

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2012**

The East Haven Town Council will held its regular meeting Tuesday, March 6, 2012, at 7:30PM at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512 in order to transact the following:

Chairman Richard Anania called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Chairman Anania asks everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

14 Town Council members were in attendance

(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma, Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, William Richardson, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania, and Anthony Mansi)

1 Town Council Member not in attendance

(Paul Carbo)

A quorum is present.

2. Councilman Robert Parente makes a motion to approve the minutes from February 7, 2012 regular meeting. Councilman Anthony Purificato seconded the motion.

Chairman Anania advised that Bob Falcigno's term should be February 1, 2012 to February 1, 2013, this was a special appointment for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilman Robert Parente also advised that the Fund Balance year should be corrected to June 30, 2011, not June 30, 2010.

Councilwoman Beverly Gravino also advised that

13 Yes-(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma, Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania, and Anthony Mansi)

1 Abstain (William Richardson)

Motion Carries

3. Correspondence.

- A letter was received from Robert Sand advising the Town Council of his resignation from the Blight Appeals Committee, effective immediately.

- A letter was received from Arthur DeSorbo, Director of Administration & Management asking to appoint Vincent Arpino of 33 Hartman Avenue, East Haven to the Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority.
- A letter was received from Oni Sioson advising the Town Council that he is unable to serve on the town's Blight Appeal Committee.
- A letter was received from Attorney Louis A. Crisci Jr. disclosing that he is on the Board of Police Commissioners, the Commissioner on the East Haven WPCA. Attorney Crisci also advised that on occasion represents clients in front of other Agencies, Commissions and Boards of the Town as well as represent the Town in Tax Foreclosure Matters.
- A letter was received from Vincent Crudele, President eQuality Valuation Services, LLC what a pleasure it was working with Mr. Millici during the East Haven 2011 Revaluation project.

4.Subcommittee Reports

Public Safety-No new to report

Board of Education- Councilman Parente advised that they are working on the budget.

Park & Recreation- Councilwoman Gravino advised no meeting yet

Urban Renewal-Councilman Badamo advised that Home Goods is moving out of their current location.

Board of Finance- Councilman Richardson advised that the big issued they talked about was the Police Department Overtime.

5. Councilman Robert Parente made a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution confirming the appointment by Mayor Joseph Maturo Jr. of Vincent Arpino to the Water Pollution Control Authority Board. Chairman Michael Riolino seconded the motion.

Chairman Anania asks for a Roll Call vote to approve the motion:

14 Yes-(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma, Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, William Richardson, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania, and Anthony Mansi)

6. Finance Director Paul Rizza will address the Council.

Paul Rizza advised that the report he passed out was the revenue report and expenditure ending 2/29/2012. Mr. Rizza advised the Town should meet or exceed budget goals. The tax collector mailed out tax bills that should have been sent out in October were just sent out, and the payments are coming in. General revenue is close to budget numbers. Interest income rates are not good. Miscellaneous expenses (benefits, police safety awareness, etc.) are close to budget in numbers. \$85.2 million should be the revenue; it will be about \$75,000 off of budget. State of Connecticut owes monies to the town.

Mr. Rizza advised there are several problem accounts. The water account will need additional amounts transferred. Unemployment will need an additional

\$45,000. Natural gas (heat) requested budget was \$120,000, budget that was approved was \$80,000, and \$171,000 was actual use. At least \$80,000 is needed, plus the \$80,000 in the account would equal \$160,000. There would be a shortfall of \$11,000. Sewer usage had \$6,000 budgeted, \$10,600 was actual use; \$5,000 would be needed to transfer. Lump sum retirement \$280,000 is needed and \$100,000 was budgeted. Clerical retirees would be paid in 3 payments of \$78,000. There will be a fairly large number of people retiring in April & May costing between \$500,000-\$600,000, between \$375,000 to \$450,000 has to be transferred. Electricity (for Town Buildings) \$900,000 budgeted, \$980,000 actual use, need to transfer \$80,000-\$90,000 more. Some budgets were reduced by half or more than half.

Chairman Richard Anania opened the floor to Council Comment:

Councilman Robert Parente last year or the year before there was no use for \$1 million that it was cut in half to \$500,000. Mr. Rizza advised the reason the past expenditures you usually review prior year cost to obtain a baseline. Councilman Parente stated this was made to make us feel warm & fuzzy on paper.

Councilman Fred Parlato stated he was concerned about 2 accounts for one being Public Services overtime. Mr. Rizza advised that Town is still awaiting reimbursement from FEMA. All paperwork was submitted. If \$500,000 is submitted to FEMA only 75% of requested amount is reimbursed. Councilman Parlato inquired about police over time in the amount of \$139,000, would this be included in FEMA reimbursement. Mr. Rizza advised that part of the overtime would be covered. Chief Jackson is trying to find out what turnaround time is. The town is ok for cash through April-May.

Chairman Anania advised he spoke to Chief Jackson and he is very happy with the numbers and dollars that the Town will receive from the FEMA Reimbursement.

Councilman Joseph Santino asked how many union contracts are up for negotiations. Mr. Rizza advised that all of the union's contracts are up as of June 30, 2012 (6 total).

Councilman William Richardson asked if positive revenues with offset \$600,000 shortage. Mr. Rizza advised there will be a need to cut expenses in other areas. Councilman Joseph Badamo stated that letters were sent to department heads regarding possible surplus. There is also a spending freeze, open job positions are not being filled at the moment, and will this help to add to surplus? Mr. Rizza stated that some departments were very conservative with their spending. We did not come up with \$600,000 lying around.

Councilman Robert Sand asked if there a deadline for retirements so that budgeting and preparations can be made for payments. Is vacation time being monitored? Mr. Rizza advised that there is 30 days to receive retirement benefits and payments. Mr. Rizza advised that all vacation requests are hand written and signed by supervisor and Mayor's office. All vacation time is maintained in Fire Chief's office.

Councilman Michael Roiling regarding the natural gas expense used for recreation, is there room in that budget to spare?

Mr. Rizza advised that this is the only department that budgets separately for utilities. There is usually high usage because the rink closes down

7. Chief Brent Larrabee will address the Council. Deputy Chief Mannion was also in attendance

Chief Larrabee advised this is the 4th place he has been police chief. He is looking to make the police department one of the

Chairman Anania opened the floor to Town Council comment:

Chairman Anania asked if there is enough money in the budget to cover the recertification training. Chief Larrabee advised no there is not for this fiscal year. Overtime budget was \$300,000. When an officer is in training the shift has to be covered. Usually this is covered by an officer who is working overtime. Next fiscal year \$700,000 is budgeted.

Councilman Joseph Badamo stated down about 7 men. Chief advised that 47 active cops on force, 3 retired. Councilman Badamo asked about a certified vs. non certified list. Chief currently has in front of him he has a non-certified list; the test is opened to certified and non-certified officers. The

Councilman Fred Parlato asked if the Chief will perform a comprehensive study of the Police department to present to the Town to advise how to improve the Town Police Department. Chief Larrabee advised that the LEARN committee would be helping with this.

Councilman Robert Parente asked if several officers may qualify for retirement. Chief advised retirement is driven by state contracts. Some retirements can be complex. Councilman Parente inquired as to how long it will take a new recruit to go from training to a certified officer, Chief Larrabee advised it takes about 1 year to fully train.

Councilman Parente asked if Chief Larrabee was concerned about being down 7-8 officers. Chief advised if 5-6 more people left, then he would be concerned.

Councilman Michael Riolino asked if there was a barrage of Freedom of Information requests. Chief advised since he has been in office there has been about ½ dozen FOI requests. A police latent has been handling the records. Almost 40,000 pieces of paper have been generated. Councilman Riolino also inquired about the Department of Justice contacts. Chief advised the contacts are Hugh Keefe and John Hughes.

Councilman Riolino asked if there are costs associated with DOJ investigation. Chief advised yes because there will be the need to provide training.

Councilman Robert Sand asked if any town employee on workman's comp would be able to perform light duty instead of being on workman's comp. Chief advised that it would have to be determined on a case by case basis and if the Doctor will release them for light duty. Councilman Sand asked if this light duty positions could be offered to other people on Workman's comp outside of that department. Chief advised not due to contracts.

Councilman Badamo asked if a light duty person was put back to work, which would be responsible. Chief Larrabee advised that light duty personnel are not allowed to work with the public.

8. Councilman A Resolution authorizing the Town of East Haven and Town Clerk Stacy Gravino Piccirillo to enter into a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic

Documents Preservation Grant. Councilman Joseph Santino seconded the motion
Town Clerk Stacy G. Piccirillo addressed the Town Council to advise she is asking for a grant in the amount of \$65,000 to be used for preservation and restoration of land records. The monies would come from a contract with the CT State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

Chairman Anania opened the floor to Council comment:

Councilman Robert Sand asked if the grant was carried on from when Lisa Leary was in office. Stacy advised this is her own grant she is applying for.

Chairman Michael Riolino asked if the preservation would include scanning the documents electronically. Stacy advised that the books are falling apart and need to be rebound. There is no way to scan the documents.

Councilman Bill Richardson asked how often you have to apply for the grant. Stacy advised it is a yearly grant.

Chairman Anania asks for a Roll Call vote to approve the motion:

14 Yes-(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma, Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, William Richardson, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania, and Anthony Mansi)

Motion Carries

9. Councilman Gary DePalma made a motion for a Resolution to act upon and confirm the following appointments:

Board	Name	Term
Americans with Disabilities	Lori Musco	Indefinite
Blight Appeals Committee	Carl Ruggiero	3/1/2012-3/1/2014
Tweed New Haven Airport Authority	Daniel Adams	7/1/2012-7/1/2015
School Building Committee	David Anderson	2/1/2012-2/1/2015

Councilman Robert Parente seconded the motion.

Councilman Joseph Badamo asked who determines the term for the American with Disabilities to be indefinite. Attorney Joseph Zullo advised that the indefinite term is determined at the discretion of the Town Council.

Motion Carries

10. Councilman Robert Parente makes a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

Personal Touch Lawn Care

48 Brennan St

East Haven CT 06513-2604

2010-03-67056 E/S 19047

REASON: Changed Assessment per Assessor

\$592.82

TOTAL: \$592.85

Councilman Fred Parlato seconded the motion.

Chairman Anania asks for a Roll Call vote to approve the motion:

14 Yes-(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma, Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, William Richardson, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania, and Anthony Mansi) Motion Carries

11. Councilman Robert Parente makes a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

Daniel and Dawn Fries

64 Sorrento Ave

East Haven CT 06512

2010-01-3943

REASON: Double Payment made on 2nd Install

\$1964.34

TOTAL: \$2,797.87

Councilman William Richardson seconded the motion.

Councilman Joseph Santino asked if the amount of \$2797.87 was correct because it would mean we would be reimbursing double payments. Attorney Zullo advised the correct amount that should be reimbursed would be \$1964.34.

Councilman Robert Parente withdrew his motion for consideration of a refund.

Councilman Anthony Purificato seconded the motion.

Councilman Joseph Santino made a motion to approve the refund amount of \$1964.34.

Councilman Anthony Purificato seconded the motion.

Motion Carries.

12. Councilman Robert Parente makes a motion to consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

VW Credit Leasing LTD

1401 Franklin Blvd

Libertyville IL 60048\

2010-03-72796 E/S 19106

REASON: Moved 10/20/10

\$526.66

TOTAL: \$526.66

Councilman William Richardson seconded the motion.

Chairman Anania asks for a Roll Call vote to approve the motion:

14 Yes-(Robert Parente, Fred Parlato, Anthony Purificato, Gary DePalma,

Beverly Gravino, Joseph Santino, Judy Esposito, Robert Sand, William

Richardson, Joseph Badamo, Robert Cubellotti, Michael Riolino, Richard Anania,

and Anthony Mansi)

Motion Carries

13. Councilman Joseph Santino makes a motion for the Adjournment of Regular Meeting. Councilman Anthony Purificato seconds the motion.

Town Council meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxanne Melillo,
Clerk, East Haven Legislative Town Council