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East Haven

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

EAST HAVEN, CONN

Stacy Gravino, CTC

TOWN CLERK

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2020 - 2021 BUDGET**

Chairman Deko called the public hearing to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chairman Deko requested a roll call.

Roll Call-15 Present (Quorum Present)

Staff Present: Mayor Joseph Carfora, Stacy Gravino Town Clerk, Michael Luzzi Town Attorney, James Keeley Interim Finance Director, Edward Lennon Police Chief, Matthew Marcarelli Fire Chief, Michelle Benivegna Assistant Director of Administration and Management, and Lucille Huelin Tax Collector.

Chairman Deko made a brief statement:

The Town Charter requires the Town Council to approve the budget and set the mill rate for the following year allowing for the process to be observed. Some of the orders by the governor have given the municipality the authority to dispense from the usual budget process; we chose not to do that for our town. This means all workshops and presentations are being held and an email and a phone line were established for public comment. We will be taking public comment on the budget at this public hearing. Each member of the public that wishes to speak will have 3 minutes to do so. Anyone who would like to make an additional comment may after everyone has spoken. Inaudible.

Vice Chairman Pacelli read the following:

In accordance with Chapter VII, Section 5 of the East Haven Town Charter, the East Haven Town Council will hold two public hearings regarding the proposed 2020 - 2021 fiscal year Town budget, as follows:

A Public Hearing with regard to the town of East Haven portion of said budget will be held via Zoom, Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman asked for any correspondence to be read by the clerk:

Chairman Deko recognized Neil Florio, 573 Thompson Street, President Foxon Volunteer Fire Department Company 3; a 40 year member firefighter/EMT.

Mr. Florio stated that he is in strong disagreement with what was stated at the May Budget Workshop with regard to low volunteer response. He is speaking tonight on behalf of the Foxon Volunteer Fire Department #3. Inaudible, the Fire Administration presented a fabricated report on low volunteer response; you should know that this Fire Administration has removed volunteers from eighty percent of all the calls, which has created a picture of low volunteer response. The budget workshop report does not represent 80% of calls that we are dispatched to but get cancelled before we can respond; these are false alarms. The Administration labels them as no response because Foxon Volunteer had not signed on the air. Inaudible. We are 99% recovery for the Town of North Branford. Fire Administration informed Foxon Volunteers Rescue 3, was removed from all EMS warrants during Covid-19 so a healthy team could be on call in the event they were needed. We then were excluded from every Covid-19 meeting about the safety protocols, PPE's and D-Con. We were then called upon to cover Station 3, for the 9:00 a.m. weekly Covid-19 meeting held at headquarters. You might have heard different but the volunteers are available during the day. The Foxon Volunteers are the most dedicated people most have been unable to be home isolating during this pandemic. They are essential workers at their regular jobs; we have paid firefighters, members that work at AMR, workers in healthcare, hospital workers, retail and grocery workers all who are in the public daily. All willing to volunteer in this community as first responders. Formed in 1941, this volunteer company has served the town for almost 80 years. They gave the firehouse to the town for one dollar; it supplied the town with a rescue vehicle since 1960, when the Board of Education, Police Department, or Public Works asked for more staffing none of these administrators criticized their staff. Thank you for listening and on behalf of Foxon Volunteer Company 3, if you would like any additional information on our response rate please contact him at any time.

Chairman Deko thanked Mr. Florio and the volunteers. He knows the valuable work that you and the volunteers do and he is a product of Mr. Florio's teaching and is very grateful for them.

Chairman Deko recognized Lorena Venegas, 73 George Street, stated that she is very concerned about the budget and the way it was presented. Looking at what was posted in the East Haven Courier and the Budget Workshops this is like a pre-Covid-19 Budget. It's not forward looking, it's not taking what is coming down the line. She is really worried, she doesn't see how we will be paying PPE for our public building, as we have to open those soon. She also doesn't see the checks and balances in the budget according to the town charter. Very concerned why she was given all the audit findings prepackaged by the Mayor but we already knew what those problems were in January when the audit report came out. Public access which she is very concerned how this is presented to our residents. Just like in the correspondence from the gentlemen who couldn't read the spread sheets. That tells her that there were a lot of people who would have been interested but they couldn't be read. The phone number and email address that was publicized was done on Friday of last week. I don't see the sacrificing of salaries like other town's do; we are not seeing that from top officials. So it looks like we are creating a lot of new positions but she isn't sure what they are and at what cost. She does not see where the mill rate is going to be used. One thing that jumped out at her was Chris Soto's reply to Kimberly Glassman that we shouldn't be using the enforcement of

ordinances to generate revenue. That is really true for residents here who have been dealing with blight being hit with \$100.00 a day fees and they just can't do it. They go to the meetings and they say "I can't pay" and then it turns into something else. She does not want that to happen to residents anymore. Her final point is on hiring in the police and fire department. It looks like we are not doing it right, it looks like we are not hiring the right personnel. Even though the gentleman that just spoke who is a volunteer tried to express himself, we should be making those people our firefighters just knowing there are 18 firefighters down the lane that will retire. James Keeley was not able to explain how the retirements would be paid out from the contingency fees, that's very worrisome for her. If we are hiring firefighters and we are making unbelievable challenges for them being a medic then we need to do something different.

Chairman Deko recognized all the phone callers to make a public comment.

No public comment from those who called into the meeting.

Chairman Deko recognized Donna Richo, 67 Charnes Drive who stated that she is concerned about the budget, mostly how confident are we that we can collect what we put on the budget as revenue. Our real tax base is \$66,116,603 projected, we spend \$93 million. Yes we get \$19 million from ECS but that still leaves us at a big deficit. We have two pages of questionable revenue. We can't continue to do this and be solvent, we need to start controlling costs. Currently, the town of East Haven is the largest employer. That can't continue, cuts have to be made; we have to learn to live within our budget. I hope to hear the answers to her questions, your input and thoughts.

Chairman asked for any additional public comment.

Chairman Deko recognized Fire Chief Marcarelli who wanted to rebut the comment made by Neil Florio of Company 3. He stated in his last presentation the numbers that were presented to the Town Council were the calendar year of 2019; they did not reflect the volunteers being sidelined from any medical calls and from all responses except for structure fires and fire calls. Once the pandemic plan went into effect we did that for force protection. He did say to the credit of Company 3, they are the most active volunteer company. The numbers that were present were an average of all volunteer companies together. The lowest number that was present was cancelled in route number and the largest number was no response, which means they never signed on. It is a problem town wide, we have no intention sidelining the volunteer firefighters they are vital to our organization. During the pandemic we felt that in the event the staff became inundated with illness we would have to have them play a larger role. It was basically, keeping them healthy in the event we needed to put them to work full time.

Chairman Deko recognized Neil Florio, 573 Thompson Street, Volunteer Company 3, stated it is still a problem with it classified as no response. We are cancelled before we can get to the firehouse, at that point what option do we have. Go all the way to the firehouse anyway, start the truck, sign on the air just to hear you're cancelled, which we already knew. So that's a problem, it has happened to him 100 times in the 40 years he has been here. Even while grocery shopping we leave our carts go into the parking lot only to hear the call has been

cancelled so why go to the firehouse, that's the problem. Why go to the firehouse and start the truck when you already know the call has been cancelled. All those count as no responses. That is why the no responses are so high. To sign on and start the truck causes two problems one with dispatch and starting the truck and turning it off is why you had to \$50,000 into the repair of the truck because they become carbon packed because they have not reached full operating temperature.

The clerk gave a roll call for questions or concerns of each member.

Councilwoman Lesco had no questions at the time but will reserve the right to comment later in the meeting.

Councilwoman Capotorto had no question at the time.

Councilwoman Glassman addressed salaries for employees and first responders. We have heard concerns with regard to salary increases for some employees and she is concerned for that narrative. There are very very few town employees that will be receiving an increase; there are very small increases in this budget. She believes promoting a decrease in wages to our first responders; our Police Chief, Deputy Police Chief, Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, and our Public Works Director are the people who are on the front line every day keeping this community safe while responding to residents. I don't believe that is the right message and I don't think that's the right approach for this council or this local government. Keeping our resident safe is the concern above all else. It is our first responders who are most at risk during this time by coming in contact with Covid-19 positive people. I don't believe in using their salaries as a political football and will not support that and will speak out against that time of comment.

Chairman Deko recognized Michelle Benivegna Assistant Director of Administration and Management who stated that the town has had numerous positions that have been left vacant. Inaudible. The town at this time has saved \$90,000 in the salary of the Director of Administration and Management. As Councilwoman Glassman mentioned most the employees are union; their contracts would not allow for a salary decrease those are not an option. The current administration, the Mayor, her position, Superintendent of Public Works are not taking any raises or increases therefore there was nothing else to do.

Chairman Deko clarified there are only the proposed raises for the fire and police chiefs, correct.

Ms. Benivegna agreed with the Chairman and they both agreed that the administration has combined numerous positions, which is a savings. With regard to BH Care we stopped paying for their health insurance with a savings of \$139,000. We have done a significant amount of savings in every that they are able to control.

Councilwoman Glassman stated that all contracts were negotiated prior to this administration. She also wanted to appalled her colleagues on this council, the Mayor, Jim Keeley, Michelle Benivegna, and all of our town department heads. The Mayor cut \$5.8 million out of our town

budget. Previous administrations have typically cut about 2% out of their budgets, Mayor Carfora has cut 6%, and this is a skeletal budget, so I want to stress that for the public listening because we have done our due diligence. Finally, she does commend the Mayor for the work he has done.

Chairman Deko first stated that the governor's order allowed the council not to do this process. He thinks that this council and administration made a point to have all these workshops open to all while we didn't have to. He had some suggestion to be voted on; item 101 0360, which is the stipend for the town council, which is stated in the town charter so we can't change that but of course if anyone chooses to donate the stipend to the animal shelter, food pantry, etc. Same with line item 106-0630 the Board of Finance and their stipends. Line item 120-0693 Administration and Management website he recommends that the \$8,000 be removed and those fees will be paid out of the IT Department. Next is line item 336-0410 be reduced by \$2,500 leaving \$5,000 because these computers are on 24/7 in dispatch, so in the event they need funds to replace them they have something to fall back on. His next suggestion is 338-0800 EOC there was \$50,000 and after speaking with both chiefs it has been agreed upon to cut it by \$20,000, the remaining funds will be used for reverse 911 at a cost \$14,000. The next 3 to be reduced come out of the recreation department account 661 for umpires, lines 0807, 0812, and 0818, and all the baseball leagues have been cancelled; these are not needed until next year's season. The next item is for part time wage for the council clerk to increase it by \$500, which brings it up to \$5000, a modest increase. Next 109-0657 for the Town Clerk who initially asked for \$22,678 for data processing. That budget line was cut down by \$5,000 and I would like to add it back in after having a discussion with the Town Clerk, he understands those funds basically run her entire office. The next budget line is for the Building Department 221-0667 part time wages for an additional inspector for the weekends to look for violations. Next 661-0116 seasonal beach wages additional \$10,000 for beach and parking attendants.

Councilman Maltese I'm glad you addressed the umpire's stipends. He addressed one of the calls which he does not believe the caller wanted to decrease the salaries of the first responders. In January and February the budget was being worked on prior to Covid-19 in March. I think the caller was talking about the administrative staff, not the first responders. The administrative staff is about 4 to 5 people and we would have to cut 1 to 2% and go back to it when the pandemic is over. We can't take money from first responders and after speaking to some of his constituents they wanted to cut 10% off of the salaries in the Mayor's office, he believes that 1 to 2% would have really evened out the budget.

Michelle Benivegna, Assistant Director of Administration and Management, responded to Councilman Maltese. She clarified that the town has a Director of Administration that position has been vacant for 4 months at a savings of \$30,000. The staff has all taken on extra roles and responsibilities and any funds remaining from this fiscal year will go back into the general fund. We as administrators did not get any raises or increases, so there has been a significant savings.

Councilman Santino had one question for Fire Chief Marcarelli. Please enlighten the council and public how those four captains' positions will allow for savings.

Chief Marcarelli stated these positions will allow the fire department to promote from within. For a period of time there will be 4 vacant positions in the lower ranks filled with lower paid employees that will have a less expensive medical plan. Their benefit will be lesser than that of a senior employee.

Councilman Santino is somewhat confused; he thought that the overtime to call people in would stop because of the captains.

Chief Marcarelli stated that it's subject to negotiations but they will see some savings in that area.

Councilman Balter addressed some comments by the public and he understands some people are hurting and the idea of a tax increase is horrible to have to contemplate. Putting that together with our number one responsibility to the town we have to consider the errors and actions taken in the past along with this pandemic we have little choice. He applauds the Mayor and his staff for cutting \$5.8 million from the budget every penny we can save while still maintaining protecting our citizens. After a discussion with the Finance Director, after every \$20,000 saved represents 100th of a mill that we won't have to raise taxes. He will not support the decrease of income or the elimination of the raises for the non-union personnel. He believes those administrative positions are below rate compared to other towns. They need to be compensated properly so we don't have a turnover. Also he would not ask employees to cover where the town is in trouble, these are the people we rely on to run the town and make it work and we are not going to cut the budget on their backs. He supports the budget reductions made by the chairman and he believes that the reductions equal approximately \$31,000, which equate to a little over a 100th of a mill. The building department increase for the weekend inspector should only be 2 weekends a month. He supports the Town Clerk's data processing line item back to \$20,000. He recommends Building Department 221-0667 be reduced by \$200, gasoline is at an all-time low and we should reduce it by \$4,500. Reduce Public Works rental equipment by \$3,000, tire repairs reduce by \$500, auto body repairs reduce \$4,000, Building Maintenance overtime \$4,000, Police business travel and expense reduce that by \$1,500, police overtime to be decrease by \$25,000 with the new positions overtime should decrease, line item gas and diesel reduce by \$2,300, data processing software reduce by \$2,500, physicians and other medical \$2,250, Inaudible, community services for Fourth of July falls into the 20-21 FY budget reduce it by \$15,000. Again, looking at what was previously expended in prior years. He was so concerned about the budget and we have lived so long without an increase in police and fire personnel could we go another year. That was an incredulous question to ask and even with the increase approved we still do not have the recommended amount of personnel on call. That goes back to the safety of the citizens. The police department has not had an increase in personnel since the 1980's yet the amount of calls has increased substantially. Again, this all affects public safety.

Councilwoman Cesare stated she wanted to commend Mayor Carfora and his team for cutting 6% of a really difficult budget. She supports the Chairman's recommendation and supports the police and fire departments they are on the frontlines.

Vice Chairman Pacelli made a statement by echoing the Chairman comments by commending the Town Council putting this Zoom together to be transparent. It was not what we had to do but we went the extra mile. We wanted to show the citizens what it means to have a true and honest government, which includes everyone. He also commended the Administration during this pandemic and who have worked hard with what they were left with and have come up with a really creative budget. A lot of the reduction the Chairman suggested he agrees with, the increases too. Especially the Town Clerk's office, it is a vital department to the public. Some suggestions are to reduce the overtime for the police department by \$35,000 and the fire department by \$25,000. He is in full support of the new hires in those two departments. We have needed additional personnel for a long time and maybe it will reduce the overtime. Another reduction would be the overtime wages for the Senior Center of \$1,500. Public works overtime wages could possibly be reduced by \$5,000. Building maintenance overtime wages a reduction of \$3,500. Also, he agrees we need additional Building Department personnel on the weekends and the personnel at the beach, but is it possible to offset some of those personnel with police School Resource Officers since school is not in session.

Chief Matthew Marcarelli, FD stated with regard to the cuts that Councilman Balter mentioned, physician and medical every firefighter is required to have an OSHA physical every year and we are at full staff for the first time in the last 25 years. Every member of the department will require a physical, which was born out of an OSHA complaint that the town received in 2002. That is the reason the funds were in that line item. In prior years we were down 8 members plus those on worker compensation, now they are at full staff. The gas reduction he can live with, the data processing was non-existent when he came to the department and has made great strides especially with the \$3 million in grants that he has brought to the department. We can now integrate with both hospitals for our health calls. He would ask that you not cut or split it. As far as overtime we have no discretionary overtime we are governed by a minimum staffing agreement. The administrative office of the Fire Department does not receive any overtime, there are very few exceptions. Overtime is governed by the collective bargaining agreement under the minimum staffing clause.

Chief Edward Lennon, PD, he understands the cut for fuel and the travel expenses. A lot of their overtime is not discretionary too. This year his department will be very close to making it through the year with the budget, he does not believe you will see a savings until the latter half of the year. These positions will not be instantly filled July 1st; it will take months and months to go through the hiring and training of the new hires. I think that to say we will have savings in overtime will be more appropriate for next year's budget.

Vice Chairman Pacelli he understands what you are saying, he believes you are saying there is no leeway in those numbers at all?

Chairman Deko had the council look at their appropriations report you will see fire departments overtime Inaudible. You will see we are already over the appropriation, I think it will be the same for next year. The department request and the Mayor's recommendation is Inaudible. In

fiscal year 18-19 they were appropriated \$928,000, as of 2020 we already at \$826,000, if we cut the overtime any further they will be back looking for a transfer.

Chief Edward Lennon, PD stated that Chairman Deko echoed what he was saying. As the positions become available we will realize savings.

Chief Matthew Marcarelli, FD stated with regard to overtime we have no discretionary overtime. The only discretionary overtime is for the fireworks and the Fall Festival. Overtime covers sick time which has been lower than previous years. Injuries are unpredictable.
Inaudible

Vice Chairman Pacelli still has a question pending regarding SRO's.

Chief Edward Lennon stated yes the SRO's will be utilized in other areas during the summer months.

Vice Chairman Pacelli stated he is in favor of the new hires for the police and fire departments.

Councilwoman Hennessey stated she has the utmost respect for fire and police but has some concerns with hiring and spending during this time of a pandemic. Listening to some of the public comments with regard to taxes we cannot predict revenue that would be a true number. How does the hiring of new positions relate to overtime? How does this offset savings in overtime?

Chief Marcarelli stated yes we are hiring for a couple of different reasons, the number one reason is public safety trying to get the department to reach a national benchmark for safety for everyone. With regard to the saving, as they are promoted they are allotted their sick and vacation time. Within the next year there are 18 personnel eligible for retirement. We will see savings with benefits and Garcia, but he did account for the 4 new positions in his budget.

Councilwoman Hennessey stated this is the same for the police as well, thank you. She some of the reduction and increase and also agrees with some of the raises but maybe the people in top positions salaries could be controlled. It will be hard for some taxpayer's to take in this budget with a tax increase.

Councilwoman Parlato stated she knows we approved low interest for the unpaid portion of tax for this year. The town's revenue has a possibility to decrease during the year. Families are dealing with financial hardship and it would be fiscally responsible to reduce the mill rate as much as possible.

Councilman Ranfone understands the police department is short on the midnight shift of a supervisor; are you also short officers as well and any on special assignment?

Chief Lennon stated that at this time he has 3 in the academy, 2 in the background process and one working with the Feds who will be back soon.

Councilman Butler no questions.

Councilman Pompano when you reduce overtime does that reduce pension money? This question is for Chief Lennon could we have a guarantee that the SRO's could be utilized at the beach.

Chief Marcarelli stated that overtime is calculated in their pensions, so by reducing overtime with a full staff it does reduce the pensions. It would benefit the town to over hire 3 firefighters; we would not be in overtime mode until you got below those 3 employees, which would reduce the pensions greatly. Chief Lennon stated that is his plan to use those officers at the beach.

Councilwoman Ruggiero no questions.

Councilwoman Lesco agrees with the Chairman and his reductions as well as his additions especially for the Town Clerk, which is a vital department within Town Hall. She also agrees with Vice Chair Pacelli and Councilman Balter except for the cutting overtime wages for the Police and Fire Departments; it will just result in them coming back to the council for additional funds.

Councilwoman Capotorto no questions.

Councilwoman Glassman wanted to respond to Councilman Maltese. I understood the callers question very well for salary increases for our non-union employees. Those positions are for our Police Chief, Fire Chief, Deputy Police Chief, and Assistant Fire Chief and just want to say on the record that she supports those increases because I support the work that they do now more than ever. She also supports the Chairman's reductions and increases and some of Councilman Balter's suggestions, especially the fuel savings. She does not support the overtime cuts to public safety overtime; we are obligated by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. How much do the raises amount to collectively and how does this affect the mill rate

Inaudible

Chairman Deko stated she is correct and we would have to pay all overtime.

Chairman Deko recognized Jim Keeley, Interim Finance Director \$17,000 between all four Administrators; it affects the mill rate by 1/100 of a mill.

Inaudible

Chairman Deko no further questions.

Councilman Maltese stated he is not in favor of reducing overtime wages for either the police or fire department wages. Historically overtime wage always comes in over what is budgeted because it is difficult to determine what will happen in the future. As a result they will have to

come back before the council like they do every yeWe should be careful because at some point gas prices will be on the rise.

Councilman Santino asked the Police and Fire Chiefs, and Town Clerk if they felt the budget is fair and can you work within it.

Chief Matthew Marcarelli if you pass this budget he would have to live with it but the \$35,000 in over is driven by the contract and there is no discretionary overtime. I would end up coming back to the council for a transfer without the additional \$35,000. Based on the cuts recommended by Councilman Balter, he did his budget based on the needs of his department and would like to see them go forward. Physical and Medical should not be cut; it is an OSHA regulation. To cut the IT budget would hinder him from getting into the new millennium.

Stacy Gravino, Town thank you for running the workshops and as Chief Marcarelli stated if you pass it as it is we will have to live with it and we also would have to come back for more funding. The budgets are tight and we budget just what we think we'll need. She would like the funds for the data processing restored.

Chief Edward Lennon agrees with Chief Marcarelli and the Town Clerk we will have to live with this budget and what the Mayor recommended is sustainable. The cuts in overtime would be detrimental and I would end up coming back to the council for additional funding. Outside of that issue we can survive with the budget.

Councilman Balter stated due to Chief Marcarelli explanation for line item 0681 he rescinds that request. Also is rescinding a cut to 0887 and rescinding half of the amount of the \$2,500 to \$1,250 for line item 0657. As for the overtime within the police department you budget \$925,000 and utilized \$826,389, asking the police if he would end up using the balance in the next 4 weeks is a question he just can't answer. The last time he answered that same question 2 weeks later he ended up having 6 officers out during a major incident.

Jim Keeley, Interim Finance Director clarified that the funds for the police for Fourth of July celebration do not come out of the P.D budget they come out of 885 town requested overtime that is where you'll see the savings.

Councilwoman Cesare Inaudible. Do you have the overtime for the fire department?

Chairman Deko stated they budgeted \$377,210 and used \$412,922, which puts them over.

Councilwoman Cesare asked both chiefs if they have ever come below the amount budget for overtime.

The answer is they have not.

Vice Chairman Pacelli asked Chief Marcarelli what Councilman Pompano touched on. When we pay out pensions it is based on their overtime, correct? You anticipated 11 retirees this year?

Chief Marcarelli stated yes that is how it is calculated. Currently, he has 18 members eligible to retire.

Vice Chairman Pacelli Inaudible.

Chief Marcarelli stated they would be replaced by a much lower salary and benefits. The savings won't show in overtime but in the salaries. We can't budget for retirements.

Vice Chairman Pacelli rescinded his request for a reduction to the overtime and you all do a great job. He also rescinded the reduction to overtime in the police department overtime account, too. What would you do at the Police Department if you were to have numerous retirements?

Chief Lennon stated he is in a different situation because he has a young department compared to the fire department with regard to retirements.

Vice Chairman Pacelli supports the reductions and increases, especially for the Town Clerk's office. This is a very effective budget and we all did our best.

Councilwoman Hennessey no questions.

Councilwoman Parlato there were a lot of additions and reductions can we get an email of those. She went through the list for the Chairman to make sure they are added. I also wanted to make sure we had enough money for the employee's benefits.

Jim Keeley, Interim Finance Director yes the town will have plenty of money in that account to cover the employees benefits. Our projections for this year look really good and at this time we have \$3.5 million in the fund balance in that self-insurance account. Not concerned about it and working with a new broker really reduced the cost.

Councilman Parlato wanted to know if we could wait until next year to fill these captain positions and fill those 4 vacancies. Would it be better to wait another year?

Chief Marcarelli stated that this is not the first time this has been requested those positions have been requested repeatedly over the past 25 years. It has been reckless not to fill those positions. As chief he would like them filled. It is time to move forward.

Councilwoman Parlato just is concerned about the mill rate.

Chairman Deko did the calculation for those positions per household and it is less than \$5.

Councilman Ranfone no questions.

Councilman Butler no questions.

Councilman Pompano stated with the extra service at the beach because of the pandemic can we make the beach residents only.

Chairman Deko stated it is only his opinion that making it residents only could be cause for lawsuits. Those officers would be there to monitor the beach.

Councilman Ruggiero no questions.

Councilwoman Glassman moved to adjourn the public hearing.

Councilman Butler second the motion.

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

Public Hearing adjourned at 9:19 p