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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
March 1, 2023**

Present: Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman
Stacia R. Libby, Selectman
Bruce M. Glowac, Selectman (virtual)

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 (virtual).

Others in attendance: Tracey Celentano, Fred Webber, 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 Stacia Libby to approve the February 15, 2023 Budget Meeting Minutes and the February 15, 2023 Regular Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence None

Public Announcements / Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Committee:

Selectman Glowac reported the Capital Committee is scheduled to meet on March 14. It is anticipated that Bob Doane will be submitting finalized plans on River Road to the committee. A public hearing should be set in the near future.

Short Term Rental Ordinance

Selectman Needleman reported that the Land Use Official Carey Duques is working with Attorney Sylvia Rutkowska on the ordinance. The ordinance is still being worked on.

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/vyhliif3116/f/uploads/boards_and_commissions_website_30.pdf

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

https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhliif3116/f/file/file/application_to_volunteer_for_board_or_commission_fillable_4_13_18.pdf

Board and Commission Vacancies

Conservation Commission – 2 Regular Members

Conservation Commission – 2 Alternate Members

Park and Recreation Commission – 2 Alternate Members

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to accept the resignation of Andy Roussel from the Inland Wetlands Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

First Selectman Norman Needleman appointed alternate member Noreen Brennan-Rowe as a regular member to the Inland Wetlands Commission, which will need to go to a Town Meeting.

First Selectmen Norman M. Needleman appointed Lisa Krall as an alternate member to the Inland Wetlands Commission, which will need to go to a Town Meeting.

American Rescue Plan Funds:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$11,000.00 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Technology for the purchase of smart boards for the police department. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Sinking Fund Transfer Request – Wastewater Fund to Bridges Fund

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance a transfer of a sum in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Wastewater Sinking Fund (Fund 036) to the Bridges/Infrastructure Sinking Fund (Fund 047). Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

2023-2024 Budget

Finance Director Tracey Celentano reported three areas were adjusted since the last Budget Meeting. Health insurance was adjusted from a 10% anticipated increase down to 7.1%, a \$500 increase in technology for managed services, and a decrease in the Conservation Commission because Public Works can do the mowing.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance a Board of Selectmen's Budget request for Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 in the amount of \$9,305,464 which represents an increase of 2.52% over the current fiscal year. 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, March 15 at 6:55 pm in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

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Public Comment / Announcements:

Mr. Fred Weber inquired about the process for a new ordinance. The Selectmen reported the ordinance is created with the help of the Town attorney, then the ordinance is brought to the Selectmen who will then set a public hearing. The public hearing is when the public has the chance to ask questions and discuss the proposed ordinance,

Mr. Weber inquired what brought about this action in creating an ordinance in the first place. Selectman Needleman stated there was concern from neighbors feeling unsafe and seeing a variety of unknown cars in their neighborhood.

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

First Selectman Needleman reported the Town would like to apply for the next DOT Connecticut Grant for Plains Road (Route 153) improvements.

There was also discussion of seeking a grant for a sidewalk along Westbrook Road which is a difficult and very expensive project.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli