

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2011**

The East Haven Town Council held the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 7:00p.m., at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, Connecticut, 06512.

Chairman Dougherty called the Meeting to order at 7:35p.m.

#1

Roll Call

12 Present- (Camera, Dougherty, McKay, Santino, Arpino, Donahue J, Thompson, Cofrancesco, Garguilo, Riolino, Esposito and Anania)

3 Not in Attendance- Depalma, Badamo, J., and Carbo)

Chairman Dougherty asks everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Quorum present.

#2

Correspondence

Chairman Dougherty has two pieces of correspondence. One is dated 9/17/11 directed to the Chairman. A resignation from the ADA Committee is read from Linda Carlson, 29 Sorrento Avenue, East Haven.

A second is an email from Alex Supasso, Town of East Haven, Economic Development Coordinator.

#3

Approval of Minutes from September Meeting

McKay makes motion.

2nd by Donahue.
All in Favor.
None Oppose.
Motion Carries.

#4

Sub-Committee Reports

Camera states we have the gentlemen tonight to give his own report. Thompson states for education subcommittee there is nothing really new. Santino states for public safety there is nothing new as well. Chairman Dougherty thanks Councilman Santino is leading the effort regarding Cosey Beach Avenue cleanup. The storm put a lot of debris in our wetland area. Thanks to all the residents and council members that have been helping. Santino states that the Hockey Team will be down there to help as well as the Principal of Pathways.

#5

Paul Hongo and Alex Sulpasso address the Council

Paul states for a few quick updates. He went over the Facility Use Agreement. They will be setting up a Sub-Committee to handle it. We will add it to the Agenda for next month. I asked Alex to join me to give an update with Economic Development. Alex Sulpaasso states we just did restaurant week. I sent them surveys to get feedback from them. We gained National exposure. We were in the New York Times. We were in all the local papers. My phone has been blowing up with businesses looking to start a business within the Town of East Haven. We are dealing with them on a case by case basis. April's policy is everything is out in the open. Once an agreement is signed, we identify their wants and needs, we negotiate, we establish something. That is where I am at right now. We launched a Facebook. Everything was

approved. We had over one hundred members. Young entrepreneurs are posting their businesses/events on our Facebook. Prior to me coming on, surveys were put out from the Chamber of Commerce. Over ten thousand entities that are doing business in East Haven. The people that participate within the Chamber of Commerce. Out of 150, we only got 47 back. We have to ability to create or reorganize existing data to get a better inventory. Paul Hongo also states the Historical District. We are finding that our historic buildings and houses are scattered. We are in the process of contacting the homeowners and letting them be aware and ask them if they want to join the Commission.

Alex states we cannot establish a District because the properties are scattered.

Cofrancesco asks Alex about businesses looking for the Tyler Street property?

Alex states he received one call about it. He spoke with Tom Thompson about the details. Once the Referendum is complete, we will take it from there.

Cofrancesco states are we limiting ourselves by using the wording in the Referendum? This may limit our options.

Paul Hongo states at this time, it is virtually impossible to change it.

Through Alex's efforts, he is reaching out to potential interested parties.

Alex states we will have more direction once the results come in from the Referendum.

Thompson states his compliments to Alex for his efforts. What are your thoughts on the long term goals regarding the railroad?

Alex speaks regarding the railroads. They are large structures. This is federally funded. It would not cost the Town anything. However, at this time we are not on the list. Once we find out more details about the trains, and the train stop, they will have a decision by 2014. It will allow commuters to facilitate that use.

McKay asks about the couple redoing their house and their concern on the historic district. Is this going to hold them up from continuing their renovations?

Paul states we hope to not impede on their plans. We are looking to move this along as quickly as possible.

Alex states once the Commission is put together. Once person would have to live in a Historical home. They would establish what they can and cannot do to their house. Some Towns have taken it to an extreme.

Paul Hongo states we are making progress on the Bridge. Thanks to Ralph and James and everyone working hard on it.

Cofrancesco asks about an update on the storm areas?

Paul Hongo states we have actually set up individual meetings with the homeowners to get their individual ideas and/or plans. Stacy in the Mayor's office is scheduling the meetings. Everyone's concern as well as the debris.

Cofrancesco states that Town has been right there for the residents, and we should let them know that we still are there for them.

Paul Hongo speaks on People helping People. He commends everyone for a job well done. Hopefully it doesn't happen again. We will just keep moving forward.

Chairman Dougherty states Election Day is the 2nd Tuesday of the month of November. I have cancelled the regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council and the Administrative Services Meeting with the intent on having them on the 24th of October and the 1st of November.

#6

Tom Thompson presents to address the Council

Everyone was given a financial report. He goes through financial report with the Town Council. Tax Collections were very good for the first half.

Personal and motor vehicle may be a little under. You can look at the other revenue items.

On the expenditure side, some items to worry will be lump sum and retirement and employee benefits. We may need a police and fire dept. transfer for overtime. We still have several months to go. This Fiscal year and last Fiscal year we have wiped out our deficit. All the transfers have been made for last year. We will have the final number for the last Fiscal year soon.

Cofrancesco doesn't understand why the overtime is so much. It was explained why we needed more help, more cops, etc, but he doesn't understand why we put additional money and we still need to transfer. Attorney Cofrancesco states that the FOI requests are still being worked on, the matters are still pending.

#7 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

A Resolution providing a Tax Refund.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Town of East Haven favorably recommends the following Tax Refund:

Nuran Biyki and Neriman Celik

16 Crest Ave

East Haven CT 06513

2009-01-842 Duplicate payment made on 2nd Installment

\$ 3,024.07

TOTAL \$ 3,024.07

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that said Tax Refund be granted.

2nd by Santino.

No Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.
None Oppose.
Motion Carries.

#8 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

To consider and act upon the following appointment to the East Haven Housing Authority.

Wendy Bellmore for a term commencing on 02/01/09 to 02/01/12.

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven hereby approves the said appointment to the East Haven Housing Authority.

2nd by Riolino.

Donna Richo states the position has been vacant since 2009. What does the position do?

Dougherty states they attend and participate with the East Haven Housing Authority.

Attorney Cofrancesco states this is not a paid position.

Donna Richo hands Councilman Cofrancesco documents regarding the Referendum. Chairman Dougherty asks her to please be seated.

Paul Hongo states this position is being filled. Some people don't participate. We finally found a volunteer.

Esposito states that position was filled, but someone resigned and we are filling that position?

Paul Hongo states yes.

Mckay asks how long it has been vacant?

Dougherty states the question is irrelevant.

Paul Hongo states about six or seven months.

No Further Public Comment.

No Further Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.
Motion Carries.

#9

Chairman withdraws from the Agenda.

#10 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

To consider and act upon the following appointment to the American Disabilities Act Commission.

Kristen O'Donnell for a term commencing on October 4, 2011 for an indefinite period. Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven hereby approves the said appointment to the American Disability Act Commission.

2nd by Riolino.

McKay states for Item Number 9, don't we have to vote to remove it?

Dougherty states that the Chairman has the authority to remove.

Attorney Cofrancesco concurs with the Chairman's interpretation.

Anania asks if this position always been an indefinite basis?

Attorney Cofrancesco states yes, as far we know.

Paul Hongo states that some of these are lifetime appointments.

Anania states we should look into changing this lifetime appointment incase new people want to be involved.

No Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

#11 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

To consider and act upon establishing a Public Hearing date and time

to consider an ordinance for “AN ACT CONCERNING INTEREST OWED ON PROPERTY TAXES BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES CALLED TO ACTIVE SERVICE” to take place on November 1, 2011, at 7:00p.m., at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT.

2nd by Esposito.

No Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

#12 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

To consider and act upon establishing a Public Hearing date and time to consider an ordinance for the East Haven Public Schools to go out to bid for new copier systems to take place on November 1, 2011, immediately following the previously scheduled Public Hearing to take place at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT.

2nd by Riolino.

Anania asks why we have to entertain this since it's the Board of Education.

Chairman Dougherty states they need our approval to go out to bid. They still do the negotiating, etc. They still need our permission.

No Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

Councilman Thompson makes a Motion to amend the wording of Agenda Item #13 to add the word “disabled” to “to grant a yearly tax reduction to the elderly and disabled.”

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

#13 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

To consider and act upon establishing a Public Hearing date and time to consider to consider the following: To grant a yearly Tax Reduction to the elderly and disabled and to grant a reduction in assessment to Veterans, to take place on November 1, 2011, immediately following the previously scheduled Public Hearing to take place at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT.

2nd by Riolino.

No Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

Councilman Camera states we received a letter regarding the Teen Center. Attendance is up by 30%. The Teen Center has become very popular.

Santino makes a Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

2nd by Camera.

East Haven Town Council Meeting ends at 8:33p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bianca N. Genovesi
Council Clerk