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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2017**

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

Norman Needleman called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Agenda with an additional under New Business Item F. – Appropriation. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve the April 19 Meeting Minutes. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence: None

Public Announcements / Comment:

Connecticut Water – 2017 Public Fire Protection Charges

There was discussion on the increase for the public fire protection charges as approved by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA). The Selectmen invited PURA representatives to the meeting this evening to discuss the significant rate increase.

Connecticut Water Company representatives David Connors, PE, Director of Service Delivery and Craig Patla, Vice President of Service Delivery presented. There was discussion of the loss of the Federal tax credit also known as the repair tax credit, which they take as a reduction on infrastructure replacements. There was discussion that there was a lump sum tax credit, somewhere between 8 and 9 million dollars. They took that money and credited it back to the Towns which helped reduce the fire protection charges during 2014 – 2016. During 2013 the invoices were higher, then the invoices went back up in 2017. There was a \$1,071 credit per month to the Town of Essex.

Connecticut Water reported they spend approximately \$15 million a year on waterline replacement and there was approximately 6 million in improvements done in the shoreline area. Improvements included a new pipeline on Main Street in the Comstock Avenue, the Ivoryton relocation project, the Route 154 project, and they increased the pipeline size through Deep River.

The Fire Chief and Selectmen presented their concerns pertaining to water flow. There was discussion that the new Essex Fire Trucks both have the capacity to flow 2,000 gallons a minute. Both fire trucks were pumping for more than 24 hours during the last fire on Dump Road and the water supply was drained.

The Fire Chief further discussed his concerns pertaining to the Ivoryton area because many of the Town's water sources at that end of Town are becoming silted in. There are a few large buildings, like the Ivoryton Inn, the Ivoryton Playhouse, and the factory located at that end of Town.

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The Fire Chief and the Selectmen stated that now is the time for the Town and the Water Company to look at installing a tank or a pumping main in the Ivoryton area. The Town needs bigger water to that end of Town.

Connecticut Water would like to come out and do flow tests in the areas of concern. They would look at the weaknesses north of Route 80. They could work on identifying weak flow areas and look at ways of getting better water through to those areas. They could clean out the main line, or replace the main, or the project could go onto a prioritized list. Connecticut Water reported that by having the Town verbally behind them, they can do some long range planning and by having a Town's support gains traction to getting through the States regulatory process.

Mr. Needleman reported that the issue is placement of a water tower. The desire is not to have it in someone's back yard. Mr. Needleman thought the flow test was a great way to identify blockage. Connecticut Water reported that flow tests will be the first step.

There was further discussion that on Bokum Road, by the Lee Company there is a lot of water, but just past the Lee Company, the flow is lower. Connecticut Water reported they would look into that issue.

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Building Committee

Kelly Sterner reported on some ideas for the new Essex Town Hall first floor shower room.

Ms. Sterner also reported that the Walnut Street Bridge bid opening is this Friday, May 19th at 2:00 pm. The bridge project will be awarded to the lowest bidder. The Notice to Proceed is expected to be done on June 16th. There will be an informational Town Meeting held so that the project could be discussed and any questions answered.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions None

Neighborhood Assistance Act - Schedule Public Hearing

Norman Needleman reported that the Ivoryton Library Foundation has submitted an application under the State of Connecticut, Neighborhood Assistance Act. This process requires the Town hold a Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to set a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 7th 2017 at 4:55 p.m. in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Resolution – Flexible Spending Account Amendment

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.

Neighborhood Assistance Act – Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation, Inc.

Norman Needleman reported that Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation has submitted an application under the State of Connecticut, Department of Revenue Services Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit

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Program. The Neighborhood Assistance Act is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax exempt organizations by providing a corporation business tax credit for businesses that make cash contributions to these entities. The application process requires a public hearing, which was conducted earlier this evening and approval by the governing body of the municipality.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Neighborhood Assistance Act application for Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation. Stacia Libby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Permit Fees – Town of Essex

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to waive the Town of Essex Permit Application Fees for the renovation of the Essex Elementary School Main Office. Norman Needleman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Appropriation

Kelly Sterner, Director of Finance, reported that the Town received a final school construction grant payment for the 2007 Essex Elementary School Renovation Project in the amount of \$42,017. The deficit has been funded by the Town's General Fund via a receivable (due to/from).

The May 2, 2007 Bond Appropriation	\$ 13,300,000
Total Project Expenditures	\$ 13,062,709
2007 General Obligation Bond	9,950,000
Balance	\$ 3,112,709
School Construction Grant Payment	3,070,691
Remaining Deficit	<u>\$ 42,017</u>

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance a special appropriation in the amount of \$42,017. Said funds will be used to liquidate the outstanding general fund receivable from the 2007 Essex Elementary School building project fund. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Announcements / Comment:

Stacia Libby reported that the Safety Day is being held at the Essex Fire Headquarters, 11 Saybrook Road on Sunday, June 11th from 10 am to 2 pm

There was a reminder that the Ivoryton Street Bridge Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on June 27th at 5 pm.

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

State Budget

Norman Needleman reported that the some of the State Budget Proposals are devastating.

Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission

There was discussion on an ordinance that set requirements on commission members, in particular the Inland Wetlands Commission. There is a requirement that there be a planning member on the Inland Wetlands Commission per an ordinance. Planning reported they have not been able to find a representative or a member who is available or able to sit on the wetlands commission. Mr.

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Needleman requested this ordinance be reviewed and possibly amended. Mr. Needleman requested that under New Business – Amendment to the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission Ordinance that created the commission.

DARE Program

There was discussion on the difficulty of finding personnel who can facilitate this program. There was discussion of the new Director of Tri-Town Youth could be enlisted to deal with and create an aggregate that our police would be interested in parceling out. Norman would like the opinion of the three (3) Selectmen from the tri-town area, the three (3) Resident Troopers or representatives at the local police departments, Tri Town Youth and the Social Services Directors involved.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli



Selectmen's Office

www.essexct.gov

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

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Board of Selectmen:

Stacia R. Libby

Bruce M. Glowac

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CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTING RESOLUTION

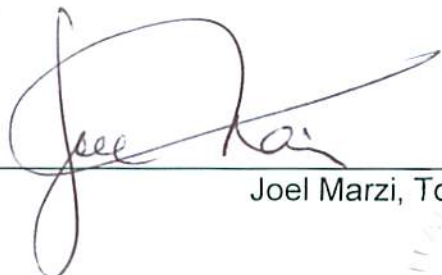
I, Joel Marzi, duly qualified and Town Clerk of the Town of Essex, a municipality organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify that the following is a full and true copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Essex, duly held on the 17th of May, 2017, 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 Cafeteria Plan including a Health Flexible Spending Account and Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account effective 7/1/2017, presented to this meeting is hereby approved and adopted and that an authorized representative of the Employer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of the Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively, are true copies of FSA & DCA Plan Town of Essex Cafeteria Section 125 as amended and restated, and the Summary Plan Description approved and adopted in the foregoing resolutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Town of Essex this 18th day of May, A.D. 2017.

(SEAL)


Joel Marzi, Town Clerk

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