

EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 9, 2010

The East Haven Town Council held its regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT and transacted the following:

Chairman Dougherty called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Pledge of Allegiance.

*Roll call –*

*13 Present* (Camera, Santino, Donahue, DePalma, Dougherty, P. Thompson, Cofrancesco, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Anania, D. Badamo Carbo)

*2 Not in Attendance* (McKay, Arpino)

Quorum Present.

*Staff Present:* Paul Hongo, Deputy Director; Patty Cofrancesco, Town Attorney

1. Correspondence.

None.

2. Approval of minutes from February Meeting.

Chairman Dougherty stated the backup was missing for this item and this item will be voted on at the next regular meeting.

3. Subcommittee Reports.

Councilman Cofrancesco reported the Superintendent held a meeting last week to talk about the reconfiguration of the school systems.

Chairman Dougherty explained that the Police Chief has been working with the Council subcommittee to change the Alarm Ordinance. There was brief discussion on the fee scales and town notification.

4. Paul Hongo, Jr., Director of Administration and Management will address the Council.

Mr. Hongo addressed the Council with Jim Crozier, CEO; National Revenue Recovery.

Mr. Hongo and Mr. Crozier explained that this company is used across the State by many municipalities. The company finds assets that the municipality is not aware of, which is not being taxed, and the Town does not collect on. The company used a state law that allows them to retrieve businesses federal tax return to identify the property to be taxed. The company doesn't collect a fee until after the town collects the back taxes and the items are placed on the Grand List. Mr. Crozier explained examples of common findings are vehicle leases and medical equipment owned by commercial medical businesses.

Chairman Dougherty asked what the turn around time is from when an item is identified to when it is collected upon. Mr. Crozier stated that the process can take 120 days.

5. Councilman Thompson motioned to amend the agenda to amend the agenda to hear the following item next, to consider and act upon a resolution authorizing the East Haven Board of Education to enter into a 1-Year Contract Extension for Durham Transportation Services for East Haven Board Of Education. Seconded by Councilman Badamo.

Jason Lathrop, Finance Director, Board of Education, accompanied by a representative from Double A bus company explained to the Council that the operating contract that is currently used was an extension of the original contract and doesn't not reflect an increase in contractual costs. Double A bus service is the 2cd largest vender on the Board of Education side and going out to bid for this item had too many variables and may end up costing more money.

Gene Ruocco, 74 Bennett Road inquired about the Board of Educations plan for reconfiguration and how it may effect the cost of the buses and the contract terms Mr. Lathrop reported that the rate is per bus and the Bus company would work with the Board with any issues that arise with the reconfiguration.

Councilman Anania asked about transportation to private schools, like special education transportation to a school in Southport. There was brief discussion about the fiscal responsibility of the Town and special education transportation.

Councilman Camera inquired as to the safety and age of the buses.

The Bus Company Rep. reported that the buses are inspected daily by the bus company, routinely by the CTDMV and the years of the buses range from 2006-2010.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

6. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an Ordinance authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation to accept its offer to sell town owned property for a right of way/ easement.

Seconded by Councilman Badamo.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

7. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an Ordinance authorizing the East Haven Animal Shelter to be renamed the "Lesley Simoni Animal Shelter".

Seconded by Councilwoman Donahue.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

8. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a resolution authorizing the East Haven Board of Education to enter into a 1-Year Contract Extension for Durham Transportation Services for East Haven Board Of Education.

Seconded by Councilman Camera.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

9. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing authorizing the Town of East Haven, its Urban Renewal Department, to undertake and carryout an application for the Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

Seconded by Councilwoman Badamo.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

10. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing authorizing the Town of East Haven to act on a favorable 8-24 referral from Planning and Zoning for the abandonment and future sale Cross Street.

Seconded by Councilman Santino.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

11. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing authorizing the Town of East Haven to amend the Blight Ordinance to reflect term considerations for Committee members.

Seconded by Councilman Cofrancesco.

No further comments.

Roll Call.

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Berg, Council Clerk