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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
May 18, 2022**

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 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, Officer Paul Kenefick, Don Geoffrey "DG" Fitton, Brette Fitton, Jean Little, John J. Bean, Jr., and Kelly Sterner.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the May 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence None

Public Announcements / Comment:

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/vyhlf3116/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/vyhlf3116/f/file/application_to_volunteer_for_board_or_commission_fillable_4_13_18.pdf

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Christopher Paul Perry as an alternate member to the Park and Recreation Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

First Selectman Norman Needleman appointed alternate member David Kirsch as a regular member to the Inland Wetlands Commission.

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First Selectmen Norman M. Needleman appointed Carolyn Field as an alternate member to the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to accept the resignation of Peter Bierrie as the Estuary Transit District Representative for the Town of Essex. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Don Geoffrey “DG” Fitton as the Estuary Transit District Representative for the Town of Essex. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to accept the resignation of Roger Field from the Conservation Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to re-appoint Lisa Fasulo as the Director of Health for the Town of Essex. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

The following are Board and Commission openings:

- Conservation Commission – Regular Member
- Conservation Commission – 2 Alternate Members
- Park and Recreation Commission – 2 Alternate Members
- Planning and Zoning Commission – 1 Regular Member

American Rescue Plan Funds:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to recommend to the Board of Finance an additional appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$6,250 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for all eligible regular full-time employees (\$500 each) and part time employees (\$250 each) (excluding boat operators, board clerks, pollworkers, terminated, temporary, and seasonal employees). Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Tennis Court Rebounder

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 held a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 12th and determined the commission would make a request to the Board of Selectmen to determine the mitigation, relocation, or removal of the Tennis Court Rebounder.

The Selectmen and attendees discussed various options of mitigating the noise emanating from the rebounder board. There was discussion of installing soundproofing. The Selectmen did state that a rebounder was installed years ago, and then removed, so the use is the same.

There was further discussion that the sturdier the board, the less sound it would make. Lacrosse balls are not allowed. There is an intrinsic value of kids hitting balls on rebounder. The neighbors enjoy watching the kids at play in the playground and watching the tennis volleys, but the sound

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coming off the rebounder board is constant and very loud. The Park and Recreation Commission will place this item on their agenda in finding ways to reduce the sound and the costs associated with that mission. There was also discussion of moving the rebounding board to the other end of the tennis court with the back of the board facing the Town Hall building.

There was discussion that the tennis court lights, which are on a timer, are on quite late. The neighbors reported they sometimes must walk across the street and turn them off. The Selectmen stated that those lights are not LED and use a lot of electricity. There was discussion of possibly looking into installing motion lights.

There was discussion of looking over the Park and Recreation Ordinance. It was suggested the Park and Recreation Chair look over the ordinance with help from the Town attorney.

Resolution – Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Amendment

For the 2022 calendar year, an individual may contribute up to the 2022 IRS maximum of \$2,850 with a rollover of \$570, and to return the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCA) maximum to \$5,000 with a standard 75-day DCA grace period. The Town must approve a resolution adopting the amendment to increase to maximum salary deferral contribution.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Certificate of Adopting Resolution (copy attached). Stacia Libby seconded the motion; it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Resolution - Affordable Housing Plan

Section 8-30j of the Connecticut General Statutes require, as of July 1, 2017, that every municipality prepare or update and adopt a plan to increase the number of Affordable Housing Developments in that municipality every five years.

Mr. Glowac noticed on page 8 of the draft Essex Housing Plan the third bullet states “The PoCD also proposes making infrastructure improvements, including public sewer and natural gas”, which is an implied reference to sewers. The Selectmen suggested softening that sentence to include improved on site, community or alternative systems or something like that. The Selectmen will make this suggestion to the Town Planner and this item will be placed on the June 1, 2022 Agenda for approval.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to table this Resolution on Approving an Update to the Town of Essex Affordable Housing Plan for 2022-2027 until the next Selectmen’s meeting. Stacia Libby seconded the motion; it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 4:55 pm in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment / Announcements: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Dogs Allowed in Town Hall

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The Selectmen discussed the signs in Town Hall that only service dogs are allowed to enter the building. The Selectmen unanimously agreed to remove these signs to allow residents to bring in their dogs that are on a leash to conduct town business.

Essex Fire Engine Company #1

Norman Needleman met with members of the Fire Department and requested they provide the Board of Selectman a 10-year plan. There was discussion of a need to update Communications.

Essex Veterans Memorial Hall

There was discussion that the Essex Veterans Memorial Hall was closed for quite some time due to Covid and they are struggling to make ends meet. Mr. Glowac suggested they reach out to the Essex Foundation for assistance.

Antennae in Ivoryton

There was discussion of installation of new antennae tower in Ivoryton because there are dead zones in that area and terrible cell phone and radio reception.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli



Selectmen's Office

www.essexct.gov

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

Email: nneedleman@essexct.gov

Board of Selectmen:

Stacia R. Libby

Bruce M. Glowac

Essex Town Hall

29 West Avenue

Essex, Connecticut 06426

Telephone: 860-767-4340

Fax: 860-767-8509

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTING RESOLUTION

I, Joel Marzi, 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 May, 2022, 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.

RESOLVED, that the form of amended and restated Welfare Benefit Plan, effective July 01, 2022, presented to this meeting (and a copy of which is attached hereto) is hereby approved and adopted, and that the proper agents of the Employer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of said Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

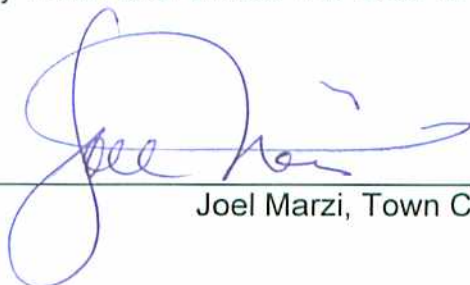
RESOLVED, that the Administrator shall be instructed to take such actions that the Administrator deems necessary and proper in order to implement the Plan, and to set up adequate accounting and administrative procedures for the provision of benefits under the Plan.

RESOLVED, that the proper agents of the Employer shall act as soon as possible to notify the employees of the Employer of the adoption of the Plan and to deliver to each employee a copy of the Summary Plan Description of the Plan, which Summary Plan Description is attached hereto and is hereby approved.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto as Exhibits, are true copies of Town Of Essex's Benefit Plan Document and Summary Plan Description approved and adopted at this meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Town of Essex this 19th day of May, A.D. 2022.




Joel Marzi, Town Clerk

