

**East Haven Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2014**

The East Haven Board of Finance held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday December 17, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Mario Giaimo, Joseph Vitale Meeting Room on the lower level of East Haven Town Hall, 250 Main Street, East Haven, CT 06512

Vice Chairman, Mr. Ralph Vitale called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Vice Chairman, Mr. Ralph Vitale, Ms. Beth Purcell, Mr. Salvatore Maltese, Ms. Noreen Clough, Mr. Richard DePalma. Ms. Maria Tonelli – Absent. Also in attendance was Town Attorney - Mr. Joseph Zullo, Mr. Robert Parente – Superintendent of Public Works and Finance Director - Mr. Paul Rizza.

2. Read and Approve Minutes from Regular Meeting held October 15, 2014.

Noreen Clough made a motion to approve October 15, 2014 minutes. Richard DePalma seconds. All in Favor. Motion Carries.

3. Old Business

Richard DePalma states that the Command Center's as October 27th - the overtime is already 27 in the hole. Would that be on next month's agenda as far as why we are in the hole that far? Paul Rizza states that there were some mis-charges with medical currently we are analyzing a time frame from now to back into July and will be pulling some of the funds out then we will make the transfer.

The 2015 agenda schedule for the Board of Finance was reviewed. Ralph Vitale approves current agenda schedule to be filed with Town Clerk.

4. New Business

None

5. Public Comment

Robert Parente, Superintendent of Public Works passes out printed photos of equipment for review. He states that he is responding to the concerns of the current state of equipment at Public Works. First, let me state that regarding our equipment my main priority is to make sure that every driver is safe in any equipment that we own and operate. Every vehicle goes through a complete inspection weekly; our current fleet is 100% safe. The pictures you are looking at are a snap shot of what we have been undertaking with our equipment. As you can see we have

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gone through each truck which has been painted, and is again 100% safe. We have spent well in excess of \$300,000 in going out to get new bodies, elevators, sanders have been replaced with stainless steel, plows have been pressured washed and sanded then they are prepped with primer and two coats of paint. We have added an additional truck this year by bringing it back into service that was ready for the junk yard. We have currently 8 large trucks ready for duty and 7 small trucks ready. All trucks are in operation. I will be there at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday if anyone would like to come and take a walk through to see what has been done or to inspect our equipment. I have had a 3 mechanics in the shop for the last 6 weeks getting trucks ready. We are waiting for truck number 8 to get back to the shop, it should be back tomorrow. That truck is having a complete suspension put on. I think that once the guys saw the trucks being repaired and the exterior being reconditioned they were very pleased. We have two pay loaders one is brand new that just went into service over the summer. We have 3 buckets ready to use if necessary with our 2 pay loaders and one backhoe. We also have acquired a heating system for our bob cat which is the first time in several years can be utilized at Town Hall, the Library, and the Senior Center to get into our sidewalks in addition that saves a lot of time instead of using one of our small trucks and sanders along with man hours where they could be put to better use on the roads. Our bob cat can now get into places that our truck could not. Again, everything is safe and functional so we welcome anyone who would like to come down to inspect, we welcome you as well as the Town Council. I am very pleased that we were able to do more with less and get our equipment in tip top shape and ready for any weather that may come our way – this is probably the best shape Public Works has been in several years. Richard DePalma asks how the engines are holding up. Robert Parente states that they are really in good shape. We have sent everything out that could be fixed. If we saw rust on the frame, it was re-plated, bodies replaced, engine work has been done we are in very good shape. Noreen Clough states that she is pleased to hear that safety was a number one concern. Robert Parente stated – yes safety is our number one concern. We have 90 miles of road and 90 cul-de-sacs and is probably one of the hardest towns to plow in the state which people do not realize, especially with 90 cul-de-sacs. One other thing I would like to mention is that we have a GPS System in about 80% of our trucks and what that GPS system does is it gives us a snap shot of many things to what a driver on a minute by minute basis of what they have been doing, idle time, speed, where they are, where they have been, etc. It also protects us as administrators and the town. We can pull this up and immediately tell a resident if and when we were there on that road plowing, how long, how fast we were going, and more. It's a great tool on many levels. We also have a bid out right now for two additional 4 wheel drive vehicles so we are not sliding around in Crown Vic's supervising the road work. Paul Rizza states that the bid will be advertised on Friday.

6. Tax

To:	01-106-0668 Attorney's Fee's	\$9,400.00	
From:	01-885-0689 Contingency		\$9,400.00

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Noreen Clough makes a motion. Beth Purcell seconds. Discussion.

Beth Purcell makes a motion to amend the amount to \$9,900 not \$9,400. Noreen Clough seconds. All in Favor – Motion Carries. Attorney Zullo states that we have really gotten aggressive this year with foreclosures to the point that we have taken a couple of properties. Anytime you take a property you incur committee expenses – they are not paid to the Town Attorney. The court appoints an independent attorney for the foreclosure sale or to supervise the foreclosure process, that is all these fees are, however in the end we end up with these properties to sell and re-coup our fees and taxes. One of them we are looking at a significant recoupment of taxes. Another 2 have noticed how aggressive we have become and both sent in a check for \$25,000 for taxes. Roll Call Vote. All in Favor. Motion Carries.

7. Adjournment

Noreen Clough makes a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Richard DePalma seconds. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Temple Smith

Board of Finance Clerk