

East Haven Town Council

Meeting Minutes

The East Haven Town Council held a Special Meeting Tuesday, February 4, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT in order to transact the following:

Chairman Deko called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Item #1

Roll Call: 14 Members Present. 1 Member Absent (Pompano)

Staff Present: Town Attorney Michael Luzzi and Assistant Town Attorney, Jennifer Coppola.

Quorum Present

Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2

Approval of Minutes January 7, 2020, Special Meeting.

Councilman Santino moved to accept the minutes of January 7, 2020.

Councilwoman Glassman second the motion.

Voice Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #3

Correspondence

None

Item #4

Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Education, Library and School Building/Presented by Councilwoman Cesare
See attachment to the minutes.
- b. Public Health, Safety, and Welfare/Councilman Butler, stated the Fire Department training is ongoing utilizing the burn trailer at Hays School and they are working on their budget for FY 20-21. The Police Department prior to this meeting had a very nice promotional ceremony and enlisted a new canine officer.
- c. Finance/Presented by Councilwoman Glassman. See attachment to minutes.
- d. Public Services, Parks, and Recreation/Presented by Vice Chairman Pacelli He reported that he spoke to the Town Engineer and the Superintendent of Operations. There is adequate sand and salt to handle the balance of the winter, which has been going smoothly. There are 4 new vehicles, with 2 mason dump trucks. The department is shorthanded two Operators and two Drivers.
- e. Urban Renewal/Housing/No report.

Chairman Deko clarified that at all future Regular Meetings the council will allow for public comment on each item. Also, the council will allow for any item to come before them to be presented.

Item #5

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion, to consider an act upon a Resolution which that the Town of East Haven endorsing the Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) proposals listed below, authorizing SCRCOG to apply for

funding under RPIP, and authorizing SCRCOG to enter into any required contract and/or agreement and to execute any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate should the proposals be selected for an RPIP award, in the area of Regional Cybersecurity; and

Chairman Deko recognized Fran Perri, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor and Carl Amento, Executive Director, SCRCOG addressed the Council.

Mr. Amento explained to the council that there are two grants SCRCOG is applying for from the State of Connecticut on behalf of 15 towns and East Haven is one of them. There is a pool of funds set aside for the Council of Governments to utilize for these two grants. There's a cross-section of members from each town Finance Directors, IT Directors and Public Works Directors. We met on solid waste prevention and cybersecurity and what emerged from those meetings there is a very substantial need for assistance to the town's for cyber-security. The town of West Haven had an incident and one of the Council of Governments also had an incident. What we want to do is provide services that the town would not be able to do normally. This program grant is over \$700,000, and will have a training component. The biggest problem with security is people clicking on things they should not be and opening sites on their computers. So, we will have a training program, which will be as traditional as cyber-security being one of them. Simulated programs of cyber-attacks result in lowering the percentage of attacks to almost 1%. Then there would be a program of vulnerability assessments that we would be working on with Homeland Security to see if each town has any vulnerability. There are two programs, one is for cybersecurity the other is for school waste to divert organic material. This program was initiated through the towns having meetings for the past 2 years with regard to organics and food waste. Things have changed at one time it was profitable to recycle now it cost the towns to recycle than it had previously. Instead of having a revenue stream from the recycling now the towns have to pay for recycling and trash. We've tried to come up with ways for the towns to save money on the tipping fees for waste. This is a small pilot project that will include 22 schools. There are 155 in the region but it is a small pilot project. Both of these programs are free to each town. There is no matching fee required by the towns. In addition, it teaches children in the younger grades to recycle. The food waste would be disposed of in a separate container and then will be hauled off to local farms for composting or a bio-digestive facility or a compost site. Our hope someday is that there would be a curbside pickup for organics and it relieves the towns of some of the tipping fees. This is a good comprehensive program for the schools to start for unused food products. It is our hope to create a savings of about 30% on the tipping fees through the school programs. Those are the two programs and if we get all 15 towns we can move forward and it's at no cost to the towns because there is no matching fee.

Chairman Deko pointed out that his town email was just recently hacked so he thinks this is a good program for the town. Also he commended Fran Perri and Carl Amento for all their hard work on this project. It is also very important to the town's future. He spoke to the superintendent of schools and she has already chosen a school for a pilot project.

Councilwoman Parlato stated that you indicated there was no fee but when you look in the paperwork for the pilot project it does say that we need to indicate a level of a matching fund as a percentage of the grant.

Mr. Amento indicated that he was aware that the language was left in but we told them we would not participate if there were matching funds required. It is his opinion there will be no matching funds required.

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to enter into any required contract and/or agreement and to execute any and all documents related to an RPIP Award, in the area of Regional Cybersecurity.

Councilwoman Cesare second the motion.

Roll Call Vote - All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #6

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider an act upon a Resolution which that the Town of East Haven may enter into an agreement with *PRIORITY DISPATCH* ("PD") to continue to service and support the PD products that the Town currently utilizes for the East Haven Police Department, the East Haven Fire Department, and the East Haven Public Safety Communication Center and to execute any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

Chairman Deko recognized Fire Chief Marcarelli.

Fire Chief Marcarelli stated that this is a resolution for the town to enter into an agreement with Priority Dispatch. You all are aware that a few years ago we merged fire and police dispatch for a unified public safety dispatch center. One of the products we use in the dispatch center is called Priority Dispatch. At this time there are only two companies in this market, the one that we currently utilize is Priority Dispatch. They have a one-stop-shop with pre-arrival instructions for the 911 dispatchers whether they're handling an EMS call or are a fire type of call. There are pre-scripted directions for them to give the callers to rescue an individual or to be rescued from a fire. It gives the dispatcher specific instructions as to what to do until the first responders are on the scene. Several years ago we chose Priority Dispatch when the dispatch center first was created. There was no budget for this type of product; Police Lennon and Chief Marcarelli utilize their budgets together in creating a budget line for approximately \$12,000 annually. We are presenting it to the Town Council so that we can continue to use that service.

Councilman Balter asked Chief Marcarelli if they are happy with this service.

Chief Marcarelli indicated very.

Councilman Ranfone asked if the cost goes up every year.

Chief Marcarelli indicated that it's been level.

Councilman Ranfone stated that this is for 3 years.

Chief Marcarelli stated we resign every year.

Councilman Deko indicated that this is a 3year contract with a 2.5% increase each year.

Chief Marcarelli stated that fine.

Attorney Luzzi stated that this is a 3 year license renewal we are entering into.

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of the Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute any contract and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to purchase the annual license for the Priority Dispatch products that support the East Haven Police Department, the East Haven Fire Department, and the East Haven Public Safety Communication Center.

Councilwoman Glassman second the motion.

Roll Call Vote - All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #7

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon setting a public hearing date for March 3, 2020, for "An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinance Section 16.5-14 Use of Town Landfill Fees."

Councilwoman Glassman made the motion.

Councilman Santino second the motion.

Roll Call Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Public Hearing Set for March 3, 2020

Item #8

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon setting a public hearing date for March 3, 2020, for "An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinance Section 6-27 A, the Issuance of a Building Permits Restricted as to Location, etc. Exceptions for ultimate approval by the Town Council."

Councilman Santino made the motion.

Councilman Butler second the motion.

Roll Call Vote-13 Members in Favor. None opposed. One abstention (Deko.)

Motion carried.

Public Hearing Set for March 3, 2020

Item #9

To consider and act upon setting a public hearing date for March 3, 2020, for "An Ordinance Reallocating \$150,000.00 of Capital Funds between Capital Accounts #99-8-02 (Pool Desert Air System) and #99-1-05 (Town Wide Roof) as follows:

To:	For:	
99-01-05	Town Wide Roof	\$150,000.00
TOTAL		\$150,000.00
From:		
99-8-02	Pool Desert Air System	\$150,000.00
TOTAL		\$150,000.00

Councilman Santino made the motion.

Councilman Balter second the motion.

Voice Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Public Hearing Set for March 3, 2020

Item #10

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon a resolution to exempt the East Haven Fire Chief's and East Haven Assistant Fire Chief's town issued vehicles from the identification requirements of Section 11-1 *Identification of town vehicles* of the East Haven Town Charter.

Chairman Deko recognized Fire Chief, Mathew Marcarelli.

Chief Marcarelli stated for the past 3 years his vehicle and the Assistant Chief's vehicle have been unmarked and it has just become an issue. It is a security issue for him as Chief and Mayor Carfora indicated he has no issue with the vehicle being unmarked.

Chairman Deko indicated that both chiefs' vehicles have municipal marker plates.

Councilman Balter asked for the reason and background for the request.

Chief Marcarelli indicated that he is not only a Fire Chief but he is the Emergency Management Director, he also works with Homeland Security because the town is a soft target. We have an unprotected rail line, unprotected pipeline, unprotected coastline, and it is the Gateway to the City of New Haven. He further stated he uses this for official use and he is on call twenty-four hours a day and because he's always on call his personal life blends in with his professional life. It is a privilege to have a town vehicle but it also is a burden as I use this for family use too. It's very obvious it's a government vehicle and it does have your municipal plates, which makes it somewhat of a target. He is also a fire investigator and he carries quite a bit of valuable equipment and pharmaceuticals. He is not law enforcement therefore; it does not carry a firearm for protection.

Chairman Deko indicated the department at which he works their cars have not been marked since 1984 and they have discreet plates.

Councilman Maltese indicated that surrounding towns do not have identification on the Chief's vehicle and he believes that is for your protection.

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to exempt the East Haven Fire Chief's and East Haven Assistant Fire Chief's town issued vehicles from the identification requirements of Section 11-1 *Identification of town vehicles* of the East Haven Town Charter.

Councilman Ranfone second the motion.

Roll Call Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #11

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution which that the Town of East Haven may enter into a lease agreement with General Motors Financial for three (3) motor vehicles for use at public works or any other department deemed proper and to execute any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

Chairman Deko recognized Charles Coyle, Superintendent of Public Works.

Mr. Coyle explained that the town went to bid for these 3 vehicles. We keep putting money into vehicles that are past their life expectancy. These vehicles will be for the two foremen and for Mr. Coyle who will be utilizing the Equinox and the foreman will be getting 2 new Silverado's. The 2 Nissans will be brought to town hall for the Assessor to use one and the Zoning Official to use the other one. These are 6 year leases at \$5000 per year; they come with 10 year or 100,000 mile warranty first year free oil changes. The interest rate is 4.779% compared to the other bid which was 6.6%.

Councilman Santino indicated that the initial payment will be old capital funds not out of the next budget and what color are these vehicles.

Mr. Coyle indicated white.

Councilman Balter clarified \$5,000 per year and then the town owns these vehicles after 6 years, a total of \$90,000. Nowhere in the paperwork, that he read through, did it say that those vehicles will be owned by the town after the 6 years. He would like to make an amendment to the motion that states that the town will own the vehicles at the end of the lease.

Mr. Coyle stated that it would be in the final draft of the paperwork.

Councilman Ranfone asked if it is cost effective to under spray the vehicles.

Mr. Coyle stated that is the plan, we spray on a rust prohibitive product used for the winter months. We just rinse the salt off the vehicles and it protects the vehicle.

Councilman Maltese stated he has always been against leasing and bonding. Who will get these vehicles?

Mr. Coyle stated the supervisors.

Councilman Maltese asked if they'll be 2 doors and who will be driving these vehicles.

Chairman Deko said they'll be 2 doors, they are fleet vehicles.

Mr. Coyle stated the two foremen and he will receive the new vehicles. Their current vehicles; one will go to the Assessor and one will go to the Zoning Official. Mr. Bassett will have his and all marked properly.

Councilman Maltese asked after three or four years you don't believe that these cars will get damaged in any way and who will pay for that expense?

Mr. Coyle stated insurance will pay for damage for repair and we don't expect damage the same people will always be driving them.

Councilman Maltese said after six years of driving around town you don't think they'll get damaged. They are lease vehicles.

Chairman Deko stated it doesn't matter if they have bumps and bruises we will own them at the end of the lease.

Councilwoman Glassman stated that is what the 10 year warranty is for mechanical issues; the engine or the transmission, mechanically wrong would be covered. I think that's a great deal.

Mr. Coyle said you are correct 100,000 mile warranty on parts.

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to enter into a lease agreement with General Motors Financial for three (3) motor vehicles for use at public works or any other department deemed proper.

Councilman Balter made an amendment to the motion that contingent to paperwork being provided that the town will in fact own these vehicles at the end of the lease agreement.

Inaudible

Councilwoman Glassman second the amended motion
Roll Call Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Motion carried.
Approved

Item #12

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution which that the Town of East Haven endorses the *SUPPORT THE U.S. CENSUS COUNT 2020*.

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven representative of the Town's endorsement of the *SUPPORT THE U.S. CENSUS COUNT 2020*.

Councilwoman Glassman second the motion.
Roll Call Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Motion Carried.
Approved

Item #13

Executive Session

Vice Chairman Pacelli moved to enter into executive session to convene and discuss per C.G.S. §1-200(6) the status of and possible action pertaining to pending claims/litigation concerning property at 1 and 99 Barberry Road, East Haven. This session is to include the entire 15 Town Council Members, Town Attorney, Michael Luzzi, and Assistant Town Attorney, Jennifer Coppola. (Public Exited)

Councilman Santino second the motion.
The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.
Vice Chairman Pacelli moved to reconvene to the Town Council Special Meeting.
Councilman Balter second the motion.
Voice Vote-All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Meeting reconvened at 9:08 p.m.

Item #14

Vice Chairman Pacelli entertained a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution pursuant to Chapter VI Section 1 to engage Attorney Charles R. Andres of Barclay Damon as special counsel to assist the Town Attorney with various matters in connection with the pending claims/litigation concerning property at 1 and 99 Barberry Road, East Haven, including One Barberry Real Estate Holding, LLC, et al. v. Zoning Board of Appeals of Town of East Haven (Docket No. HHD-CV19-6110186-S) and One Barberry Real Estate Holding, LLC, et al. v. Joseph Maturo, et al. (Case No. 3:17-cv-00985-KAD).

Councilman Santino made the motion for the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven or his designee, is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to engage Attorney Charles R. Andres of Barclay Damon as special counsel to assist the Town Attorney with various matters in connection with the pending claims/litigation concerning property at 1 and 99 Barberry Road, East Haven, including One Barberry Real Estate Holding, LLC,

et al. v. Zoning Board of Appeals of Town of East Haven (Docket No. HHD-CV 19-6110186-S) and One Barberry Real Estate Holding, LLC, et al. v. Joseph Maturo, et al. (Case No. 3:17-cv-00985-KAD).

Councilwoman Cesare second the motion.

Roll Call in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Motion carried.

Approved

Councilman Santino moved to adjourn.

Councilwoman Cesare second the motion.

Voice Vote-All in Favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta A. DeLuca
Council Clerk