

**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 12, 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: 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 March 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with one correction of changing the time the meeting ended to 8:31 pm. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence**

The First Selectman recognized Animal Control Officer Harry Plaut and Assistant Animal Control Officer Caroline Fountain for their hard work and dedication.

Norman Needleman reported the Board of Finance agreed to add \$19,500 to Essex Ambulance in the FY23-24 Budget to cover increased costs for insurance and operating expenses. Essex Ambulance is going to receive a \$50,000 allocation instead of \$30,500.

Norman Needleman reported the Board of Finance made a motion at their March 22, 2023 meeting to approve and recommend a sum not to exceed \$40,500.00 to be allocated from the Essex Elementary School Capital Improvements Sinking Fund as requested by the Essex Board of Education for capital projects. This item will be placed on the next Town Meeting set by the Board of Selectmen.

The Town has a new full time police officer Charles Burns.

There was discussion that the ACO vehicle slid on wet pavement and was in a little accident but is still working and back on the road. The vehicle will need to be repaired and will go into the shop once all parts are ordered to avoid the vehicle being out of service for more than a day.

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### **Public Announcements / Comment:**

Jeff Going gave an update to the Board of Selectmen on the Thatchbed Island Project. Mr. Going reported it has been a slow process. He also presented an invoice from Docko, Inc. in the amount of \$4,145 for professional services for the Thatchbed Project through February 28, 2023. Mr. Going reported once DEEP gives the Town a permit, then we would go out to bid.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Capital Committee: Nothing new to report.

#### **Short-Term Rental Ordinance**

Selectman Needleman reported that a draft of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance was received only moments before the Selectmen's meeting. The Selectmen did not have time to review the document. This item was tabled to the next meeting.

### **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](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](https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf3116/f/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

Norman Needleman reported the following First Selectman re-appointment of Harry Plaut as the Animal Control Officer with a term January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024.

Norman Needleman reported the following **First Selectman appointment** that will be placed on the next scheduled Town Meeting:

#### **Conservation Commission**

Elizabeth Stulga

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

Tri-Town Youth Services are requesting an additional \$27,748 from the Town of Essex.

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve and recommend to Board of Finance an appropriation in the amount of \$27,748 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds to the Tri-Town Youth Services. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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### **Appropriation - Essex Ambulance Association**

The Essex Ambulance Association are requesting an additional \$15,000 from the Town of Essex to cover the increase in their workers' compensation premium.

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 to the Essex Ambulance Association to cover the increase in their workers' compensation premium. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

### **Centerbrook Meeting House**

Selectman Stacia Libby and Selectman Bruce Glowac are requesting \$5,000 from the Town of Essex to cover the costs associated with the invoices and the inspections of the Centerbrook Meeting House property. The costs are associated with the building inspection and putting together the public informational meeting that will be scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the Selectmen's miscellaneous fund for the purpose of exploratory invoices and inspections that are necessary to investigate the Centerbrook Meeting House property acquisition. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, Norman Needleman abstained. Motion carried.

### **Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to cancel the May 17, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to set a Special Selectmen Meeting on May 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

### **Schedule Public Informational Meeting – 51 Main Street in Centerbrook (aka Meeting House)**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Public Informational Meeting on Wednesday, May 24 at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. Norman Needleman abstained. Motion carried.

### **Set Town Meeting**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, May 3 at 4:45 pm in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Public Comment / Announcements:** None

**SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:** None

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli