| Name | Address | Party Location | Party Date | Party Rain Date | Party Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anne Weinstein | 3 Carey Road | Carey Road | June 23 | June 23 | 4pm-9pm |
| Stacey Keenan | 30 North Hill Ave | Howe Road | June 23 | June 23 | 3pm-7pm |
| Michael Fuchs | 92 Grant Street | 92 Grant St & Kimball junction | June 15 | June 16 | 4pm-8pm |

4. **Approve One Day Special Liquor Application received from Jack McCann, Needham Pool & Racquet Club for wines & Malt Beverages Only to be held on June 15, 2007 from 6pm-9pm for New Member Reception at Needham Pool & Racquet Club, 1550 Central Ave, Needham, MA.**
5. **Accept the following donations made to the Council on Aging during February through April 2007:**
   - **Roche Brothers Supermarket: $1,000**
   - **Metro Total Care – Griswald: $200**
   - **Leo Treggiari: $20**
   - **Vangeline Miragaeas: $10**
   - **Ann Schofield: $25**
   - **Pearl Chamberlain: $20**
   - **James Wessler: $40**
   - **H.P. Marsman: $20**

6. **Accept the following donations made to the Needham Parks and Forestry Division –DPW May 2007:**

- **Richard Bernardo, Needham Soccer Club $460.00**
- **Ronald Sockol, Needham Rotary Garden $145.00**
- **Stan Piltch, Needham Little League $879.56**

**7. Approve Minutes from Board of Selectmen Meeting of May 8, 2007**
**Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5–0.**

8:20 p.m. Needham Cares/Katrina Relief
Ms. Fitzpatrick, Fire Chief Paul Buckley, Lieutenant Dennis Condon, and Inspector Bob Pepetti of the Fire Union appeared before the Board to report on the Fire Union’s collaboration with Needham Cares in sending four firefighters to Hancock County, Mississippi. The Needham firefighters included Peter Vigliano, Shawn Donovan, Eric Loborne and Rob Giumetti. Lt. Condon stated that the Fire Union was very happy to finance the effort. Ms. Fitzpatrick said the Town should be very proud of the firefighters and all the efforts of Needham Cares. The Board thanked everyone involved.

8:30 p.m. Ms. Fitzpatrick returned with one item for the Board’s consideration:

1. Lawn Sign Discussion:
Ms. Fitzpatrick reported on recent complaints received about the proliferation of lawn signs and the length of time they are allowed to stay up. She asked the Board whether it would like to have a comprehensive discussion on the issue and determine if the existing by-law regarding lawn signs should be amended. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the current law states that signs may not be bigger than 12 square feet, and may be posted for no more than 60 days. She said that the Town has limited resources to enforce this bylaw. Mr. Wasserman stated that a number of issues need to be discussed and suggested that the Board consider forming a committee to review. Mr. Matthews suggested that the staff frame the issue and the Board can recommend any policy changes. Mr. Healy stated that the end result should be a straight forward by-law, which

preserves free speech, is enforceable, and preserves the character of Needham.

8:45 p.m. Adjourn:
**Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to adjourn the May 22, 2007 Needham Board of Selectmen Meeting.**
**Second: Mr. Cogswell. Unanimously approved 5-0.**