

**Minutes of the September 24, 2019  
Special Town Meeting  
Of the Town of Essex**



The September 23, 2019 Special Town Meeting of the Town of Essex, held at the Essex Elementary School Gymnasium, 12 Story Street, was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Moderator Jeffrey D. Jones. A quorum of 288 voters was present for the meeting.

The following people were appointed as Tellers: Carla Christianson, Wendy Fossa, Elizabeth Guerin, Mary Mansfield, Theresa Mansfield, James O'Donnell, Susan Parady and Elle Woulfe.

*There were no objections to the Tellers appointed.*

The Moderator called for the attendance to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made and duly seconded to waive the reading of the warrant.

*Approved Unanimously declared by the Moderator*

**ARTICLE 1: FUNDING OF PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or any combination thereof, a sum of money to construct a new public safety facility at the site consisting of 11 John Wise Avenue (Map 128, Lot 90) and a portion of 0 Spring Street (Map 128, Lot 102) that abuts John Wise Avenue, including planning, engineering, design, equipping, and furnishing costs, to include the costs of a Project Manager and a Project Designer, and including all construction and/or renovation costs, including the costs of landscaping, site work and paving, moving, demolition and disposal of any existing structures and materials including the existing building at 24 Martin street, assessment, containment and/or removal of any hazardous materials, and any and all other costs incidental or related to the project, and to determine whether to meet all or a portion of this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, as amended, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 20, as amended, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen, and any other appropriate officials of the Town, to apply for and accept any forms of financial assistance that may be available to the Town on account of this project, including from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and its Rural Development programs, and in connection therewith to enter into any necessary agreements and otherwise to contract with the USDA for a loan and/or grant; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute on behalf of the Town any and all documents as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purposes of this Article; or to take any other action relating thereto.

**Motion 1:** Andrew C. Spinney moved that Article 1 be accepted and approved as set forth in the warrant; that \$15,500,000 is appropriated for the purposes set forth therein; and that to meet this appropriation, \$2,000,000 shall be transferred from the Sale of Real Estate Fund, \$1,000,000 shall be transferred from Free Cash, and the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$12,500,000 and issue bonds and notes of the town therefor, all as set forth in Article 1. The motion was duly seconded.

**Motion 2:** Andrew C. Spinney moved to allow the following persons, some who are visitors, to make a presentation prior to the vote: Stewart Johnson (Johnson Roberts Architects), Tim Gorman (NV5), Benjamin Buttrick (Finance Committee), Police Chief Paul Francis, Fire Chief Dan Doucette and Lisa O'Donnell (Town Building Committee). The motion was duly seconded.

**Action Motion 2:** *Approved Unanimously declared by the Moderator*

**Motion 3:** Betsey Madsen moved to conduct the vote by secret ballot. The motion was duly seconded.

**Action Motion 3:** *Defeated by not meeting the approval threshold of 20% of Voters*

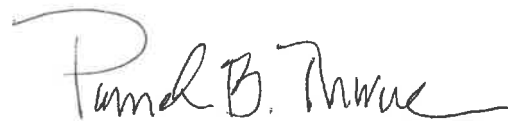
**Action Motion 1:** *Approved by over a 2/3 Majority declared by the Moderator*

Motion made by the Moderator at 8:18 pm to dissolve the meeting. The motion was duly seconded.

**Action:** *Approved Unanimously declared by the Moderator*

A True Copy:

Attest:



Pamela B. Thorne, Town Clerk