

**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 MINUTES  
May 1, 2024**

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

Bruce Glowac called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Bruce Glowac welcomed everyone to the Board of Selectmen in person and remote public access meeting via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Finance Director Tracey Celentano 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 April 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence** None

**Public Announcements / Comment:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Capital Committee:** Selectman Glowac reported the committee will be meeting with the Architectural Firm Jacunski Humes later this month to start the preliminary design and planning of a new Police / Emergency Operations Center.

**Signage** Selectman Stacia Libby gave an update on the sign project.

**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – July 4, 2026** Selectman Libby reported the next committee planning meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2024 at 3 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions** None

**VACANCIES:**

**Park & Recreation Commission**  
Vacancy (alternate)

**CT Water's Customer Advisory Council (CAC)**

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Connecticut Water & Marine Water is asking the Town to appoint a resident of the community who is a customer of Connecticut Water to serve on CT Water's Customer Advisory Council (CAC). The purpose of the council is to enhance communications with their customers and communities. The meetings are held every 3 to 6 months via Zoom. Please let Selectman Needleman know if you are interested in representing the Town of Essex or call 860-767-4340 x 112 for more information.

Open Town Board and Commission positions can be found at  
[https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli3116/f/uploads/boards\\_and\\_commissions\\_website\\_30.pdf](https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli3116/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/vyhli3116/f/file/file/application\\_to\\_volunteer\\_for\\_board\\_or\\_commission\\_fillable\\_4\\_13\\_18.pdf](https://www.essexct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli3116/f/file/file/application_to_volunteer_for_board_or_commission_fillable_4_13_18.pdf)

**American Rescue Plan Funds:**

There is currently \$22,176.00 available.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to Board of Finance an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the Fire Protection Alarm System at Public Works. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Proclamation – May 14 as Apraxia Awareness Day**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to proclaim May 14 as Apraxia Awareness Day. Proclamation Attached. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing** None

**Set Town Meeting** None

**General Discussion** None

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli





# PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, May 14, 2024, marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Essex, CT about childhood apraxia of speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1-in-1,000 children.

**Whereas**, childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children.

**Whereas**, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak.

**Whereas**, without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, but are also placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills.

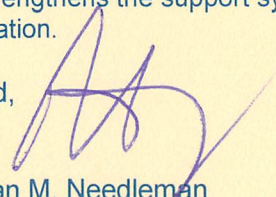
**Whereas**, that such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved.

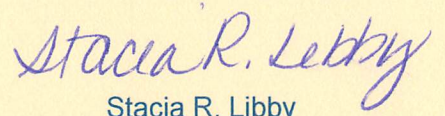
**Whereas**, public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Essex, CT is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice.

**Whereas**, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

**Let it be resolved**, that May 14, 2024, is "Apraxia Awareness Day" and citizens of Essex, CT and surrounds are encouraged to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of childhood apraxia of speech. Apraxia Kids is the leading nonprofit that strengthens the support systems in the lives of children with apraxia of speech. Please visit [www.apraxia-kids.org](http://www.apraxia-kids.org) for more information.

Signed,

  
Norman M. Needleman  
First Selectman

  
Stacia R. Libby  
Selectman

  
Bruce M. Glowac  
Selectman