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EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2016

Stacy Graving CTC
TOWN CLERK

In accordance with Chapter III, Section 6 of the East Haven Town Charter, the East Haven Town Council Hearing Committee held a public hearing meeting Tuesday, July 19 2016, at 7:00PM at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512 in order to transact the following.

Chairman Fred Parlato calls the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Item #1

Roll Call for Hearing Committee – 11 present – 4 absent (Hennessey, Spaduzzi, Butler III and Anania).
A quorum is present.

Item #2

To conduct Public Hearing #1 regarding an "Ordinance Authorizing the East Haven Public Schools to extend an existing Lease Agreement with Apple, Inc. and Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, LLC to fund technology projects for FY 2016-2017."

An Ordinance Authorizing the East Haven Public Schools to extend an existing Lease Agreement with Apple, Inc. and Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, LLC to fund technology projects for FY 2016-2017 and waiving any bidding requirements associated therewith.

WHEREAS, the East Haven Board of Education and the Town of East Haven are parties to an existing Lease Agreement with Apple, Inc. and Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, LLC for computer technology;

AND WHEREAS, the East Haven Board of Education and the Town of East Haven wish to amend the current lease to provide for the leasing of new computer technology for an additional year through FY 2018-2019 for the Board of Education at a cost of \$262,000.00, net of applicable taxes;

AND WHEREAS, Chapter 6, Section 4(C) of the East Haven Town Charter contains bidding requirements for certain expenditures;

AND WHEREAS, the Town Charter's bidding requirements may be waived by two-thirds of the members present and voting;

NOW THEREFORE, be it **ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that the Town of East Haven and the Board of Education, acting by their duly authorized agents, are authorized to amend and extend an existing Lease Agreement with Apple, Inc. and Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, LLC to fund technology projects for FY 2016-2017 and to obligate the Town and Board of Education for the payment of \$262,000.00 (net of applicable taxes) in furtherance of this extension; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any bidding requirements associated with said transaction are hereby waived.

This Ordinance shall be effective in accordance with the provisions of the East Haven Town Charter.

Submitted by: Danelle Feeley, Council Clerk
 Approved by: Joseph Maturo, Jr., Mayor
 Received by: Stacy Gravino, Town Clerk

Date: _____
 Date: _____
 Date: _____

- Randel Osborne- Technology Director for East Haven Public Schools- Mr. Osborne states that he came to the Council 16 years ago in 2000 to begin this lease project. It was a three year lease project with (3) payments of \$262,000 and they have elected to continue the lease until the present time. The lease is structured in such a way that when the payments are made there is a \$1 buyout so at the conclusion of the lease they own the equipment. East Haven Public Schools would like to extend the lease with Wells Fargo for another year to fund technology purchases for 2016-2017. Just like last year, he asks the Council to enter into the lease because of the Town's favorable rate; the Board of Education will fund it from the line item in the existing budget. The lease rate is 2.99% and they would be leasing \$244,164 worth of equipment this year and making a payment of \$262,000. The lease rate is the same as it was last year and their anticipated purchases include 625 chromebook computers for students in grades 11 and 12 which would complete the 1:1 chromebook initiative, tablet devices to support technology for pre-k-2, infrastructure additions for wire and wireless networks that support students and adults in each building and parts for existing chromebooks.

Council comments:

- Councilman Robert Parente says he mentioned the Town's favorable rating, so is it normal procedure for them to use the Town's rating rather than internally doing it themselves.
- Finance Director Paul Rizza says yes, technically they are one entity.
- Councilman Parente says so there is no autonomy in this case with the Town and Board of Education.
- Mr. Rizza says that is correct.

- Councilman William Richardson says he mentioned they would be getting 625 chromebooks, how many tablets will they be getting?
- Mr. Osborne says it is in the neighborhood of 100 tablets.
- Councilman Richardson says he said at the end of the lease they have a \$1 buyout, so what happens with those after the buyout?
- Mr. Osborne says they stay in service for about 6-7 years. For instance the chromebooks from three years ago are still in service, infrastructure work done years ago is still in their walls. At the end of the serviceable life at the end of the capitalization period they recycle them for parts.
- Councilman Richardson asks how many pieces of equipment on average per year are lost to theft or are broken.
- Mr. Osborne says their theft number is very small, like less than 1%. In terms of repair the chromebooks get more use and are carried around and you get more service on them than desktop and laptops. They try to keep an extra 3% on hand, it's not to say they go through it but that is their target number which allows them to ensure every kid has a functioning chromebook.
- Councilman McKay asks if they are still offering insurance for the parents to purchase for these. What is the percentage of people that get the insurance?
- Mr. Osborne says they do and he believes over half of them get it.
- Councilman McKay asks if there have been claims put in.
- Mr. Osborne says yes, it is a great thing; it is a \$0 deductible program that is under \$50 per year. People that take advantage of it are happy they have done so.
- Vice Chairman Robert Sand says in approximately 12 years the student population has dropped significantly. The lease has always been the same; we are down 1,000 students so where does that put our equipment/technology? Looking at over the years the number of students that have dropped off, but we have been leasing the same dollar figure. To him, he sees this as a saturation that we have more than enough equipment, he asks if they are at that point yet.
- Mr. Osborne says they are certainly not at more than enough equipment. 16 years ago we would say they had a model with devices but they were shared there was basically 1 device for every 3-4 children. They have been working for a number of years to get to the point where every child has a device and access to it both at school and at home. Although the student count has dropped, the dollar figure expended every year hasn't changed.
- Vice Chairman Sand says the schools have hardwire and wireless devices and receivers going to a mainframe, is that 100% completed in the High School at least?
- Mr. Osborne says their goal is to have a wireless access point in every structural space of the East Haven Public School system and they have plans to be at that point by the fall.

- Vice Chairman Sand asks if fiber is the next step.
- Mr. Osborne says they have fiber that connects each of the buildings, yes. The fiber network, besides supporting educational supports, it also supports the point of sale for lunch and the security cameras and HVAC access; a lot of the infrastructures go beyond.
- Vice Chairman Sand asks if Mr. Osborne supervised the removal of all of the necessary hardware from DC Moore School, personally?
- Mr. Osborne says he was in that building and he removed much of it.
- Vice Chairman asks, much of it but not all of it?
- Mr. Osborne says he didn't remove pianos or those things but yes he removed things related to technology.
- Vice Chairman says all of the wireless devices and everything that was in those rooms are removed?
- Mr. Osborne says all of the wiring, access points, switches, computers, etc.
- Vice Chairman Sand says so all of that is considered excess at this point? There may be another school closing, down the road.
- Mr. Osborne says well the students are not gone, so in the case of the equipment at DC Moore they repurposed most of that; photo copiers, printing devices, desktops and laptops have gone to other locations. The school psychologist at DC Moore School is still employed by East Haven Public Schools and she was moved to Momauguin School and all of her equipment went there.
- Councilman Joseph Santino asks Mr. Rizza if he thinks this is feasible or could they go out and get other prices.
- Mr. Rizza says he thinks the pricing has been consistently really good, as Randel was talking about 16 years ago he was sitting in the same place and things have changed greatly since then. Talking then about networks and the capability to connect the buildings was crazy and now all of that is commonplace and they are gearing more towards the individual students. Kids very young such as pre-k and so on know how to operate a computer or ipad or digital phone. Maybe in the early 2000's they were ahead of the curve but they kept themselves alive and it is a good thing that the Board is budgeting it like they would budget a light bill because this lease document itself has become a core function of the Board which enables the students to have a little more than they may have had.
- Councilman Santino says so by renewing this lease everything stays the same.
- Mr. Rizza says yes and Randel is very frugal and tends to beat people up on prices, which is a good thing, if we can get 1 more piece of equipment than normal than we are a success.
- Chairman Parlato says he wants the Council to be aware that his brother in law James Pompano works for the Board of Education on a contract basis, he works with Randel. In talking with him, Randel's group saves the Town a lot of money, they do it in house and reporting to the State can be rather complex and that is

all taken care of by their group. He works on a contract basis for the Board of Education; he has nothing to do with the Town or himself.

Item #3

Adjournment of Public Hearing #1.

Councilman McKay makes a motion.

Councilman Nicholas Palladino seconds the motion.

Voice vote: all in favor-none oppose-none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #4

Hearing Committee report to the full Town Council and recommendation of action on Public Hearing #1.

Councilman Santino makes a motion.

Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

Voice vote: all in favor-none oppose-none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #5

Adjournment of Hearing Committee.

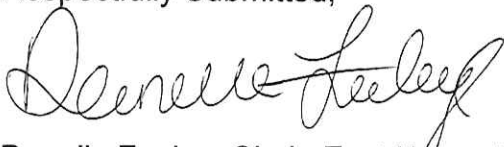
Councilman McKay makes a motion.

Councilman Santino seconds the motion.

Voice vote: all in favor-none oppose-none abstain. Motion carries.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:16PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Danelle Feeley".

Danelle Feeley, Clerk, East Haven Legislative Town Council