

**Town of East Haven**  
**Board of Finance –Regular Meeting Amended inutes**  
**Wednesday, March 19, 2014**

The East Haven Board of Finance held its Regular Meeting on Wednesday March 19, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Mario Giaimo, Joseph Vitale Meeting Room on the lower level of East Haven Town Hall, 250 Main Street, East Haven, CT 06512

Ralph Vitale called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

Ralph Vitale, Beth Purcell, Salvatore Maltese, Noreen Clough, Richard DePalma and Maria Tonelli– All Present. Also in attendance was Superintendent of Public Works Mr. Robert Parente, Town Attorney - Mr. Joseph Zullo, and Finance Director, Mr. Paul Rizza

**2. Read and Approve Minutes from Special Meeting held February 19, 2013**

Noreen Clough made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 19, 2013 meeting. Beth Purcell seconds. Discussion – Richard DePalma asks if the bills were paid. Paul Rizza states that Tilcon, Crack Seal and Garrety Milling are all paid. Roll Call Vote. All in Favor. Motion Carries.

**3. Old Business**

Noreen Clough states that she, Rich DePalma, and Beth Purcell went to the Town Council meeting for the audit and it was tabled because the Town Council did not have the books. Paul Rizza states that he went back into his secretary's computer and everyone including the Town Council was emailed the audit, unfortunately some received the attachment and some did not.

**4. New Business**

None

**5. Public Comment**

None

**6. Public Service**

To:	01-224-0192	Seasonal Overtime-Parks	\$20,000
From:	01-224-0110	Regular Salaries	\$20,000

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Needed funds for overtime to cover game at night - weekends will not deplete regular salaries account.

Richard DePalma makes a motion to discuss. Noreen Clough seconds. Discussion. Richard DePalma asks how there is that much money in regular salary account? Paul Rizza states because there are some vacancies. Noreen Clough asks were these hockey games? Robert Parente states these are softball and hardball games. We do collect enough money from tournaments that are brought into this town, for instances Triple-Crown does bring in about 50 - 60 teams each year and they pay us a tremendous amount of money that off-sets the cost of our own people being there, that money goes to the general fund and would not be reflective of our numbers but that it is a self-sufficient situation – we actually make money off those leagues. Roll Call Vote – All in Favor – Motion Carries.

**7. Debt Service**

To:	01-771-0711	General Interest Payment	\$450
From:	01-885-0689	Contingency	\$450

Amount budgeted for account was based on a lower borrowing than occurred, thus interest was higher than originally anticipated.

Noreen Clough makes a motion to discuss. Richard DePalma seconds. Discussion. Paul Rizza states that last April we had not bonded any of the outstanding notes that were coming due in August and we made our best estimate and were off by \$450.00. Roll Call Vote. All in Favor. Motion Carries

**8. “Return the Board of Finance budget recommendations to the Mayor”**

Richard DePalma makes a motion to discuss. Noreen Clough seconds. Discussion. Richard DePalma states he was happy to see BOE received an increase from not only the state but from the town. I was also happy with the way they considered their contracts pending and how they worked that into their figures and something was set aside, unlike the town side we have contracts pending and it's so vague when and where we are getting the money from when contracts settle. This budget does include a tax increase and that tough especially for our Mayor that is strong on a no tax increase budget, but I still think it's a little thin without figuring in those contracts and the other thing I am not sold on is the Civilian Dispatcher, whether we hire a couple of more officers or raise the 52 to 55 so when we are short we are not short rock bottom. We have never been at full strength so if we raise that higher when we are short we are closer to that number – every year we lose, and adding 6 you can always use an officer for dispatch but you cannot use dispatch for an officer especially because the dispatcher will not be cops, so if

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you figure in their salaries, benefits and there will be some O/T – I just think the costs outweigh the benefit it puts a couple of more officers in the pool when we are short. Have we looked into using State Police when we are short? Salvatore Maltese asks how many officers we put on a shift when we have dispatchers. Paul Rizza states 2 – a Sargent, and an officer or supervisor. Salvatore Maltese states so they are not at the desk they are out. Paul Rizza states the plan right now states that we do have a list and the background checks have been done and the interview part will be starting I would guess the next two weeks, so hopefully they will start training June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The plan is to have one new person one with one seasoned person therefore you will not have two new people on together until they get real life experience. Dispatchers will be all stationed in the records room in the Police Department including the Fire Departments dispatchers. If there is a hurricane or storm we can bring in a third dispatcher. Richard DePalma asks how many are we using currently? Paul Rizza states 1 per a shift and two for police. One is a supervisor and one is an officer. Richard DePalma states that the only other concern is the bonding I would love to see a bond. Paul Rizza states that he had sent a memo out to several departments asking for a 5 year plan. Richard DePalma states that we really have not seen bonding in the last couple of years but on the other hand I can see the BOE coming to us a year from now after they hire their consultants – this is our configuration and it's going to cost this. I know we have a couple of lawsuits coming. The BOE will say we want to configure to this and this is what we need. Paul Rizza states that they will also come forward with any state funding that is available and what our reimbursement rate will be this is something that both the BOE and Town have been talking about for a while. We will get some kind of feeling into what they will need when they submit this year around because they will have to put some numbers to those years they submit, also we will see what their thinking process is whether it be 2, 3, 4 years from now. Beth Purcell states where are the dispatchers placed in the budget? Paul Rizza states currently the 4 are still in fire, and the 6 new are in the O/T Police account. Richard DePalma states we are going to peak over 1 million dollars this year in Police O/T, and I think we are there but the dispatch part is only about 20 -30,000 a month. Paul Rizza states that we have a full complement in this budget for 54 offices in the regular salary account. Roll Call Vote – Salvatore Maltese – Yes, Beth Purcell – Yes, Richard DePalma – No, Noreen Clough – No, Ralph Vitale- Yes, Maria Tonelli – Abstain (due to the fact she was not present during the budget hearing process) Motion Carries.

**9. Adjournment**

Noreen Clough makes a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Beth Purcell seconds. All in Favor.  
Motion Carries

Temple Smith

Board of Finance Clerk