

**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  
October 20, 2021**

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

Norman Needleman called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Selectman Stacia R. Libby, Selectman Bruce R. Glowac.

Others in attendance: Tracey Celentano and Elizabeth Reinhart.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve the agenda with two additions under New Business: 7J Job Descriptions, 7K Board of Selectmen Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to approve the September 22, 2021 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** None

**Ordinance – Smoking** None

**Ordinance – Amended and Re-Stated Ordinance Providing a Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighter(s).**

There was discussion on the Amended and Re-Stated Ordinance Providing a Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighter(s). Copy of said Ordinance is on file in the Town Clerk's office and posted on the Town website.

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to approve and add the Amended and Re-Stated Ordinance Providing a Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighter(s) to a Public Hearing and a Special Town Meeting for the Legislative Body's approval. Norman Needleman seconded the motion; it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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### **Sinking Fund Request – Park and Recreation**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance the appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$50,000.00 for the cleanup and restoration of Town parks due to flooding from Tropical Storm Ida. Said sum to be taken from the Park and Recreation Sinking Fund. If FEMA funds are received related to this project, said funds will be returned to the Park and Recreation Sinking Fund. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

The Selectmen discussed the possibility of some remediation to help prevent the fields from washing away again in the future. There was discussion of the possibility placing some berm landscaping or even using jersey barriers to prevent the water flowing through the ball field. There was also discussion of cleaning out the stream from fallen trees and debris, which would also help the water flow away from the field. Mr. Glowac stated that the fields can be under water, but they cannot withstand the current of water flowing through the field.

### **Sinking Fund Request – American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) – Police Cameras**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance the appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$35,000.00 to be allocated from the Contingency Fund contingent upon eligibility of ARPA Funds, for the purchase of a police cameras and related necessary equipment. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

### **American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) None**

### **Estuary Transit District (aka 9 Town Transit) Merging with Middletown Transit District**

Mr. Needleman reported he met with Peter Bierrie regarding the Estuary Transit District, better known as the 9 Town Transit in our area, to discuss the a merge with Middletown Transit District which would become a larger organization and more cost-effective. Mr. Needleman reported the proposed expansion of the Estuary Transit District (9TT) was the result of a study commissioned by CTDOT. The report recommended that combining the Middletown Transit District (MTD) with the Estuary Transit District would improve service in our region. The restructuring is jointly supported by MTD, 9TT, CTDOT and RiverCOG. Note that no additional funds from participating towns are requested for this proposed merger. The Town of Essex contributes approximately \$20,825 to 9 Town Transit annually.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Resolution (copy attached). Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, all in favor. Motion carried.

### **November 3, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting Cancellation**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to cancel the November 3, 2021, Board of Selectmen Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

### **November 4, 2021 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to schedule a Board of Selectmen Special Meeting on November 4, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

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**Schedule Public Hearing**

**Motion** was made by Stacia Libby to set a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:45 pm in Conference Room A. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Set Town Meeting**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to set a Town Meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2021 immediately following the 4:45 pm Public Hearing in Conference Room A. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Job Descriptions**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve the Board of Finance Recording Secretary, Retirement Board Recording Secretary, and the Conservation Commission Recording Secretary job descriptions. Stacia Libby seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Public Comment:**

Norman reported the Emeritus Emergency Management Director William Buckridge is in the hospital and he is in our thoughts.

Mr. Glowac reported he is still getting complaints regarding the loud outside music from Scotch Plains Tavern. The Selectmen are aware the permit issued by the Department of Consumer Protection expires in March and with the weather turning colder, the complaints will subside. There are concerns about the future and the hours of operation and the type and volume of music being played.

**SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

**Motion** was made by Bruce Glowac to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Norman Needleman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria P. Lucarelli



## Selectmen's Office

[www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov)

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman

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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 Board of Selectmen Meeting held on October 20, 2021:

**THE UNDERSIGNED**, the duly authorized First Selectman of the Town of Essex (the "Town"), hereby submits the foregoing resolution which was entered and authorized at the meeting of the Town held on October 20, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, a strong public transportation system is vital to the health, economy, environment and overall well-being of a community;

**WHEREAS**, effective public transportation requires a regional approach to meet the mobility needs of constituents;

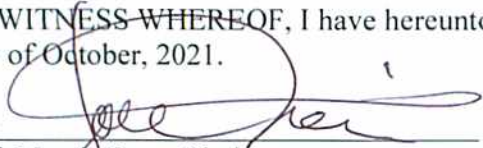
**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 7-273b, the Estuary Transit District ("ETD") was established in 1981;

**WHEREAS**, the Lower Connecticut River Valley Transit Study has determined that combining the ETD with the Middletown Transit District ("MTD") will result in improved transit services to the regions respectively served by the ETD and MTD by: enhancing the fiscal sustainability of a larger district; providing efficiencies of scale that will result in reduced costs for fleet maintenance; enhancing staff recruitment and retention by providing more opportunities for advancement; providing significant service improvements including better customer service, expanded service areas, frequencies and hours; and providing for new and upgraded capital facilities that will improve both operational and financial efficiency;

**WHEREAS**, to improve efficiencies of operations by ETD and MTD and in anticipation of the MTD member municipalities joining ETD, ETD and MTD entered into an Employee Sharing Services Agreement whereby ETD and MTD agreed to share certain employees during the transition period as jointly determined by ETD and MTD and their respective boards;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Essex does hereby support the combination of the Middletown Transit District and the Estuary Transit District into an expanded Estuary Transit District on condition that the necessary funding commitment is provided by the Connecticut Department of Transportation;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Essex this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.

  
Joel Marzi, Town Clerk

2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District



33<sup>rd</sup> Senatorial District



36<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

