

Disclaimer. Please note, these Minutes have yet to be approved. Check with the department or Town Clerk for updated versions.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
December 4, 2019**

Present: Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman
Stacia R. Libby, Selectman
Bruce M. Glowac, Selectman

Bruce Glowac called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Agenda. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the November 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes with one change: The appointment of Robert Day to Zoning Commission should be changed to Jim Hill. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence

Public Announcements / Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to accept the resignation of Stephen Knauth from the Inland Wetlands Commission with gratitude for his service. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to accept the resignation of Maryann Pleva from the Gateway Commission with gratitude for her service. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Amendment No. 4 to the Town of Essex Police Retirement Plan

Mr. Needleman presented an amendment to the police pension plan that the Retirement Commission will be adding an amendment to the Retirement Plan, pursuant to Section 4 of the Plan. The Selectmen are in favor of the amendment. This change would require a public hearing and a special town meeting.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve and recommend Amendment No. 4 to the Town of Essex Police Retirement Plan (see attached) to a public hearing and a special town meeting. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

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Permit Fees

Hope Partnership requested assistance from the Town of Essex in reducing or waiving the Town's building permit fees for the Lofts at Spencer's Corner.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to waive the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for Hope Partnership for the Lofts at Spencer's Corner until December 31, 2020, excluding any out-of-pocket expenses and education fees. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Local Complete Count Committee

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to form a Local Complete Count Committee. The committee will be comprised of volunteers and will work with the US Census staff in Connecticut to ensure everyone is counted in the 2020 Census. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Resolution – Support the U.S. Census Count 2020

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the Resolution (copy attached). Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Schedule Public Hearing

Norman Needleman will hold a public hearing to answer any questions on Amendment No. 4 to the Town of Essex Police Retirement Plan.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to set a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 6:55 p.m. in Conference Room A. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 immediately following the Public Hearing in Conference Room A. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Needleman recently requested that Town of Essex Resident State Trooper Mark Roberts investigate ways to improve the ongoing issue of flooding on Pratt Street and the need to find a better way to manage traffic. Trooper Roberts provided a quote from All Traffic Solutions that included a FloodTrak Water Level Sensor system, instALERT message display, weather Alerts/Warning. The discussion was tabled until additional options and estimated costs can be compiled, compared, and analyzed.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy D'Amico for Maria Lucarelli

**AMENDMENT NO. 4
TO THE
TOWN OF ESSEX POLICE RETIREMENT PLAN**

The Town of Essex Police Retirement Plan (the "Plan") is hereby amended effective July 1, 2019, pursuant to Section 12 of the Plan as follows:

I.

Section 4.2 (Participant Contributions) of the Plan is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

4.2 Participant Contributions.

Each Participant hired prior to July 1, 2019 shall be required to contribute three percent (3%) of his or her straight-time and overtime pay by payroll deduction each pay period. Effective July 1, 2021, all Participants hired prior to July 1, 2019, shall be required to contribute four percent (4%) of his or her straight-time and overtime pay by payroll deduction each pay period and effective July 1, 2023, all Participants hired prior to July 1, 2019, shall be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her straight-time and overtime pay by payroll deduction each pay period.

Eligible Employees hired on or after July 1, 2019 shall be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her straight-time and overtime pay by payroll deduction each pay period.

The Town shall pick-up these contributions pursuant to Code Section 414(h).

II.

Section 4.3 (Contributions for Periods Spent in the Military), subsection (b) of the Plan is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

(b) Such Participant shall have a period equal to the lesser of three times his length of service or five years to make-up his Participant Contributions as described in paragraph (a). Such period shall begin on the date the Participant returns to employment with the Town. The Participant shall receive Credited Service for such period in which he or she engaged in qualified military service by making the contribution of his or her Earnings which would have been required pursuant to Section 4.2 based on the period that such Participant was absent from employment.

III.

If there shall be any inconsistency between the provisions of this Amendment and the provisions of the Plan as amended, this Amendment shall control.

Executed this 18th day of December, 2019.

TOWN OF ESSEX

By: _____
Norman M. Needleman, Its First Selectman

By: _____
F. Ellen Whaley-Wexler, Its Retirement Board Chair

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

CERTIFICATION:

I, Joel Marzi, the Town Clerk of the Town of Essex, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Town of Essex at its duly called and held meeting on January 6, 2016, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

First Selectman Needleman moved the following motion:

"SUPPORT THE U.S. CENSUS COUNT 2020"

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States as mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and will take place in 2020 as it does every 10 years since 1790; and WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, an accurate census count is critically important to our future because it:

- Determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives,
- Defines congressional and state legislative districts, school districts and voting precincts,
- Determines the annual allocation of \$675 billion dollars in federal funding,
- Determined that Connecticut received \$10,726,609,427 in FY 2016 in federal funding guided by the 2010 Census and failure to accurately count a person would cost our state \$2,900 per person per year,
- Determines Connecticut's funding for Medicaid, SNAP, Highway Planning, Section 8 Housing, Special Education Grants, S-CHIP, Title I Grants, National School Lunch Program, WIC, Head Start, Foster Care, Health Center Programs,
- Provides insight to governments, business and community planning groups for planning purposes,
- Provides population benchmarks for nearly every other United States survey; and

WHEREAS, the Census Bureau collects information to produce statistics and personal information collected by the Census Bureau cannot be used against respondents by any government agency or court; so

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Essex educate its citizens and encourage its residents to respond to the Census Bureau count because our future depends on an accurate count."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this 5th day of December 2019.



Joel Marzi, Town Clerk