

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2011**

The East Haven Town Council held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at 7:30p.m., at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, Connecticut, 06512.

Chairman Dougherty called the Meeting to order at 8:03p.m.

#1

Roll Call.

12 Present- (Camera, Dougherty, McKay, Santino, Arpino, Donahue J, Garguilo, Badamo, J., Riolino, Carbo, Esposito and Anania)

3 Not in Attendance- (Depalma, Thompson and Cofrancesco)

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

Quorum present.

#2

Correspondence

No correspondence noted.

#3

Approval of Minutes from October Meeting

Riolino makes motion.

2nd by Badamo, J.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries.

#4

Sub-Committee Reports

Santino states that since this storm, the Mayor's office and staff and public works did a tremendous job in helping with everything. Chairman Dougherty states that it was an unexpected storm. We want to applaud them as well to all public works and the Town

employees who helped and made sure everything was up and running. Thank you for your efforts.

#5

Paul Hongo and Alex Sulpasso address the Council

Mayor Capone presents as well.

Paul states we don't have any new information. We would like to relinquish our time to let the Mayor speak.

Mayor Capone states this is the last meeting of the term. Being on the Council with an energetic administration, I appreciate all your deduction. I wish everyone luck. We hope to see you serving the Town of East Haven in any capacity it may be. With that said, during Hurricane Irene, Councilman Santino coordinated all the dumpsters down at the beach. He was a permanent fixture on Cosey Beach Avenue. He did a fantastic job. He took care of it. We really appreciate it. Thank you all again.

Badamo states he wants to thank Chairman Dougherty for all his work. He does a great job and needs to be commended for his years.

Carbo asks if we have a date for the bridge.

Mayor states she is reluctant to give a date. It is looking like November 15. There is very little left to do. I appreciate the folks who live and serve there for putting up with a terrible situation. The asphalt has to go down at a certain time. If he doesn't he will not be getting the winter shutdown.

Chairman Dougherty asks if everyone received the information on the Historic District Commission?

Chairman Dougherty states McKay will be stepping down as well from the Council.

#6

Tom Thompson presents to address the Council

They are looking at the Financial Report. Projecting a surplus. Wants to remind from last fiscal year, we will leave with a 4mill surplus. Any questions?

Arpino asks what the assessed value damage for the Beach damage?

Thompson states he believes he is still working down there. He doesn't know what that is. Next year's budget will can take that into consideration.

Paul states that some homeowners have come in and want to build right away, and unless you are going with the original footprint, it has to be up to FEMA standards.

Santino states six are rebuilding.

Anania states for FEMA reimbursement, what is that for?

Thompson further explains.

Camera states according to Audit, we are at a 4mill surplus?

Thompson states yes.

Chairman Dougherty states he wants to thank Attorney Cofrancesco and Bianca Genovesi for insight and help with meetings.

#7 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

A Resolution providing a Tax Refund as follows:

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

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

MAC X2302-04D

1 Home Campus

Des Moines, IA 50328

2009-01-9271 Duplicate Payment Made On

2nd Installment

\$3,114.92

Total: \$3,114.92

NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved, by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven, that said Tax Refund is hereby granted.

2nd by Arpino.

Donna Richo asks if we can have addresses when we do those?

No Further Public Comment.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries.

#8 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

An Act concerning interest owed on property taxes by members of the Armed Forces Called to Active Service.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven has the ability, pursuant to its Charter to forgive Interest owed on Property Taxes.

WHEREAS, said Authority for the forgiveness of said monies can also be find within Connecticut’s Home Rule Act, C.G.S. Section 7-101 et . seq.

WHEREAS, for purposes of this Enactment, the “Armed Forces,” is defined as set forth in C.G.S. Section 27-103 as: “The United States Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Air Force and any reserved component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard, performing duty as provided in Title 32 of the United States Code, 32 U.S.C.A. Section 101, et. seq.

WHEREAS, the term “Active Service,” for purposes of this enactment is to be defined by the provisions of C.G.S. Section 1-1, i.e., according to its common ordinary use. WHEREFORE, the Town of East Haven, acting by and through its Town Council, wishes to forgive the interest owed on property taxes, by members of the Armed Forces called to Active Service.

WHEREAS, said enactment implicates interest owed only, not principal owed during the time that a member of the Armed Forces is called into Active Service.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven acting by and through its Town Council wishes to effect said forgiveness on a prospective basis, commencing with the enactment of this Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ORDAINED, by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that effective upon passage, interest owed on a prospective basis, on property taxes, by members of the Armed Forces called into Active Service shall be forgiven, and be it further ordained that the Tax Collector and the Tax Assessor of the Town of East Haven is empowered to effect any and all paperwork associated with this Ordinance.

2nd by McKay.

No Public Comment.

Carbo states he thinks this is a great idea, it could have been done sooner in the year, but it’s still a great idea.

Paul Hongo states we weren’t able to do this until the Act was signed by the government. The Assessor had thought about this as well as others. Until the Governer signed it, we couldn’t take any action.

No Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries.

#9 Councilwoman Donahue reads the following:

An Ordinance granting a yearly Tax Reduction to the elderly and disabled, and also to grant a reduction in assessment to Veterans.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven alone has the authority to both grant Tax Reductions as well as a reduction in Assessments.

WHEREAS, for purposes of this enactment, the phrase “elderly person,” is that which is defined in C.G.S. Section 8-112a(m): meaning a person sixty-two (62) years of age and over.

WHEREAS, for purposes of this enactment, the phrase “disabled,” means any person who has been certified by the Social Security Administration as being totally disabled under the Federal Social Security Act or certified by any other Federal Board of Agency as being totally disabled, per C.G.S. Section 8-112a.

WHEREAS, for purposes of this enactment, the phrase “veteran,” means any person honorably discharged from or released under Honorably Conditions, from Active Service in the Armed Forces as defined in C.G.S. Section 27-103.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven, acting by and through its Town Council hereby grants a yearly Tax Reduction to the elderly, and disabled.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven, acting by and through its Town Council hereby also grants a Reduction in Assessment to Veterans and it hereby instructs the Tax Collector as well as the Tax Assessor of the Town of East Haven to effect any and all documentation associated with this enactment on a prospective basis.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ORDAINED, by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that said Tax Reduction to the elderly and disabled, and a reduction in Assessment to Veterans, is hereby granted.

2nd by Carbo.

Attorney Cofrancesco states we were not attempting to enact this in recreating the wheel. Many or all of the definitions were taken from the C.G.S. There is authority for us within the Statute for us to use the term. The reason why there were no specific numbers because by enacting this, you are empowering the Tax Collector and Assessor to do what’s necessary to promulgate this. The definitions are statutory. They are the same language within the Ordinance. It gives you the flexibility you need, but at the same time you are empowering the Collector and Assessor to put it into effect.

Arpino asks who’s discretion?

Attorney Cofrancesco states you are empowering them to do what needs to be done.

Donna Richo presents for comment. You need to set parameters. Use what you already have. Follow this, and keep this in mind.

No Further Public Comment.

Anania asks who comes up with the number for the figures?

Chairman Dougherty states it will stay right now. If this is passed, the Collector and Assessor will begin paperwork to make recommendations of the actual dollar amounts.

We need to have current data based on the circumstances.

Attorney Cofrancesco states you are voting on a concept.

McKay states we are clarifying language already on the books?

Attorney Cofrancesco states no, we are redefining in.

Paul Hongo states you can't increase or decrease the amounts without doing this first.

Carbo states we are granting the exploratory directive.

Attorney Cofrancesco states that it has to begin here, and it has to end here.

Anania states this is a good idea. It should have been brought to us sooner however.

McKay states this has been changed many times throughout the years, from the originally inception of this, it has been changed.

Carbo states since we will have a new Council, do we wait, or is it handed right to them to decide the numbers, etc.

No Further Council Comment.

Roll Call Vote.

All in Favor.

None Oppose.

Motion Carries

McKay makes a Motion to Adjourn the Special Meeting.

2nd by Donahue.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Bianca N. Genovesi
Council Clerk