

EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 6, 2009

The East Haven Town Council held its regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, October 6, 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 at 7:30.

Roll call –

14 Present (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, DePalma, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Quorum Present.

Staff Present: Paul Hongo, Deputy Director; Ralph Mauro, Assistant Deputy; Patty Cofrancesco, Town Attorney; Thomas Thompson, Finance Director

1. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to accept minutes from the regularly scheduled September Meeting. Councilman Parlato asked to change (omit) an item in #13 of the minutes regarding a voting that took place at the Board of Finance Meeting, Seconded by Councilman Camera.

All in favor.

14 Present (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, DePalma, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried with correction.

2. Correspondence. (1-East Haven Arts Commission read into record)
3. James Staunton, Town Engineer to address the Town Council.

Mr. Staunton distributed a presentation regarding the traffic concerns on Charter Oak Avenue. The issues currently are the One Way bottleneck opening of the roadway and the traffic safety. From an engineers point of view this is a very dangerous problem with an easy fix. Mr. Staunton reported that the 2 options will address the traffic concerns easily. Councilman McKay asked the Town Engineer “why (address this) now?” “To help Tweed?” Councilman Parlato stated if this would help Tweed he would be against it. Mr. Staunton stated that the traffic complaints had come into his office and he investigated it. He also stated again, alleviating the problems there would be “easy”. Attorney Cofrancesco stated the liability to the Town, i.e., traffic, children in the area, is the Town’s responsibility. Councilman McKay asked if New haven owns any part of it, or if they were involved at all. Councilman DePalma stated that he believed it was all East Haven’s. Councilman McKay asked who would pay for the improvements to the Road. Mr. Staunton stated that he was doing an investigation into the engineering design of the road, the options to fix it and that payment for any roadway improvements has not been determined yet. Ultimately Mr. Staunton would like to have a Public Hearing to address the concerns of the neighbors living in the area. Mr. Hongo addressed the Council and stated that ever since the news story on WTNH about the traffic and roadways concerns the complaints into the office have increased and it was important to engage the residents of that area into conversation and debate with the Town Engineer so that everyone can come together and find a resolution that works for everyone. Mr. Hongo stated that the reasons that prompted the Town Engineer to conduct an investigation into the Safety Concerns in that area did not have anything to do with Tweed, but driven on neighborhood complaints. Pat Romano, Member of the Board of Police Commissioners pointed out to the State Traffic Authority.

Councilman Camera motioned to set up a Public Hearing at the next regular meeting to address concerns from the residents of Charter Oak Avenue in relation to possible solutions for road way improvement.

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

4. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon the following tax refunds per the recommendation of the tax collector:

- a. CitiMortgage
 P.O. Box 23689
 Rochester NY 14692
 Corrected Square Footage
 2006-01-5041 E/S 13207 \$ 841.12
 2007-01-5051 E/S 13208 \$ 841.12

TOTAL \$ 1,682.24

Seconded by Councilman Riolino.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, DePalma, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried with correction.

5. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance authorizing the following transfer at the recommendation of the Board of Finance, To: 01-229-0201 Electricity \$30,000.00 From: 01-885-0255 Street & Traffic Lights \$30,000.00."

Seconded by Councilwoman Donahue.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, DePalma, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

6. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance authorizing the following transfer for the Police Department in the amount of \$98,320.04 at the recommendation of the Board of Finance in order to close out FY 08/09."

Seconded by Councilman McKay.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

13 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Abstention. (DePalma)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

7. Councilman Riolino motioned to table this agenda item, to consider and act upon "An Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Making Appropriations Aggregating \$2,510,000 For Various Public Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$2,510,000

Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose (the "Ordinance")."

Seconded by Councilman Anania.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Tabled.

8. To consider and act upon an Ordinance entitled "An Anti-Blight Initiative." Mr. Hongo reported to the Town Council that he has another meeting this week, on Thursdays to finalize the violation tickets and the approval of the final draft of the Ordinance. Councilman Toothe inquired if the Town would be held to the same standards, Mr. Hongo reported that the Town in fact would have to also follow the ordinance with own Owned properties. Councilman Parlato explained he had concerns over the fees regarding the Land Trust. He added, the make-up of the sub committee would have to be made up with minority representation. Chairman Thompson said that the committee will be made up according to the Town Charter rules, which state they must have the minority/majority make-up. Councilman Camera motioned to table the "Anti-Blight Initiative".

Seconded by Councilman Cofrancesco.

No Council Comment. No Further Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Tabled.

9. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon an a Resolution entitled, "A Resolution Authorizing the Town of East Haven to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security."

Seconded by Councilman Cofrancesco.

Fire Chief Jackson addressed the council. He reported that the same resolution was passed last year. This resolution will allow projects that affect an entire area and several Fire Departments. Each department has to pass this resolution to allow monies to be awarded to these projects.

No Council Comment. No Further Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

10. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing for an Ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Town of East Haven to pursue all actions to act upon an 8-24 Referral approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the proposed purchase of property at 620 Coe Avenue to be scheduled October 14, 2009 at the East Haven Senior Center at 7:00 p.m."

Councilman Parlato stated that if the bonding ordinance issue is not addressed that this public hearing would need to be rescheduled. Chairman Thompson stated that the hearing could be canceled if it was necessary.

Motion Seconded by Councilman Parlato.

11. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing for a Resolution entitled, "A Resolution Authorizing the Town of East Haven to pursue all actions to act upon an 8-24 Referral approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission to accept property at 46 Windsor Street in lieu of Taxes, to be scheduled October 14, 2009 at the East Haven Senior Center at 7:00 p.m."

Motion Seconded by Councilman Riolino.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

12. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon setting a Public Hearing for an Ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Town of East Haven to pursue all actions to act upon an 8-24 Referral approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission, for its sale of Town Owned Property located within the Old Cemetery to East Lawn Cemetery to be scheduled October 14, 2009 at the East Haven Senior Center at 7:00 p.m."

Motion Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

13. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a Resolution entitled, "A Resolution Authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, on behalf of the Town of East Haven for the purpose of State Project no. 43-124, Right of Way Agreement, Main Street Signalization."

Motion Seconded by Councilwoman Donahue.

Mr. Mauro stated that this will enable the Town to receive new traffic signals, street lights, handicapped ramps, and cross walks for the West End of Main Street.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

14. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and act upon a Resolution entitled, "A Resolution Authorizing Mayor April Capone Almon to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, on behalf of the Town of East Haven for the purpose of the funding opportunity entitled - Highway Safety Patrol, 2009/2010 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program."

Motion Seconded by Councilman Badamo.

Chairman Thompson stated that this is a grant for the Police Department for \$80,000.00. Ms. Berg stated that this will enable the Town to receive new traffic signs and personnel money for DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

15. Vice Chairman DePalma motioned to consider and Act upon setting a Public Hearing for a Resolution entitled "A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a month to month lease with CA White in order to obtain a location for a new Teen Center to be scheduled October 14, 2009 at the East Haven Senior Center at 7:00 p.m."

Motion Seconded by Councilman Cofrancesco.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

16. To consider and act upon any other matter that may come before the Council.

Doc Schlegel addressed the Council on behalf of Fred Marotti, the Chairman of the East Haven Arts Commission and referred to the letter read into the record for the meeting.

Councilman Riolino motioned to accept A Resolution accepting the Visual Arts Society of East Haven and the Performing Arts Society of East Haven as entities of the East Haven Arts Commission.

Seconded by Councilman Arpino.

No Council Comment. No Public Comment.

All in favor.

14 in Favor (McKay, Parlato, Arpino, Toothe, Donahue, DePalma, Thompson, J. Badamo, Garguilo, Riolino, Massaro, Anania, Camera, Cofrancesco)

1 Absent (D. Badamo)

Motion Carried.

Chairman Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15, seconded by Councilman Badamo.

All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Berg