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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2020**

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.

First Selectman Needleman welcomed everyone to the Board of Selectmen remote public access meeting. This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom Meeting.

The Board of Selectmen and attendees went around the room and announced themselves.

First Selectman Needleman announced that audio attendees will be muted during the meeting except during public comment. Attendees were asked to please identify themselves for the record prior to making any comments.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve the September 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence

Finance Director Tracey Celentano reported on three Town of Essex Retirement Plans and the GASB 67 and GASB 68 Disclosure reporting as of June 30, 2020. Ms. Celentano reported on funding level for each plan. The goal is to be at 80% to be considered fully funded and each plan is at or just above 75% funding level which is a good place to be.

Ms. Celentano reported there is anticipated surplus expected around \$820,000.

There was discussion that a few residents paid their entire year of taxes in January, which helped the Town.

Public Announcements / Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Planning and Zoning Ordinance

There was a public hearing held this evening at 6:30 pm regarding the Ordinance Repealing Prior Ordinances Establishing the Essex Zoning Commission and the Essex Planning Commission and Establishing in Place Thereof a Combined Planning and Zoning Commission. During the Public Hearing there was discussion of the number of members in each of the staggered terms. There are seven (7) regular members, each serving three (3) year terms. But the Selectmen would like three (3) members to

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expire in November 30, 2023; and Two (2) members to expire on November 30, 2022, and Two (2) members to expire on November 21, 2021.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve and add the Ordinance Repealing Prior Ordinances Establishing the Essex Zoning Commission and the Essex Planning Commission and Establishing in Place Thereof a Combined Planning and Zoning Commission to a Special Town Meeting for the Legislative Body's approval. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions None

Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to hold and schedule a Town Meeting on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment / Announcements: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The Selectmen discussed some items on the Re-Opening Committee's Agenda for tomorrow.

Halloween – Essex Fire Department - The Selectmen stated the Essex Fire Department's Annual Halloween Event is completely up to them, but they should work closely with the Health Director in order to ensure it is a safe event. The Selectmen thought the drive through pumpkin idea sounded great.

Halloween – In General - The Selectmen stated that although the Town is not encouraging trick or treaters, they are not banning it either.

There was discussion regarding the upcoming elections. Anyone interested in volunteering should reach out to the Town Registrars John Heiser or Caitlin Riley. All volunteers must be trained.

The Selectmen are not opening the auditorium for usage for anyone except the VNA for their flu clinics, the Red Cross for their blood drives, and Town of Essex Meetings.

The Town is looking into a door entry system. A quote was received, but the Town is going to investigate another, less expensive option. It was recommended the Town look into a simpler system like what the middle or high school have in place. The system the school uses is called the Aiphone System. It is stand-alone and has a remote door opening system.

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was moved and seconded and unanimously adopted, and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Lucarelli