

**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Town Hall Stage Conference Area, 30 Martin Street**

**March 12, 2018**

Present: Chairman Lisa J. O'Donnell, Selectman David A. Doane, Selectman Andrew C. Spinney, and Town Administrator Brendhan Zubricki.

Also Present: John Bediz; Friedl Brosch; Finance Committee Chair Michelle Dyer, and FinCom members Ben Buttrick, Rob Fitzgibbon, and Michael Flynn; Tina Lane; and, Town Building Committee Chair Lisa J. O'Donnell and members Westley Burnham, Nat Crosby, Stuart Pratt, and Peter Silva.

Chairman O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Stage Conference Area of the Town Hall at 30 Martin Street and announced that the Board would hear Public Comment. No one offered any comment.

In other business, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the weekly warrant in the amount of \$101,867.63.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to exempt from Section 20 of Chapter 268A of the General Laws, the contracts and amounts for the individuals listed below contained within the 03/01/2018 warrant pursuant to subsection (d) of said Section.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DEPT'S BILL</u>
David Pereen	Pereen Plumbing	02/20/2018	\$ 1,330.00	Police
Jim McNeilly	McNeilly EMS	02/13/2018	\$ 70.00	Fire

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to exempt from Section 20 of Chapter 268A of the General Laws, the contracts and amounts for the individuals listed below contained within the 03/08/2018 warrant pursuant to subsection (d) of said Section.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DEPT'S BILL</u>
Ernie Nieberle	Nieberle's	03/03/2018	\$ 521.70	Police/COA

And, a third motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to exempt from Section 20 of Chapter 268A of the General Laws, the contracts and amounts for the individuals listed below contained within the 03/15/2018 warrant pursuant to subsection (d) of said Section.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DEPT'S BILL</u>
Ernie Nieberle	Nieberle's	02/24/2018	\$ 1,303.50	Fire

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the minutes for the Selectmen's February 15<sup>th</sup> Open Meeting and Executive Session; and, for the February 26, 2018, Open Meeting and Executive Session.

The Board signed a Certificate of Appointment to the position of Town Clerk for Pamela Thorne, which will be forwarded to the State as confirmation of her appointment.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to ratify the Chairman's declaration of a State of Emergency for the Town beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, March 2, 2018 through 8:00

a.m., Monday, March 5, 2018; and also, to declare a State of Emergency for the coming storm from March 12 at 11:00 p.m. through March 14, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

The Board noted a resident mess clam digger's assertion that Sunday digging should still be open to mess diggers. The Board was not inclined to change the current rule until at least when the rule expires on June 30 of 2018. The rule may or may not change at that time.

The Board tabled discussion until their next meeting of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Essex Council on Aging and the North Shore Cape Ann Topsfield Region Medical Reserve Corps for Senior Well-Check Services, since that document was not yet available.

The Board considered approving the use of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Auditorium for any future Town or School District employee's retirement, as an honorary event, which might include serving alcohol, so long as all rules are met. The Board voted unanimously to support that general category of use.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to accept the fiscal year 2019 health insurance rates with Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA). The Board signed the acceptance document.

Concerning Conomo Point Matters, Chairman O'Donnell provided a status update regarding a proposal for a ribbon cutting and neighborhood party at the new Conomo Point waterfront park. The Conomo Point Association will have more input for the Board at the first Board meeting in April.

Acting in their capacity as Personnel Board, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to recommend to Town Meeting the FY19 Wage & Salary Scale.

The Board discussed a request by Anxhelo Serja for a Student Shellfish Permit and Waiver of the School Transcript Requirement. Following the discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to waive the school transcript requirement, and, a second motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the student shellfish permit.

Following a short discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve a Commercial Shellfish Permit and Waiver of the Late Fee for Tomaz Tofuri.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve a Commercial Shellfish Permit for David H. Doane. Selectman David A. Doane abstained.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve a Student Commercial Shellfish Permit for Colby Doane. Selectman David A. Doane abstained.

Acting in their capacity as Licensing Board, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the following requests for licenses and permits:

Special Auction Permit:

- Blackwood March Antiques, Michael March, for use on Thursday, April 5, 2018, between the hours of 4:00 and 10:00 p.m., within the confines of 125 Main Street.

Commercial Shellfish Permit:

- Kenneth Amero
- Robert Amero
- Zack Appelfofft
- Anthony Augustine
- Kenneth Baker
- Julian Balili
- Yllka Balili
- Richard Buczko
- David G. Burnham
- Timothy DeWitt
- David Earl
- Benn Ferriero
- Hali Ferriero
- Jackson Friedman
- James H. Genest
- Scott Hamlen
- Russell Hemeon
- Michael Jacobs, Jr.
- Chris Johnson
- Wayne Leveille
- Ian MacDougall
- Steven MacDougall
- Peter Marshall
- Gordon Martin
- Barry Mears
- Bruce Mello
- George Mullen
- Michael Pascucci
- Scott Reed
- Joseph Rizzo
- Carter Roberts
- Wayne Savoie
- Keith Woodman
- Anida Xhalia
- John Ytzen-Handel

Non-Resident Recreational Shellfish Permit:

- Ronald Blanchette, Beverly, MA, sponsored by Louise Holland
- David A. Bogdan, Georgetown, MA, sponsored by Tim Walsh

- Richard Buss, Winthrop, MA, sponsored by Andrew Haley
- Glenn Chartier, Gloucester, MA, sponsored by Michael Ginn
- Paul Dredge, Arlington, MA, sponsored by Barry Richards
- Daniel Emerson, Carmel, CA, sponsored by George Emerson
- Christopher Greene, Hamilton, MA, sponsored by Ernie Nieberle
- Ed Kawczynski, Salem, MA, sponsored by Richard Pierro
- Caroline Losee, Boxford, MA, sponsored by Jamie Ellis
- Robert Normand, Beverly, MA, sponsored by Leo Provost
- Henry Oettinger, Manchester, MA, sponsored by Hannah Barker
- Kerilee Pellettrino, Beverly, MA, sponsored by Shelly Piper
- Daniel Provost, S. Hampton, NH, sponsored by Leo Provost
- Jennifer Seruzio, Beverly, MA, sponsored by Shelly Piper
- John Stadley, Jr., Beverly, MA, sponsored by Leo Provost
- Chester Sullivan, Methuen, MA, sponsored by Thomas Prentiss
- Ken Symonds, Princeton, MA, sponsored by Charles Symonds
- Michael Symonds, Gloucester, MA, sponsored by Charles Symonds
- William J. Waitunski, Beverly, MA, sponsored by Noah Kellerman

Senior Shellfish Permit:

- Sefton Earl
- Dan Marshall
- Richard Pascucci
- Leonard Woodman

Student Shellfish Permit:

- Jessica Amero
- Troy Ciarametaro
- Jack Colpoys
- Faith Costello
- Nathan Ferriero
- Ian Lewiecki
- Trenten Whittemore
- McKenzie Woodman

The Selectmen were reminded of the following meetings and events:

- Wednesday, March 21, 7:00 p.m., at Manchester Essex Regional High School, quantitative presentation of existing and future capital debt with respect to the Manchester Essex Regional School District and the towns of Essex and Manchester.
- Spring 2018 Cape Ann Caucus, Friday, March 23, from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m., at the Rockport Art Association & Museum, 12 Main Street, Rockport.
- Northeast Coastal Coalition Meeting, Friday, 2:00 p.m., March 23, 2018.

- The next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting will take place on Monday, March 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Stage Conference Room on the second floor, 30 Martin Street.
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Workshop on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The MVP Workshop will take place from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Essex Town Hall. Breakfast refreshments and lunch will be provided.
- Coastal Resilience Grant Public Workshop highlighting the inter-relatedness of emergency planning and coastal resilience planning, April 25, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., Essex Town Hall. Also offered at Ipswich Town Hall April 11 and Gloucester City Hall April 17 (same times).

Mr. Zubricki began the presentation of his Town Administrator's Report for the period February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 through March 9, 2018, regarding the following:

Further Discussion Relative to Potential Affordable Housing Project: Mr. Zubricki reported that the owners of the house that Harborlight Community Partners wanted to purchase for affordable housing were not interested in delaying their sale until after Town Meeting and will place their property on the open market. Mr. Zubricki said that Harborlight would like to attend a future meeting to discuss the possibility of working together on a future affordable housing project. The Board was in favor of continuing the discussion and Mr. Zubricki will arrange for Harborlight to meet with the Strategic Planning Committee, the Economic Development Committee, and the Community Preservation Committee at some future date.

Finalization of Request for Proposals for Centennial Grove Master Plan: Mr. Zubricki asked if the Board had reviewed the proposed RFP for a Centennial Grove Master Plan. The Board agreed that the RFP should be tabled until we more fully understand if a long-term relationship with the Pingree School and others will bring much of what is needed at the Grove.

License for Use of Centennial Grove for Rowing Program: Since the last Board meeting, Mr. Zubricki had met with representatives from the Pingree School and discussed the possibility of the School leasing a portion of Centennial Grove for approximately 2 ½ months through the end of May for use by their students participating in the school rowing program. The School would be willing to pay a monetary stipend of \$1,000 and was also willing to repair the Grove Cottage porch railing. The Town would agree to allow storage of the boats at the Grove for the duration of the lease and the School would provide their own porta-potties until the water is on to the cottage. The Selectmen were in favor of the idea and a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve a license with the School. The Board acknowledged the potential for a more long-term relationship after this short, trial period.

School Budget Group Meeting: Mr. Zubricki updated the Board members on the recent school budget meeting that he, Chairman O'Donnell, and FinCom Chair Dyer had attended which included a planning session for the March 21 joint capital budget public forum and continued discussion of the proposed FY19 operating budget.

Review of Thin-Layer Deposition by Local Scientists: Mr. Zubricki updated the Board regarding his meetings and discussions with Senator Bruce Tarr and members of his office, as well as members of Congressman Seth Moulton's office, in addition to local scientists and State regulators. All promised to do what they could to fund a study that would observe the ability of the marsh to rebound from a recent, natural deposition of sediment.

Essex National Heritage Area Kiosk Project: Mr. Zubricki reported that Essex Heritage has forwarded information regarding Essex that will be placed on kiosks along the Essex Coastal Scenic Byway for review by the Town. No kiosks will be placed in Essex. The Board discussed the information and asked that the Merchants' Group be consulted to provide a suitable aerial photo of the marsh and the text for the introduction of the Town of Essex, plus any other input they have.

At 7:00 p.m., the Board was joined by Friedl Brosch. Mr. Brosch said that he would like to donate to the Town a six-foot sculpture depicting an Essex clammer. The Board recommended that he work with the Bicentennial Committee to include the dedication of the sculpture in the Committee's schedule of events. A good location for the statue may be at Woodman's Beach.

Friedl Brosch left the meeting.

At 7:30 p.m., members of the Finance Committee and the Town Building Committee joined the Board to discuss the proposed FY19 operating and capital budget.

Mr. Zubricki reviewed the draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant and the Finance Committee acknowledged they would be working with the Town Accountant to close a budget gap, which may require cuts from departmental requests.

At 7:45 p.m., citing the need to discuss collective bargaining strategy concerning the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Essex Police Benevolent Association; and the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property relative to a possible future site for a public safety facility; the Chairman entertained a motion to move to executive session. She stated that discussing these matters in Open Session would be detrimental to the Town's bargaining and negotiating strategies. She said that the Board would only be returning to Open Session to adjourn the meeting and invited the Town Administrator, the Finance Committee members, and the Town Building Committee members to attend the Executive Session, with the notation that the TBC would leave prior to the discussion of the union matters. The motion was moved and seconded. Following a unanimous Roll Call Vote by the Board, the Finance Committee, and the Town Building Committee; the Board, the Finance Committee, the Town Building Committee, and Mr. Zubricki moved to Executive Session. Tina Lane and John Bediz left the meeting.

The Board and the Town Administrator returned to Open Session at 9:45 p.m. The Finance Committee, and the Town Building Committee had left at separate times during the Executive Session.

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

Documents used during this meeting include the following: None.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brendhan Zubricki

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew C. Spinney