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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
February 2, 2022**

Present: Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman
Bruce M. Glowac, Selectman

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 and Selectman Bruce R. Glowac.

Others in attendance: Tracey Celentano and Kelly Sterner.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence None

Public Announcements / Comment: None

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/vyhlif3116/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/vyhlif3116/f/file/file/application_to_volunteer_for_board_or_commission_fillable_4_13_18.pdf

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Thomas Pinkowish to the Economic Development Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

The following are Board and Commission openings:

- Conservation Commission – Alternate Member
- Conservation Commission – Regular Member

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- Economic Development Commission – 1 Regular Member
- Inland Wetlands Commission – 1 Regular Member
- Park and Recreation Commission – 2 Alternate Members
- Park and Recreation Commission – 1 Regular Member
- Planning and Zoning Commission – 2 Regular Members
- Tree Committee – 2 Regular Members

Discussion About Outdoor Entertainment

There was discussion on the seasonal open air liquor permit applications which may include permission to have live entertainment. There has also been an increase in requests for expansion of outdoor patio seating from local businesses. Earlier and during the COVID Pandemic the Town did approve permits to allow outdoor dining and there has been an increase in outdoor live entertainment. There have been several complaints regarding the noise from the outdoor entertainment.

The Town has been informed that these permits will automatically renew in March. The only thing that could interrupt the renewal would be if there is a violation of an ordinance, like a noise ordinance, or a violation of a zoning regulation. The Selectmen agreed there should be some type of control over the volume and on the type of music. Mr. Glowac reported the Town's Zoning Regulations can mandate controls and he read into the record,

80B.2. OTHER CONDITIONS. Such other reasonable conditions as the Commission may deem necessary or appropriate to impose for the purpose of preventing or diminishing: (A) any adverse effect of the use, land, or improvements to be authorized, upon the health, safety, and welfare of the Community, (B) any undue annoyance or disturbance of the occupants of premises in the general neighborhood of such use, land or improvements, and (C) any impairment of the suitability of such use, land or improvements for the General Principal Uses permitted in the district thereof under these Regulations and predominantly existing therein.

The Selectmen want businesses in Town to succeed, but the noise from the live bands is affecting the welfare of the community.

There was discussion that businesses cannot exceed the amount of septic usage and when they are septic constrained, they cannot expand outside seating. The pandemic allowed outdoor seating, but at no point was the approval intended to increase aggregate seating. The outdoor seating was an accommodation to businesses due to Covid so businesses could continue.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to vote to approve that a letter from the Board of Selectmen be sent to the Department of Consumer Protection requesting that the permits allowing outdoor entertainment in Essex be withdrawn so that they do not renew automatically. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Schedule Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 6:55 pm in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

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Public Comment / Announcements: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection site in Essex on Dump Road has had some traffic problems with cars backing up out and onto Route 154 and/or cars stopping on the railroad tracks while waiting in line. Because of the traffic issues, HHW needed to hire a traffic cop. HHW has notified the Town they may be using satellite collection sites and no longer be using the Essex facility. There was discussion that their building is on Town property.

Essex Court

Essex Court had requested \$5,000 and the Town did a one-time donation of \$2,500 out of the Social Services Special Revenue Fund. The Selectmen discussed whether to add this as a line item to the upcoming budget going forward because they felt this is a very charitable cause. The Selectmen agreed that they would like to add it into the budget, possibly on the Social Services page. This will be discussed further at the Budget Workshop on February 16th.

Second Amendment to Tier 1 Long Term Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement – Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) (fka CRRA)

The Selectmen discussed the second amendment agreement between MIRA and the Town of Essex. The Selectmen discussed the possibility of exploring other options. The amended lease agreement with MIRA (fka CRRA) ends on June 30, 2027. The Selectmen will place this item under New Business at the February 16th meeting.

Essex go Bragh Parade – Saturday, March 19 at 10:00 am

The Essex go Bragh Parade is on.

Report on the Winter Storm

First Selectman Needleman reported overall the Town did very well during the storm. A couple of the Town trucks broke down. Public works did a terrific job plowing and removing snow after the storm.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli