

**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  
May 5, 2022**

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

Norman Needleman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

First Selectman Needleman welcomed everyone to the Board of Selectmen in person and remote public access meeting via Zoom.

In attendance: First Selectman Norman M. Needleman, Selectman Stacia R. Libby, and Selectman Bruce M. Glowac.

Others in attendance: Finance Director Tracey Celentano, Deputy Animal Control Officer Matt Carroll, and Kelly Sterner.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the agenda with an addition under New Business 7F Job Description and 7G Affordable Housing Plan. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the April 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence** None

**Public Announcements / Comment:**

**Crime in Essex**

There was discussion of crime issues. Boat propellers are being stolen right from boats and unlocked cars are being broken into. The Town of Essex has repeatedly publicized and reminded residents to lock their vehicles and to report any suspicious incidents immediately to 911. The police are using a sign trailer, a banner, and lawn signs to communicate and educate the public. The Town has also hired another part-time officer and have boosted the number of overnight patrols. Please remember to lock your vehicles.

**Unleashed Dog Encounters**

There was discussion of repeated reports of aggressive dogs walking around unleashed in Canfield Woods. The Selectmen discussed the difficulty in enforcement of requiring owners to leash dogs while walking in wooded areas. Deputy Animal Control Officer Matt Carroll inquired on how best to police Land Trust Property. The Land Trust Property can have their own rules, just like no mountain bike rule and they can also have a no dogs on property rule. Does the Town can enforce owners to leash their dogs in Public and/or Private Areas is the big question. The difficulty is finding a relationship between dog owners and walkers, especially in wooded areas that works for everyone. The Selectmen suggested the Deputy Animal Control Officer call the state Animal Control office to

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inquire about State rules. There was discussion that dogs may not be mandated to being on a leash on Private Property, but on Town or Public Property, dogs should be on leash.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions**

Open Town Board and Commission positions can be found at [https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3116/f/uploads/boards\\_and\\_commissions\\_website\\_30.pdf](https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3116/f/uploads/boards_and_commissions_website_30.pdf)

The application to join a Board or Commission can be found at:

[https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3116/f/file/file/application\\_to\\_volunteer\\_for\\_board\\_or\\_commission\\_fillable\\_4\\_13\\_18.pdf](https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3116/f/file/file/application_to_volunteer_for_board_or_commission_fillable_4_13_18.pdf)

The following are Board and Commission openings:

- Conservation Commission – Regular Member
- Conservation Commission – Alternate Member
- Inland Wetlands Commission – 1 Regular Member
- Park and Recreation Commission – 3 Alternate Members
- Planning and Zoning Commission – 1 Regular Member

### **American Rescue Plan Funds:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the upgrades to the Town Hall Meeting Rooms A and B to include furniture, audio, and video equipment. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

There was discussion of improving the sound quality in the Town Hall Auditorium. Mr. Glowac stated that he would investigate possibilities of reducing the sound in the auditorium.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the Essex Fire Engine Company #1 and an appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the Essex Ambulance Association. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$13,750 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for all regular full time employees (\$250 each) and part time employees (\$125 each), (excluding boat operators, board clerks, pollworkers, terminated, temporary, and seasonal employees). Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Public Hearing** None

### **Set Town Meeting**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 6:55 pm in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

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### **Job Descriptions**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the one (1) job description listed below. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

1. Land Use Project Assistant

### **Affordable Housing Plan**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to accept the Affordable Housing Plan Draft for review and consideration. This item will be placed on the March 18 Selectmen Meeting to consider adoption, per CGS Section 8-30j, prior to June 1, 2022. Copy of said Plan is on file in the Town Clerk's office and posted on the Town website. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

### **TRAFFIC AUTHORITY**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to enter Traffic Authority. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### **3-Way Stop Sign at Intersection in Ivoryton**

There was discussion of installing a third stop sign at the intersection on Main Street in Ivoryton near Summit Street. This intersection has been confusing for drivers and unsafe with only the two stop signs.

The Selectmen suggested, prior to installation of the stop sign, that Public Works Director Ryan Welch and Resident State Trooper Mark Roberts communicate the installation of this new stop sign using all Town resources including sign boards and flashing lights.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman install a third stop sign at the intersection on Main Street and Summit Street in Ivoryton. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to exit Traffic Authority. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor

**Public Comment / Announcements:** None

### **SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

#### **Park and Recreation**

The Selectmen discussed the recent installation of a tennis wall on the Grove Street tennis courts. The Park and Recreation Commission reported this was an Eagle Scout Project. Neighbors are complaining of the noise. The Park and Recreation Commission will be holding a Special Meeting next Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss this further.

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli