

**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  
April 18, 2012**

**Present:** Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman  
Stacia R. Libby, Selectman  
Joel B. Marzi, 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 with two changes. Table Item 7B Resubdivision Rosewood Lane until the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and add Item 8F Building Permit Fee. Joel Marzi seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the April 4, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes. Joel Marzi seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Communications and Correspondence:** None

**Public Announcements:** None

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**Sunset Pond**

Mr. Needleman reported on work that was done at Sunset Pond. Jeff Paul and Jim Godsman are cleaning this gateway property that the town rents and is utilized by residents.

**Arbor Day Proclamation**

Mr. Needleman declared Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> to be Arbor Day in the Town of Essex. Proclamation attached.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Central Corridor Rail Passenger Service**

Mr. Blake Lamothe, Project Manager of Central Corridor Rail Coalition, is looking for support to reinstate passenger service from Brattleboro, Vermont to New London, Connecticut along the New England Rail line. The approval of a resolution is about the ability to take the train from Palmer, Massachusetts to Vermont and to New London, Connecticut. Mr. Marzi stated we are doing this resolution in good faith and noted that this does not involve the Valley Railroad line.

**Motion** was made by Joel Marzi to approve the attached Resolution. Stacia Libby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Resubdivision Rosewood Lane**

Mr. Needleman tabled this until the May 2, 2012 Board of Selectmen meeting. Mr. Marzi suggested setting up a meeting with the Planning Commission.

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### **Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments**

**Motion** was made by Joel Marzi to approve the attached Resolution. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Retirement**

##### **Merit Service Retirement Plan**

Mr. Needleman reported that the Merit Service Retirement Plan for Volunteer Firefighters has been updated and needs approval from the Board of Selectmen. The revisions were to bring the document up-to-date by revising the current language and requirements. There is no monetary change.

**Motion** was made by Joel Marzi to adopt the restated plan. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

##### **Merit Service Retirement Plan - Multiplier**

Mr. Needleman reported on a request from the fire department for an increase to the multiplier and to have the plan reviewed periodically. Mr. Needleman suggested re-writing the document with each review of the plan scheduled every 5 years, Mr. Marzi suggested every 3. Mr. Needleman stated that the firemen volunteer for the town, and suggested tabling this item to the next Board of Selectmen meeting and suggested inviting Mr. Ethan Goller, who is the Fire Department Representative.

### **Appointments and Resignations - Boards and Commissions**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to accept the resignation of Mark Faustick of the Harbor Management Commission. Joel Marzi seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to accept the resignation of Barbara Zernike from Inlands Wetland Commission. Joel Marzi seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Norman Needleman appointed Jeffrey Lovelace as a representative for the Conservation Commission to the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Norman Needleman appointed Richard Stebbins to the Essex Housing Authority.

Norman Needleman appointed Fred Szufnarowski as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Commission.

### **Neighborhood Assistance Act - Schedule Public Hearing**

Norman Needleman reported that the Company of Fifers and Drummers submitted an application under the State of Connecticut, Neighborhood Assistance Act. This process requires the Town hold a Public Hearing.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to set a Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012 at 4:45 p.m. in Conference Room A for the Company of Fifers and Drummers Neighborhood Assistance Act Application. Joel Marzi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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**Set Town Meeting:**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, May 2nd 2012 at 4:55 p.m. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Building Permit Fee**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to waive the Building Permit fee for Park and Recreation Department to allow placement of a shed at Town Hall. Joel Marzi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Traffic Authority**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to enter Traffic Authority. Joel Marzi seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Main Street Speed Limit Sign**

Mr. Needleman discussed relocating a 15 mph speed limit sign to the top of Main Street. It is currently down by the post office. Director of Public Works, Dave Caroline suggested placement of the sign between Essex Provisions and the Art Gallery.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the relocation of the 15 mph speed limit sign between Village Provision and the Art Gallery. Joel Marzi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Needleman stated that he did not recommend painting on the road the 15 mph at the top of Main Street. Mr. Marzi also suggested looking at the parking problem on the crosswalks on Main Street.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the relocation of the stop sign at the corner of Grove Street & West Avenue to the right side of the road. Joel Marzi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Needleman reported that the painting of the crosswalk is scheduled for this summer.

**Traffic Calming Program – Traffic Options Promoting Public Safety (T.O.P.P.S.)**

Mr. Needleman reported that a new sub-committee was being formed. There was a request to appoint someone from the Board of Selectmen to be on the Committee. Norman Needleman suggested that Dave Caroline be the representative to the TOPPS subcommittee.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to exit Traffic Authority. Joel Marzi seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

**Tree Committee Sinking Fund Ordinance – Amend or Repeal**

Mr. Needleman said that late this afternoon he received information on the revised Tree Committee Sinking Fund Ordinance from the town attorney. Mr. Needleman asked the Selectmen to review and this and will discuss at the next Selectmen's meeting.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Joel Marzi seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli



# **ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

**WHEREAS**, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

**WHEREAS**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

**WHEREAS**, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

**WHEREAS**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

**WHEREAS**, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman of the Town of Essex, on behalf of the citizens of Essex, wish to express that I hereby declare Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> to be Arbor Day in the Town of Essex.

Signed,

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman, Town of Essex

## Signatory Authorizing Resolution

I, Frances D. Nolin, the duly qualified and Town Clerk of the Town of Essex, a municipality organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that the following is a full and true copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Essex, duly held on the 18th of April 2012, and is on file and of record, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

**WHEREAS, undue reliance upon particular modes of passenger transportation and the neglect of others leads to inefficiencies, delays and wasteful allocation of resources; and**

**WHEREAS, a modern national passenger train system is an essential element of a truly balanced transportation plan; and**

**WHEREAS, the low level or absence of passenger train service in certain areas of New England has resulted in an unbalanced transportation system in those areas, contributing to traffic congestion, air pollution, wasteful expenditures, and growth control problems; and**

**WHEREAS, this municipality is gravely concerned with the disruption to this community caused by the aforesaid traffic congestion, air pollution, wasteful expenditures, and growth control problems; and**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen believes that comprehensive Intermodal transportation planning is necessary to resolve the aforesaid problems and that involvement at the local, state and regional levels is necessary to the preparation and implementation of such planning; and**

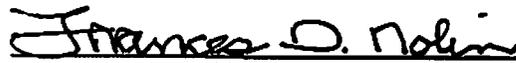
**WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen of this municipality believes that passenger train service is a necessary part of any comprehensive Intermodal transportation system:**

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Town of Essex in the State of Connecticut that:**

- 1. It is and shall continue to be the policy of this municipality to take all actions necessary to support the commencement and/or expansion of passenger train service in and to this municipality and other areas of Connecticut.**
- 2. This municipality supports the efforts of The Central Corridor Rail Coalition and The Palmer Rail Coalition to achieve the commencement and/or expansion of passenger rail service to the aforesaid areas.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Essex this 24th day of April, A.D. 2012.**



  
Frances D. Nolin, Town Clerk



## Selectmen's Office

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[www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov)

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

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Board of Selectmen:

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**Resolved**, that the Town of Essex hereby ratifies the action of the Connecticut River Valley Council of Elected Officials formally adopted Sections 4-124i and 4-124p, inclusive of the Connecticut General Statutes, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 4-124j of the Connecticut General Statutes, and that this new established council of governments be called the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Essex this 19th day of April, A.D. 2012.

Frances D. Nolin, Town Clerk