

East Haven Town Council  
Minutes  
July 7, 2009

The East Haven Town Council held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT and transacted the following:

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order following the Public Hearing.

*Roll call –*

13 Present (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)

Quorum Present

1. Correspondence. (1) Chairman Thompson read a letter from Charles Schegel into the record.
2. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to Approve Minutes from Special Meeting, June 9, 2009

Seconded by Councilman Toothe.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote–*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)

Motion Passed

3. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon the following tax refunds per the recommendation of the tax collector:
  1. ZC Sterling Real Estate Tax Solutions  
210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 400  
Atlanta GA 30339  
**2007-01-7363 Made Duplicate Payment for  
2<sup>nd</sup> Installment \$2051.48**
  2. CitiMortgage  
P.O. Box 23689  
Rochester NY 14692  
Attn: Tax Research Dept  
**2007-01-5421 Made Duplicate Payment for  
2<sup>nd</sup> Installment \$2229.13**

**TOTAL        \$ 4280.61**

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote–*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

4. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider the re-appointment of Peter Leonardi to serve on the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority for a term effective July 1, 2009-June 30, 2011.

Seconded by Councilman Riolino.

Mr. Leonardi expressed how grateful he is for consideration for re-appointment and explained that East Haven is an excellent position in that they have 5 votes now instead of 2 due to the great job that Mayor John DeStefano and Mayor April did settling the Tweed Agreement. He also stated that contrary to current advertising in regards to Tweed, the advertising is false and based on misinformation.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

5. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider the appointments of the following to serve on the East Haven Arts Commission for staggering terms noted below:  
Georgia Spencer, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2009  
Julie Gravino, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2010  
Cindy Genzano, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2010  
Pamela Marotti, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2011  
Catherine McGarry, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2011  
Fred Marotti, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2011  
Sam Giglio, Term Effective January 1, 2009-December 31, 2011

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

6. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a resolution entitled "A resolution authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon, on behalf of the Town of East Haven, to enter into an agreement to receive funds from the State made possible through the Recovery Act : Connecticut Local Pass Through Justice Assistance Grant."

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

Paul Hongo and Erica Berg explained that through President Obama's America Recovery and Reinvestment Act offers many opportunities for funding; however there is a very quick turnaround with the grant application process. This specific grant will purchase equipment for the Police Department and there is not a local match.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

7. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a resolution entitled "A resolution authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon, on behalf of the Town of East Haven, to apply and enter into an agreement to receive funds from The Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants (SCG) from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (Public Law 111-5).

Seconded by Councilman Donahue.

Chief Jackson explained that similar to the previous agenda item, he is planning on applying for stimulus money to construct a new firehouse. He is planning on applying for 5 Million dollars.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

8. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a Resolution Entitled "A Resolution allowing a bid waiver Bid Waiver for Senior Bus Center Insurance.

Seconded by Councilman Riolino.

Chairman Thompson introduced our new Finance Director Thomas Thompson who was available to answer questions.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)  
2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

9. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an amendment (lease schedule #006) to the Apple Computer, Inc. master lease purchase agreement #6888253.

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

Asst. Supt. Frank Meoli and Randall Isborn, the Technology Director for the Board of Education explained that this is the 10<sup>th</sup> year they have come before the Council to ask for this extension. New this year is the purchase of 52 new computers. Mr. Mauro stated that he had concerns knowing that the Board of Education did not finish voting on their Budget. Due to this, Councilman McKay motioned to amend the item to read: To consider and act upon an amendment (lease schedule #006) to the Apple Computer, Inc. master lease purchase agreement #6888253, pending Board of Education budget appropriations. This was seconded by Councilman Arpino.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)  
Motion Passed

10. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and grant permission to the Foxon Recreation League to use the Foxon Community Center for Church Carnival Parking, any and all fees collected would benefit the Recreation League.

Seconded by Councilman Donahue.

Terry Raffone from the Foxon Recreation League stated that all proceeds would go to the Charity Fund, this fund helps pay for emergencies of local residents, such as fires, it also helps the Penguin Plunge. Vice-Chairman DePalma motioned to amend the item to read: To consider and grant permission to the Board of Trustees of the Foxon Recreation League to use the Reggie Hatch Foxon Community Center for Church Carnival Parking, any and all fees collected would benefit the Recreation League's Charity Fund.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)

Motion Passed

11. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a resolution entitled "A resolution authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon, on behalf of the Town of East Haven, to apply and enter into an agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of East Haven for the Construction, inspection, and maintenance required in conjunction with the replacement of the Maple Street Bridge (Bridge No.04881) over the Farm River Utilizing Federal Funds [State Project Number 43-123/Federal Aid Project No. 6043 (003)].

Seconded by Councilman Riolino.

James Staunton the Town Engineer stated that this resolution was passed already in 2005, however it was penned in the previous Mayor's Name so the resolution needed updating to include Mayor April's name.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote—*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)

Motion Passed

Council McKay motioned to add the following to the agenda, "A Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of an Undesignated Fund Balance Policy

Where as, doing so will put the Town in a better position to protect its current bond rating (particularly as the Town enters into negotiated sales of its outstanding bonds), as well as secure funding at the lowest available interest rate.

Where as, the primary goal and objective of this policy is to preserve the credit worthiness of the Town for borrowing monies at favorable interest rates; provide working capital for the Town to meet cash flow needs during the year, and stabilize fluctuations from year to year in property taxes paid by the Town's taxpayers.

Now therefore, Be it Resolved that the Town Council authorizes the adoption of the Fund Balance Policy.

Seconded by Councilman Badamo.

Paul Hongo apologized for not getting this item to the administrative services meeting, however, he is going to New York tomorrow and if he can show that there s a strategic plan for the Town to get their finance back in order it would help the Town's credit rating. Bill Lindsey, the Financial Advisor for the Town recommended the policy; he stated that it was very necessary to maintain credit worthiness and maintain the Town's investment ratings.

Homes Thompson stated that passing this resolution was a very serious matter. Councilman McKay asked what the balance in the fund was. Mr. Thompson stated that it was a negative 1.8 million. Councilman McKay asked how it got that way. Paul Hongo stated that it is very clear on pages 19, 43, 44, and 45 of the audit that there were revenues reported collected that did not exist. And that the problem would have been worse had the current administration not initiated a spending freeze and saved almost a million dollars. Bill Lindsey stated that the economy is effected every municipality, not just East Haven.

No Further Comments.

*Roll Call Vote–*

All in Favor (Camera, McKay, Toothe, Arpino, Donahue, Depalma, Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, D. Badamo, Massaro)

2 Absent (Parlato, Anania)

Motion Passed

Councilman Riolino motioned to add a resolution entitled "A resolution permitting a waive of competitive bidding for the purchase of a new Fire Rescue Truck and a Fire Pick up Truck." Seconded by Councilwoman Donahue.

Chief Jackson reported that the funding for this purchase was in his capital budget. He researched a used Fire Rescue truck out of State that is like new. This purchase would help alleviate the usage of the engine in Foxon. Instead of sending out the engine they would send out the rescue truck, which is equipped with a pump. He has already talked to the union about this purchase and they are ok with it. The other vehicle is a pick up truck that was used primarily as a show vehicle. It is fully equipped with the computer system, lighting and a custom cab.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Berg, Council Clerk