

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
August 18, 2021**

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

Bruce Glowac called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

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

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

Others in attendance: Kelly Sterner, Tracey Celentano, Elizabeth Rhinehart, Sylvia Rutkowska, and David Royston.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to approve the agenda with the following changes: To move Executive Session into Old Business "Evan's Lane Litigation" and to add Board of Selectmen September 15, 2021, Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the July 21, 2021, Meeting Minutes. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence None

Public Announcements / Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Evan's Lane Litigation

Attorney Sylvia Rutkowska reported on the August 17, 2021, Settlement Agreement on the Evans Lane dispute. The terms of the Settlement Agreement can be accomplished by Resolution of the Board of Selectmen. The Settlement Agreement meets the needs of the Town to maintain this public highway like any other. Attorney Rutkowska stated that within 30 days of the execution of the Settlement Agreement, the Essex Board of Selectmen shall adopt another written Resolution acknowledging that the area shown and designated on the Annino Survey as "Area Abandoned By Town of Essex as a Public Highway per Board of Selectmen" was abandoned by the Town of Essex as a public highway sometime prior to July 14, 1967; and the parties will agree and acknowledge that the portion of Evans Lane to the east and north of said area is a public highway.

Stasia and Glenn Penkofflidbeck thanked the Board of Selectmen and expressed their appreciation for the four years of work on this issue.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the Resolution (copy attached). Stacia Libby seconded the motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Paul Greenberg as a member to the Advisory Committee for Thatchbed Island. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Woody Comstock as a member to the Advisory Committee for Thatchbed Island. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Eugene Schellens as a member to the Advisory Committee for Thatchbed Island. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Susan Malan as a regular member to the Harbor Management Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Motion was made by Norman Needleman to appoint Brian Weinstein as an alternate member to the Harbor Management Commission. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

The following are current board and commission openings:

- Conservation Commission – Alternate Member
- Economic Development Commission – Regular Member
- Park and Recreation Commission – 2 Alternate Members
- Tree Committee – Regular Member
- Planning and Zoning Commission – 1 Alternate Member
- Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate Member

Fire Department – Special Appropriation

Mr. Needleman reported on costs for the removal of an abandoned underground oil tank at the Ivoryton Firehouse. It was determined there was fluid in the tank, which was primarily water. The cost for removal of the tank and the required soil remediation was \$10,397.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to recommend to the Board of Finance an amount not to exceed \$10,397 to pay for the removal of the underground fuel tank from the Ivoryton Firehouse and for the required soil remediation. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

Town Hall Septic System

Mr. Needleman reported the pump chamber on the Essex Town Hall septic system has failed. The Selectmen approved the quote in the amount of \$16,983.50 for the repairs.

American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA)

Essex Court Social Services Activities and Hot Meals Program

The Selectmen discussed a request from Essex Court for funds to help with their social services activities and meals program that provides hot meals to approximately 32 residents of Essex Court. The Selectmen agreed to help fund their program and suggested sending \$2,500 now and \$2,500 later out of the Social Services budget.

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Schedule Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting None

September 15, 2021, Board of Selectmen Meeting Date Change

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to change the 7:00 pm September 15, 2021, Board of Selectmen Meeting to September 22, 2021. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

Public Comment: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Shelter

There was a discussion that the Red Cross does not run the John Winthrop Middle School shelter. If the Red Cross were to run the shelter, it is done so under their rules and is open to everyone, not just the tri-town area. At this point in time, there is no specific plan on how the shelter would run. This will be investigated, and a plan will need to be put in place.

Speed Signs

Trooper Mark Roberts suggested placement for the newly acquired solar-powered speed signs. There are a total of 6 locations around town and the signs can periodically be moved.

Smoking in Public Places and Work Restrictions

There was discussion that the Selectmen would like to ban all smoking in parks and town owned property.

Blue Earth – Food Scrap Program

The Sustainable Committee presented an initiative to possibly place a 65-gallon food scrap container at Spencer's Corner. The monthly cost would be \$42.

Animal Control Officer

There was discussion that both the Animal Control Officer and the Assistant Animal Control Officer have resigned. Selectmen McDonald, Gister, and Needleman met to discuss the possibility of changing the current schedule to more of a rotating type of schedule. The plan is that each Town would advertise for its own independent animal control officer and assistant animal control officer. Another option is to advertise for another tri-town animal control officer and a tri-town assistant animal control officer.

Sea Chantey Committee

Stacia Libby reported she is working with a group that is organizing a Sea Chantey the weekend of June 10, 11, 12, 2022. Resident State Trooper Mark Roberts has been notified as well as Fire Chief Andrew Kressley. It is anticipated that parking will be at Pratt, the Town Hall, and Sunset Park area. There was also discussion that there may be a shuttle bus. The festival will be at the Essex Town Park and at the Connecticut River Museum.

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

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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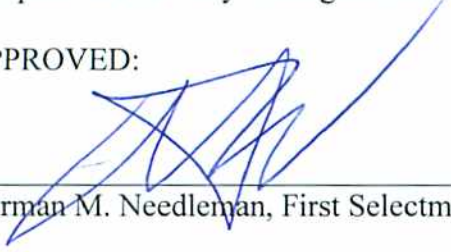
RESOLUTION

I, Joel Marzi Town Clerk of the Town of Essex, a municipality organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut, hereby certify that the following is a true copy of the resolution adopted at the Regular Monthly Meeting held on August 18, 2021:

In the matter of Town of Essex v. Thomas M. Daniells, Trustee et al, State Court docket number MMX-CX-17-6017863-S, a declaratory judgment matter seeking the determination of whether a relevant portion of Evans Lane is public or private, the Town of Essex hereby accepts the Settlement Agreement, revised 8/16/2021, and corresponding Property Survey for Settlement Purposes by Annino Survey, LLC, dated July 27, 2021, and authorizes Town counsel to execute the same and any associated documents necessary to effectuate the same.

Adopted this 18th day of August 2021.

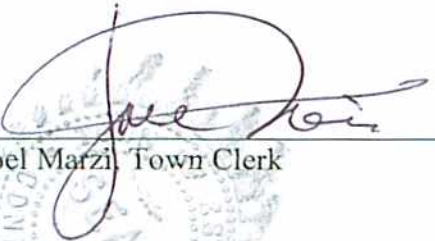
APPROVED:



Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

ATTEST:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Essex this 19th day of August 2021.



Joel Marzi, Town Clerk

