

Stacy Gravano, CTC

TOWN CLERK East Haven Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2020

The East Haven Board of Finance held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2020 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.

1. **Roll Call:**
Chairman Joseph Carfora, Vice Chairman Rich DePalma, Noreen Clough, Beth Purcell, Richard Esposito Jr., and Alfred Purzycki were present. Ralph Vitale is absent.

2. **Read and Approve Minutes from Regular Meeting held on January 15, 2020.**
Noreen Clough made a motion to read and approve Minutes from Regular Meeting January 15, 2020. Richard Esposito seconds. Roll call, all in favor, motion carried.

3. **Old Business**
None

4. **New Business**
Rich DePalma asked if we will have a financial representative during the budget meetings. Mayor Carfora said we will have to see if Jim Keeley can come because Paul Rizza is part time.

5. **Set dates for 2020 Budget Meetings**
Noreen Clough made a motion to set the Schedule for the 2020 Budget Meetings, Rich DePalma seconds. Noreen Clough stated they need to make a change from March 16, 2020 to March 17, 2020. Roll call, all in favor, motion carried.

6. **Tax Department**

To: 01-106-0668 Legal Fees \$10,000.00

From: 01-885-0689 Contingency Account \$10,000.00

Noreen Clough made a motion to Discuss, Rich DePalma seconds. Tax Collector Lucille Huelin stated this is an ongoing matter and they just received his third bill. This property is McLay Avenue and there are about twelve pieces of land per Lucille. There are four more to go and this bill is for the attorney's fees because they started a foreclosure on the property. The person who owns the property is an attorney but he has been in prison for embezzlement with money he took from somebody else. He fights this all and it has been going on for at least 10 years. Roll call, all in favor.

6a. **Police Services**

To:	97-5-05	Town Hall Phone System	\$ 20,000.00
	97-2-06	Police Emergency response Van & Traffic Maintenance Truck	<u>\$100,200.00</u> \$120,200.00
From:	97-2-03	Boiler-HVAC	\$ 20,000.00
	97-2-03	Boiler-HVAC	<u>\$100,200.00</u> \$120,200.00

Rich DePalma made a motion to add Police Services as 6a. Rich Esposito seconds. Roll call, all in favor, motion carried. Noreen Clough made a motion to discuss and to refer to Town Council Rich DePalma seconds. Roll call, all in favor.

Discussion: Rich DePalma asked Mayor Carfora if this was from bond money from a few years ago. Mayor Carfora stated yes and it has nothing to do with the Honeywell project at all. Police Chief Lennon spoke and stated the truck is coming up on 18 years and is unreliable. We would have to auction it if we want to get rid of it. It is a little more complicated because it really didn't come from town funds to begin with. The one that we get will not have a boom on it. We are transferring capital funds from one account to another account. Regarding the Town's emergency response team, they will probably get a sprinter van. They are trying to price them out. They are all on state bid list. It needs to be able to store equipment for emergency response for somebody to get into it and get going really quickly, and be able to store equipment which includes weapons. We also want to use the traffic maintenance truck and want it to be higher off the ground so we can use it for major snow storms or patrol. We are trying to make it so we have it for double use.

Noreen Clough stated that the phone system at the Town Hall wasn't doing too good. Chief Lennon stated this money is for all the hardware for the town hall. The Town Hall will have their own separate system from police and fire but they would be able to talk to each other. Mayor Carfora stated that the phone system is very outdated here. We have a hundred and fourteen lines coming in that we pay for, including a phone booth that was outside and has been removed since 1986. There are probably 50 lines that work. This will take care of the phone system and then when the phone company comes into actually connect it, the savings from coming down from 114 to 50 lines will take care of the rest.

Mayor Carfora stated that we are looking into a new security system because we have three security systems that also use the phone lines. Mayor Carfora further stated we are going to go wireless with the security so we will eliminate a bunch of lines with that also. Noreen Clough stated that these are all items that need to get done and we're using existing funds that we haven't used. Roll call, all in favor.

6b. **Public Service**

Rich DePalma made a motion to add Public Service to Agenda as 6b. Rich Esposito seconds. Roll call, all in favor. Noreen Clough made a motion to discuss. Rich DePalma seconds. Roll call, all in Favor.

To: 01-226-0677 Recycling \$20,000.00

From: 01-226-0676 Waste Collection \$20,000.00

Discussion: This is to replenish the recyclable account per Mayor Carfora. Mayor Carfora stated that we will probably be hitting this Board for more money because recyclables are skyrocketing and it is almost the same as waste collection. It is about \$6.00 more per ton. Mayor Carfora stated we were being reimbursed for the recycle but we are not doing that any longer. Noreen Clough stated we did not budget enough in recycling. This is one bill of many that we owe. We are taking it out of waste collection. Rich DePalma asked if we are going to be short on waste collection. Mayor Carfora stated he would have to look into that. This contract was renewed last February Mayor Carfora believes for five years. We have four more years that we are locked into. Beth Purcell stated that we budgeted \$60,000 for recycling. Year-to-date we spent \$55,000.00. Waste collection we budgeted a \$1,084,00.00 and we have used \$668,000.00. There is waste collection disposal which is \$832,000.00 and we spent \$384,000.00. Mayor Carfora stated we are getting hit three times with the garbage. We are paying for Affordable Waste to pick it up and bring it down to Stratford and then for Stratford to bring it to Bridgeport. Mayor Carfora spoke to Affordable Waste and their concern is when they go down to Bridgeport and they eliminate Stratford then they will be delayed.

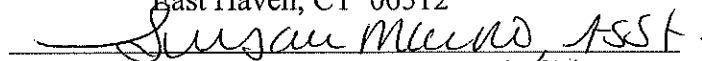
7. **Public Comment**

Josh Balter spoke and stated that it seems as though we are going to blow through the budget for recycle and trash prior to the end of the year. Mayor Carfora stated probably not on the trash but on the recycle. Rich DePalma stated the tonnage on recycle is nowhere near the tonnage on trash. The prices are close but the tonnage is different. Josh Balter asked why we were over budget. Noreen Clough stated we didn't budget enough and Mayor Carfora stated that recycle went up from last year and we used to be reimbursed. Josh also asked about the legal fees and whether Attorney Zullo's bill was presented as they occur. Rich DePalma stated there are many foreclosures and there are still 4 left to do. There is no splitting of bills to circumvent being referred to the Town Council.

8. **Adjournment**

Noreen Clough made a motion to adjourn at 7:20. All in favor.

Dated This 26th Day of February, 2020,
East Haven, CT 06512


Susan Mauro, Board of Finance