

**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  
July 19, 2017**

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

Bruce Glowac called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the Agenda with one addition, to add under New Business: Public Hearing. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the June 21 Meeting Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence:** None

**Public Announcements / Comment:**

**CIRMA Equity Distribution**

Norman Needleman reported the Town received a member's equity distribution check.

**CRRA / MIRA**

Mr. Needleman announced that he is now a Materials Innovations and Recycling Authority (MIRA) Board member. There was discussion that Essex is the host town for MIRA and it is a good to have Essex represented on the Board.

**Route 9 Entrance and Exit Ramps Beautification**

Mr. Needleman thanked Bruce Glowac for the Route 9 work, plantings, and the beautification near the on and off ramps. Mr. Needleman reported the area looks really nice.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Capital Building Committee**

Bruce Glowac had nothing new to report. The next committee meeting is Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions**

**The First Selectman appointed** Augie Pampel as the Essex Tree Warden for a one-year term to become effective July 16, 2017 through July 16, 2018.

**The First Selectman appointed** Mary Ellen Barnes as the Municipal Agent for a two-year term to become effective August 1, 2017 through August 1, 2019.

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### **Amendment to Ordinance(s)**

Mr. Needleman reported that when some of the ordinances were written years ago, members from one commission were required to attend other commission meetings as representatives. Mr. Needleman worked with the Town Attorney on changes to the ordinances that have such requirements.

The Town Attorney made the recommended amendments to the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Ordinance. The Selectmen further edited the ordinance so that any member who is removed for cause would be done by the Board of Selectmen, not the First Selectman. The suggested revisions will be given to the Town Attorney and this will be presented at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to table this item until the next Selectmen's meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

### **Amendment No. 3 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 12 of the Plan. The Town does not accept Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO's), which is a judgement or a decree or order for a retirement plan to pay a dependent of a plan participant. Municipal pension plans do not accept QDRO's. 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. 3 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.

### **Amendment No. 6 to the Town of Essex 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 11 of the Plan. The Town does not accept Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO's), which is a judgement or a decree or order for a retirement plan to pay a dependent of a plan participant. Municipal pension plans do not accept QDRO's. 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. 6 to the Town of Essex Retirement Plan (see attached) to a public hearing and a special town meeting. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

### **Payment in Lieu of Taxes – Essex Land Trust**

The Essex Land Trust requested approval from the Selectmen for abatement for the real estate taxes currently due on Map 66, Lot 022, Westbrook Road.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to abate the Essex Land Trust taxes for the parcels of land located at Westbrook Road, Map 66, Lot 022. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

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### **Police Cruiser Sinking Fund Request**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance the appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$58,000.00 for the purchase of a new police vehicle. Said sum to be taken from the Police Cruiser Sinking Fund. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

### **Schedule Public Hearing**

Norman Needleman will hold a public hearing to answer any questions on Amendment No. 3 to the Town of Essex Police Retirement Plan and Amendment No. 6 to the Town of Essex Retirement Plan.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to set a Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 4:45 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, August 2, 2017 immediately following the Public Hearing in Conference Room A. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

### **Permit Fees**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive all of the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for the Walnut Street Bridge Project. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive all of the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for the Essex Town Hall Vault Project. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive all of the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for the Ground Pole, Temporary Service Project. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive all of the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for the Essex Elementary School Installation of Commercial Kitchen Dishwasher Project. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive all of the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for all Town of Essex Projects in the next six (6) months until December 31, 2017. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

### **Community Connectivity Program Grant Application**

The Town of Essex will be submitting an application to the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) a Community Connecticut Grant Application. The application is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. The application to be submitted to the Department by the Town of Essex requires the support and recommendation of the Selectmen for the project. The Project is to improve sidewalks in three areas in order to complete a continuous chain of pedestrian facilities. The three areas are the Foot of Main Street, Champlin Square, and by the Piano Factory.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously supports this project and recommends the submission of this grant application to the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

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**Public Announcements / Comment:** None

**Mill Rate**

Mr. Needleman reported the Board of Finance Adopted the 2017-2018 on June 15, 2017. The Mill Rate effective July 1, 2017 will be 21.96. This is an increase of 1.76%.

**Revaluation Bids Came In.**

Mr. Needleman reported that the Town's current vendor, Vision Appraisal, did not bid on the project. Tyler Technologies / MUNIS came in as the lowest bidder. The Town is in the process of reviewing the bids.

**Land Trust – Mill Race**

There was discussion on the proposed Land Trust's vision and plans for the Mill Race property.

**Charles Street**

There was discussion on a parcel of unimproved Town land at the end of Charles Street. There is a 3 acre parcel of land that is land locked. The property owner of the rear lot inquired about this unimproved parcel because they are interested in selling their rear lot and the land on Charles Street would give them access to the rear lot. Mr. Needleman reported that he would discuss this question with the Town Attorney to see what the options are. Norman reported this evening that he will continue working on this.

**Connecticut throws a lifeline to fuel cells, waste to energy article**

Mr. Needleman reported that the state is providing a large amount of money to fund the fuel cell initiative. There was discussion on the size of the cells and the amount of noise they emit. There was discussion that more research would need to be done to see how the town could benefit from this endeavor. Mr. Needleman reported that he would do some additional research.

**August Board of Selectmen Meetings**

There was discussion on the possibility of cancelling one of the August Board of Selectmen meetings. The Selectmen agreed to discuss this at the next Selectmen's meeting.

**SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli