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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2015**

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

Norman Needleman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve the September 2nd Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence:

Freedom of Information Request and Response

Mr. Needleman reported that the Selectmen received a letter from Ameri Energy Group requesting information on the partial roof replacement of the Essex Elementary School Project.

Vacant and Expiring Board and Commission Terms

Mr. Needleman reported on the list of all Board and Commissions members whose terms are coming up for renewal in November. There was also discussion on the vacancies. The lists have been forwarded to the Town Committees.

Public Announcements / Comment:

Stasia and Glenn Penkofflidbeck were here tonight to discuss Evans Lane. They asked why the Town is not maintaining the road at the end of Evans Lane. Stasia presented photographs to the Selectmen. She said there were large urns that were placed in the road and they are a hindrance. Also there are "No Trespassing" signs that were installed. Stasia wanted to know why the Evans Lane pavement was torn up and replaced with gravel over the summer. Stasia stated that she and her husband own 3.22 acres at the end of Evans Lane and cannot access their property and the property now has no road frontage access, which they have always had. She also stated that recently Eversource was not allowed to trim the trees in front of her property and along Evans Lane because they were stopped by the neighbors. Now these trees are surrounding the wires. Stasia reported that a stone wall was recently built over the right of way. The Penkofflidbeck's would like the Town to resume plowing the street this winter. Glenn is fearful the Town would abandon the road and he is afraid to lose the legal frontage for their rear lot.

Mr. Needleman stated that he is aware there is a legal dispute and that lawyers are involved. He is aware that the neighbors are claiming the road is not a public driveway. Mr. Needleman said this situation is complicated and that he did try to come up with a compromise for both parties, but that compromise was not accepted.

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Mr. Glowac suggested this item be placed on the next Selectmen's Meeting under Executive Session – Pending Litigation and to invite the Town attorney. Mr. Glowac is aware that the prior owner didn't stop the plows, or stop the tree trimming. Mr. Glowac stated that this is a complex and complicated issue, and Mr. Needleman has made his best effort to resolve this issue, but now it is in the attorney's hands to resolve. Hopefully, at the next Selectmen's Meeting there we will be a course of action.

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Building Committee Report:

Bruce Glowac reported the committee is still meeting every Wednesday morning. The Essex Town Hall roof is complete and they are just finishing up the trim. The Public Works Garage is being worked on. They are wrapping up the metal work on the school and town hall. All roofs are anticipated to be complete in two weeks. Everything is going very well. Approximately 2 million has been spent for roofing, windows, and the boiler change at the elementary school, and \$57,000 on the engineering fees for the bridges.

Main Street Investment Fund - Ivoryton Grant

Stacia Libby reported that the ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on September 17th at 5:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

Amended and Restated Ordinance Creating a Park and Recreation Commission

Norman reported that he did go to the Park and Recreation Commission meeting last month and he presented the amended ordinance. Norman requested feedback from the members at their next meeting. The commission did have a quorum, but not everyone was there.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Needleman reported that the Board of Selectmen need to review and comment on the Plan of Conservation and Development by October 8th, 2015. It is a policy and strategy document. This document is approved solely by the Planning Commission. The Commission has an obligation to obtain input from the Selectmen and the public.

Mr. Needleman stated that he didn't have any substantive comments. Mr. Glowac and Ms. Libby didn't have any substantive additions either. The Selectmen recognize this document is a guideline. The Selectmen wanted to recognize all the hard work in preparing this document and had sincere gratitude for all their hard work.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to inform the Planning Commission that the Selectmen have reviewed the Plan of Conservation and Development and they do not have any additional input or substantive comments. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Quarry Pond at Viney Hill Brook Preserve– Request for Waiver of Permit Fees

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to waive the Permit Application Fees for the Conservation Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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Traffic Authority

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to enter Traffic Authority. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Main Street in Ivoryton Speed Limit Review

There was discussion on reducing the speed limit on Main Street which is currently set at 30 mph, down to 25 mph. There was further discussion of the possibility of permanently mounting a flashing speed limit sign in this area and the placement of the sign. The approximate cost for a new sign is around \$3,500. A moveable sign is would be more effective.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to exit Traffic Authority. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Public Comment / Announcements:

Philip Beckman inquired about the Plan of Conservation and Development, which is available on the web site.

There was discussion on permit application fees and the process of waiving fees. The Selectmen stated that the Town waives all Town and Board of Education permit fees. There was discussion on the possibility of creating an ordinance to waive those fees. All other agencies must go to Board of Selectmen to request their permit fees be waived.

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Water Pollution Control Authority and the Retirement Commission:

There was discussion on staggering terms of these two commissions.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Lucarelli