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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
May 7, 2014**

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

Norman Needleman called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the Agenda with one change to set a Town Meeting Date. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the April 2nd Minutes. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence

Bereavement Support Group

The bereavement group meets at the Essex Library the first and third Tuesday of the month from 2-3 p.m. It is free and open to all. No advance registration is necessary, and drop-ins are welcome.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Governor Dannel Malloy recognized the merger of the Connecticut River Estuary Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Midstate Metropolitan Planning Organization. The MPO consists of the seventeen (17) municipalities: Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.

Solarize Essex Connecticut Program

This initiative makes solar easy and affordable for homeowners and help residents purchase solar at discounted rates by combining bulk purchasing, state incentives, and federal rebates.

National Register

There was discussion on the National Register notice that mentioned placing restrictions on properties near the historic district. Mr. Needleman stated that they are waiting for more clarification regarding restrictions to property owners.

CCM Prescription Discount Card Program

272 prescription claims have been processed since April 2013. Essex residents have saved \$10,100.

Donate Life Connecticut Flag – Organ & Tissue Donors

Donate Life Connecticut's goal is to increase the number of registered organ and tissue donors through public education. The Town of Essex flew a flag in April that reads "Donation Saves Lives" for National Donate Life Month. There are more than 121,000 people in America waiting for a

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transplant. This initiative is meant to encourage the public to designate donation decisions by registering their wishes in the state donor registries.

Public Water Supply Management Areas

The Town received a notice of preliminary alteration of the Boundaries of the Public Water Supply Management Areas and priorities for initiation of the Water Utility Coordinating Committee Planning Process.

Household Hazardous Waste

The May 3rd Satellite Collection was in East Hampton, CT. No one from Essex participated in this collection, but there were a total of 260 households that participated.

2012 Equalized Net Grand List

The estimate of the one hundred percent (100%) value of all taxable property in Essex is Total Grand List \$1,119,801,296 and the 2012 Equalized Net Grand List is \$1,493,863,898.

Update on Walnut Street Bridge

Bruce Glowac stated the group is reviewing RFP submissions. There were 9 RFPs received and 5 companies will be interviewed.

Ivoryton Update

Stacia Libby reported the committee is finalizing the RFP.

Public Announcements / Comment: None

John Ackerman reported on a sign in front of 28 Main Street that he would like to have removed. The Zoning Enforcement Officer stated the sign is temporary and can remain. Mr. Needleman will talk to the Zoning Enforcement Officer and the Zoning Commission, but mentioned that the removal request must go through a process and the Town does not have the right to remove a sign without going through the steps.

Traffic Authority

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

Parking at Foot of Grandview Terrace

Mr. Needleman reported on a complaint that cars are parking at the foot of Grandview Terrace and homeowners along that road have concerns that safety equipment would not be able to gain access. The homeowners are requesting a no-parking zone be established to allow access for emergency vehicles.

Motion was made by Norman M. Needleman to create a no-parking zone on Grandview Terrace on one side only. No parking will be on the library side of the street. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

There was discussion on a sight line issue on Pratt Street to Cross Street. The police have been notified of this concern and they will monitor the streets.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Amendment and Restatement of the Ordinance Delaying Granting of Permit for Demolition of Historic Buildings Ordinance:

Susan Malan requested the Selectmen table this ordinance until the next Board of Selectmen meeting in order to gather feedback from the Historical Society. The concern is that the current ordinance has issues and was not written by an attorney and has some inconsistencies and needs clarification. Mr. DeLeeuw, stated the existing ordinance conflicts with Sections 116 and 117 of the State Building Code. This ordinance was tabled until the next Selectmen's meeting.

An Ordinance Renaming the Essex Sanitary Waste Commission the Essex Water Pollution Control Authority and Establishing its Jurisdiction

There was discussion that the new ordinance would rename the Sanitary Waste Commission the Water Pollution Control Authority. There was discussion that the terms for the members would be staggered. Mr. Glowac was opposed to the merging of the two, and he felt the Sanitary Waste Commission has an important role with dealing with garbage, trash, and recyclables and is beneficial to the Town.

Mr. Needleman reported the Clean Energy Group is a group of volunteers, and Frank Hall is the chair of the group. Mr. Needleman is in favor of amending the ordinance, abandoning and abolishing the commission and creating a group to oversee sanitary waste issues. Mr. Glowac stated that he would still like to see a commission and members appointed who have authority and he would like to see something take its place. Susan Malan stated that the Sanitary Waste Commission does not have authority, but they do have the ability to make suggestions and recommendations.

There was discussion of when the commission came into existence was when the old landfill closed and they had to go into bulky waste and transfer station and the commission that was formed was instrumental at that time.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve an Ordinance Renaming the Essex Sanitary Waste Commission the Essex Water Pollution Control Authority and Establishing its Jurisdiction. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. Bruce Glowac was opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions - Nothing at this time.

Connecticut River Gateway Commission

The Town is still looking for a volunteer for the Gateway Commission. It is a two (2) year term.

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Essex Place Centerbrook – P.I.L.O.T. Payment Waiver Request

Janice Atkeson was here for the purpose of applying for funding for Essex Place. The proposed three-story building will house 22 units for seniors who qualify for affordable housing under state guidelines. There are handicapped units and four two-bedroom units for seniors who require live-in care. The current estimate for the total project is \$6.1 million. Funds have been secured through grants and the remaining funds of \$4.5 million are being sought from a State loan funding, CHAMP 5, which requires, with the application, a Cooperation Agreement with the Town for PILOT.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to recommend to the Board of Finance to consent and approve that Essex Place Centerbrook, LLC shall make payments in lieu of taxes to the Municipality in accordance with the provisions of Section 8-118a and Section 8-119gg of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. In an amount equal to 10% of the net shelter rent per annum. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Norman M. Needleman to set a Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 7:00. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment:

Just a reminder that the Annual Town Budget Meeting is on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Mr. Needleman reported the tennis court project is anticipated to be started next week and the improvements to the front of the Essex Town Hall are to be completed by May 26.

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Westbrook Road Sidewalks

Mr. Needleman mentioned a petition requesting sidewalks along Westbrook Road. There is a public safety concern along this road and the plan is to have sidewalks that do not make walkers cross the road. An engineering study would need to be done. At the moment the Town is not moving forward with this project, but it is also on the Council of Government's list of projects to do in the future. The first thing would be the need to find money for the engineering plan.

The Southern Connecticut Gas Company will be extending a natural gas main from Westbrook into Essex along Route 153 to serve the Lee Company on Bokum Road and the Essex Elementary School on Main Street. The construction is expected to begin the week of May 5 and last approximately 8 weeks. There will be traffic impacts along these routes due to the construction during this time. We appreciate your patience as we upgrade our public utilities in Essex.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to go into Executive Session at 6:25 pm for the purpose of discussing a pending litigation. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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

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Motion was made by Norman Needleman to exit the Executive Session at 6:49 pm. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Re-open the Regular Meeting:

The regular meeting resumed at 6:50 pm.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli