

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
March 3, 2021**

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

Bruce Glowac called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

First Selectman Needleman welcomed everyone to the Board of Selectmen remote public access meeting. This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom Meeting.

In attendance: First Selectman Norman M. Needleman, Selectman Stacia R. Libby, Selectman Bruce R. Glowac

Others in attendance: Kelly Sterner, Elizabeth Reinhart, Caroline Field, and Tracey Celentano.

First Selectman Needleman announced that audio attendees will be muted during the meeting except during public comment. Attendees were asked to please identify themselves for the record prior to making any comments.

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 Stacia Libby to approve the February 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the February 17, 2021 Budget Meeting Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence

Public Announcements / Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions None

Resolution – Authorizing the First Selectman to Accept OPM Grant Funds

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the Resolution that Norman Needleman have the legal authority to execute the State Funded Body Worn Camera / Dashboard Camera Grant Program and accept grant funds on behalf of the Town of Essex (copy attached). Stacia Libby seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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Budget Meeting

Land Use - Mr. Needleman reported the land use reorganization was an overall increase of \$18,383. Tax Collector – there was discussion that both the Tax Collector and the Town Clerk are elected officials and should be paid the same. The Selectmen agreed that the Tax Collector should be brought up to the same pay rate as the Town Clerk.

Probate Court – No information received yet, so it was kept flat.

Fringe Benefits - No information on health insurance numbers yet, but the numbers will be adjusted for the Board of Finance when the information is acquired.

There was discussion regarding the Police Accountability Act (Public Act 20-1) that states officers are required to wear body cams. The body cams will be purchased with a special appropriation.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance a Board of Selectmen’s Budget request for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 in the amount of \$8,843,013 which represents an increase of 2.44% over the current fiscal year. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

The Selectmen strongly recommended keeping taxes as low as possible this year, especially due to the pandemic.

Norman thanked the new Finance Director Tracey Celentano and Kelly Sterner for their hard work on the budget, and all Town Hall employees who have worked so hard this year in keeping the Town going during the Pandemic.

Schedule Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting None

Public Comment: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Food Scrap Recycling

Mr. Needleman reported that Billy Armstead and Alyson Finnegan are working on a new Transfer Station initiative to collect food scraps, which are not trash but a resource, that can be turned into useful compost. The Town is looking into offering a food scrap starter kit to residents at a nominal cost for one 2-gallon kitchen container, one 6-gallon outdoor container, and one roll of 25 compostable bags.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria P. Lucarelli



Selectmen's Office

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Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

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Board of Selectmen:

Bruce M. Glowac

Stacia R. Libby

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Resolution

I, Joel Marzi, the 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 3rd of March, 2021, 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 Norman M. Needleman has the legal authority to execute the State Funded Body Worn Camera/Dashboard Camera Grant Program and accept grant funds on behalf of the Town of Essex.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the Town of Essex this 4th day of March, A.D. 2021.



Joel Marzi, Town Clerk



