

Present: Chairman A. Raymond Randall, Selectman Mark W. Lynch, Selectman Jeffrey D. Jones, Town Administrator Brendhan Zubricki, Selectmen's Assistant Pamela J. Witham, Virginia Boutchie, Glenn Boutchie, Bill Fraga, and Lloyd Waites.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Teachers' Lounge at the Essex Elementary School and announced that the Board would hear Public Comment. No one present from the public had any comments.

Brendhan Zubricki presented his Town Administrator's Report for the period covering February 21st, 2009 through March 6th, 2009, regarding the following items:

Conomo Point Planning Committee Update: Mr. Zubricki reported that Horsley Witten had responded to the original list of questions regarding their three scenarios for the future of Conomo Point when the Town leases end in 2011. After discussion of the answers by the Conomo Point Planning Committee at their last meeting on February 26th, the Committee created a new list of additional questions. The Committee has asked the Selectmen to approve forwarding these questions to Horsley Witten. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve sending the new questions to Horsley Witten for response in time for the next meeting of the CPPC on March 12th.

In a related matter, the Selectmen asked Mr. Zubricki to draft an article with the help of Town Counsel for the coming Annual Town Meeting creating an attendance requirement for the CPPC and allowing the Selectmen to fill Committee vacancies between Town meetings. Members of the Committee will lose membership status if they miss four consecutive meetings of the Committee. Further, the article will allow Town Meeting to motion for new members.

At 6:35 p.m., Chairman Randall entertained a motion to open a Public Hearing for an application for Alteration of Premises for Tom Shea's restaurant. The motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously Voted to open the hearing. The Chairman asked if anyone present would like to speak either for or against the application. No one offered any comments. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to close the hearing. The Selectmen were in agreement and a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve the Alteration of Premise request by Tom Shea's Restaurant. The Selectmen signed the application which will now be forwarded, along with other required documents, to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission in Boston for approval.

Citing the need to discuss pending litigation, contract negotiations, and the value of real property, the Chairman entertained a motion to move to Executive Session. He asked the Town Administrator to join the session. Mr. & Mrs. Boutchie, Mr. Fraga, and Mr. Waites left the room. The motion was moved, seconded, and by unanimous Roll Call Vote, the Board moved to Executive Session.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:55 p.m. Town Counsel Lauren Goldberg joined the meeting and Mr. and Mrs. Boutchie, Mr. Fraga, and Mr. Waites rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve and sign the Location Agreement with Lakefront Productions Inc. who will be filming a picture at Centennial Grove. Starting immediately until about September/October, Centennial Grove will be closed while the company prepares the site, shoots the movie, and restores the site. A motion was also made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to authorize Chairman Randall and Town Administrator Zubricki to make decisions and grant approvals on a daily basis and/or as needed by the film company.

In other business, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve the warrant in the amount of \$98,928.37.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to extend the filing deadline for accepting clamming permit applications to March 10th, 2009.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve the following applications for Clamming Permits:

Stephen Aiello	David Alger	Kenneth Amero
Robert A. Amero	Mark Anasoulis	William Appelttofft
Brian Ball	Clifford Basford	Artan Bila
Richard Buczko	Dennis Burnham	Michael Burns
Sheila L. Carter	Stephen Congdon	Kelly Corrao
Daniel Doane	David Doane	Dexter Doane
Scott Dunsmore	David Earl	Sefton D. Earl
Peter A. Ferriero	William Fitts	James Fitzgerald
James Fitzgerald, Jr.	Robert Fitzgerald	Robert Fitzgerald, Jr.
Shane Fraser	Jeff Fraser, Jr.	Marcus Fritsch
Ronald Gallant	James H. Genest	Jeffrey E. Goudreault
Scott G. Hamlen	Tim Hartford	Donald Hatch
Jason L. Heath	Russell Hemeon	Mark Jordan
Russell Jordan	Michael J. Jordan	William Knovak
Michael Kopanon	Daniel A. Lane	Edward G. Lane
Elizabeth Lane	Judson A. Lane	Matthew E. Lane
Michael T. Lane	Ryan LaRochelle	Wayne Leveille
Brian Loebelenz	Dale Lowry	John MacDonald
Robert W. Macintyre	Dan Marshall	Peter Marshall
Michael J. Matheson	Chris Maxfield	Shepherd D. Means
Bruce Mello	George E. Mullin	Keith A. Nieberle
Herbert S. Nunes	Richard Osborn	Kevin Oyer
Keith Painter	Michael Pascucci	Robert Perrigo
Glenn R. Pike	Thomas Prentiss	Scott E. Reed
Barry A. Richards	Mark Ross	Paul A. Ross
Dean C. Rossi	Brent Roundy	Wayne Savoie
Bryan Shields	John Shields	Nick Silva
John R. Symonds	Richard Tofuri	Glenn A. Vickery
Todd Vickery	Mark Whitman	Peter F. Wilson
Chris Wilt	Keith R. Woodman	Kyle Woodman
Robert Brophy	Norman A. Burnham	Robert E. Doane

Stephen F. Hartley	Dennis Henderson	George E. Lane
Randall Lane	Richard O'Leary	Everett E. Reed
George L. Thompson	Leonard Woodman	Ben Alger
Zachary Appeltofft	Cory E. Burnham	Melanie A. Burnham
William D. Burnham	Craig C. Carter	Kevin A. Carter
Nicholas Congdon	Benn Ferriero	Cody Ferriero
Nathan J. Ferriero	Elizabeth Fitzgerald	Michael Fitzgerald
Christopher Jordan	Kameron Leveille	Michael Loebelenz
Charles A. McNeil	Christopher McNeil	Ian S.C. Osborn
Corey Pierro	Richard A. Pierro	Andrew Randall
Ian Richards	Marc Shields	Charles Storey
Kevin Tofuri	Erik Walder	

Youth Commission Update: Mr. Zubricki said that the Summer Youth Program will have to be moved from Centennial Grove this summer and the Youth Director has asked to have the program be split between the Essex Elementary School and Memorial Park. The Selectmen were against offering the program at a split location and a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to offer the program at Memorial Park.

Mr. Zubricki said that last year Manchester ran an after-school program and leased a bus for the season to transport any Essex children who were interested in attending the program. Only three Essex children attended and Manchester lost money on the program. Manchester will not offer it again this year and the Essex Youth Director has asked whether the Selectmen would like to offer an after-school program in Essex. The Selectmen asked Mr. Zubricki to contact former Youth Commission members regarding their research on after-school programs and to move forward only if past investigation indicated promising results.

Mr. Zubricki said that the goals for this season's summer program are to implement an administrative audit, create a board of directors, and to continue with the two separate positions of Youth Director and Summer Program Director being filled by the same person.

Personnel Board Meeting: The Selectmen agreed to wait until next year, before asking the Personnel Board to think about creating a position description and wage for a part-time planner to be included in the Town's Wage and Salary Scale which is voted on each year at Town Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve and sign the minutes for the February 23rd, 2009, Selectmen's Open Meeting and the February 23rd, 2009 Selectmen's Executive Session.

Consulting Planner Contract: Mr. Zubricki reported that the contract has been signed for the consulting planner. The new planner is scheduled to appear at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on March 23rd. The Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board, the Long Term Planning Committee, and the Finance Committee have been invited to attend that meeting to review the scope of services with the new planner. The planner will also be available to answer any questions that may arise at that time.

Potential Regional Approach to Telecommunications Improvements: The Selectmen reviewed a draft letter to Senator Tarr and Representative Ferrante requesting the Senator's help in creating a coalition of towns to petition Verizon for an upgrade of services currently offered (i.e. FiOS). A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to sign and send the letter.

Fiscal Year 2010 Operating Budget: Mr. Zubricki distributed a revised budget summary for review by the Selectmen at a later date.

Mr. Zubricki reported that the Assessors had asked for a budget of approximately \$15,000 to fund the State-required revaluation of the Town, but now realize that they will probably need \$25,000 instead. The Selectmen agreed that they want the Assessors to use the requested \$15,000 before pursuing the additional \$10,000.

Mr. Zubricki said that he has recently found out that MERSD school officials had received a letter from the State last February announcing that the school district would be receiving \$451,000 as a result of the State's stimulus package. This figure was not included in the recent joint discussion of the proposed school budget for the coming year. Essex has asked for an explanation of how this money will impact the Essex share of the proposed budget. School officials have only said so far that part of it will probably used to fund an overlooked shortfall of \$250,000 in the school's special education budget.

Draft Annual Town Election and Meeting Warrant: Mr. Zubricki reviewed the latest draft of warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting in May. Also reviewed, was the ballot language regarding changing the Town Clerk's position. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously to forward the language to the Town Clerk, requesting that it be included on the May 11, 2009 Annual Town Election ballot.

The Selectmen considered a request to designate April 19th through April 25th, 2009, as Holocaust Awareness Week. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to approve the signature of the proclamation by Chairman Randall.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to agree to accept the new health insurance rates proposed by MIIA. The Selectmen signed the renewal proposal.

Gloucester Mayor Kirk is creating a Tourism Commission with representatives from all the communities on Cape Ann and has asked that a representative be appointed from Essex. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to appoint Robert Coviello as the Town's representative to the Tourism Commission.

Request for Overhead Utility Wires to Cross Town Property: Mr. Zubricki said that a request has been received from National Grid for an easement to run overhead utility wires across Town property to property belonging to Timothy Shanks. Mr. Shanks already has an easement from the Town for underground wires. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously Voted to have the existing easement agreement modified to include the overhead wires and to have Timothy Shanks agree to cover the cost of any legal expense incurred by the Town to modify the existing agreement.

The Selectmen were reminded that the next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the T.O.H.P. Burnham Public Library.

At 7:30 p.m., the Selectmen moved their meeting to the school cafetorium for the Special Town Meeting. Their meeting was adjourned following completion of the STM.

Prepared by: _____
Pamela J. Witham

Attested by: _____
Jeffrey D. Jones