

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2013**

The East Haven Town Council held a regular meeting Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 7:00PM at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512.

Chairman Anania calls the meeting to order at 7:06PM.

Chairman Anania asks all to stand for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the victims of the train crash.

Item #1

Roll Call-12 present – 3 absent (Parlato, Gravino and Sand).
A quorum is present.

Item #2

Approval of minutes from the November 25, 2013 Special Meeting.

Councilman Michael Riolino makes a motion.

Councilman Joseph Badamo seconds the motion.

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

Item #3

Correspondence- a letter from Town Attorney Joseph Zullo.
See attached.

Councilman Ken McKay makes a motion to add this as Agenda item #5A.

Councilman Vincent Spaduzzi seconds the motion.

Roll call vote: 11 in favor- 1 opposition (Palladino) – no abstentions. Motion carries.

Item #4

Re-Establishment of Town Council Subcommittees by Chairman Anania.

Chairman Anania explains that the Subcommittees consist of three Council members per committee, no political affiliation is considered. They are basically fact finding committees to bring information back to the Council so it can be reviewed and if need be something can be acted upon where the Council has Authority.

Councilman Badamo asks if he can withdraw his name from the subcommittee.

Subcommittees-

- Public Safety- Robert Sand, Joseph Santino and Beverly Gravino-Councilman Sand will Chair the committee.
- Board of Education- Robert Parente, Nicholas Palladino and Vincent Spaduzzi-Councilman Parente will chair the committee.
 - Councilman Palladino asks to withdraw his name from this committee.
- Parks/Recreation- Judy Esposito, Ken Mckay and Paul Thompson Jr.- Councilwoman Esposito will chair the committee.
- Finance- Michael Riolino, Henry Butler III and Judy Esposito- Councilman Riolino will chair the committee.
- Urban Renewal- Anthony Mansi and Joseph Santino- Councilman Mansi will chair the committee.

Item #5

To consider and act upon an Ordinance authorizing the following transfer at the recommendation of the Board of Finance:

East Haven Police Department

To:

01-332-0190	Overtime Wages	\$125,000.00
TOTAL		\$125,000.00

From:

01-332-0110	Wages	\$125,000.00
TOTAL		\$125,000.00

Reason: Funds needed for overtime.

**AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE OF THE
East Haven Town Council**

**An Ordinance authorizing transfers of \$125,000.00 for
the East Haven Police Department**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven, upon recommendation of the Board of Finance, must approve transfers of monies in excess of \$50,000.00;

AND WHEREAS, the Board of Finance, on October 16, 2013, approved and recommended the following transfer to the Town Council:

East Haven Police Department

To:

01-332-0190	Overtime Wages	\$125,000.00
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TOTAL		\$125,000.00
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From:

01-332-0110	Wages	\$125,000.00
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TOTAL		\$125,000.00
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Reason: Funds needed for overtime.

NOW THEREFORE, be it **ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that said transfer is approved.

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

Submitted by:	Danelle Feeley, Council Clerk	Date: _____
Approved by:	Joseph Maturo, Jr., Mayor	Date: _____
Received by:	Stacey Piccirillo, Town Clerk	Date: _____

Councilman Mckay makes a motion.

Councilman Riolino seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Councilman Badamo asks if the \$125,000 is for the current budget, from July to present.
- Finance Director Paul Rizza says yes.
- Councilman Badamo asks how much overtime has been spent from July 1 to the present time.
- Mr. Rizza says a little over \$600,000.
- Councilman Badamo asks the total amount of overtime used for last year.
- Mr. Rizza says approximately \$1,080,000.
- Councilman Badamo asks Chief Larrabee if he is still short men.
- Chief Larrabee says they are fully funded for positions except for the three positions he mentioned before. Because of some long term illnesses/injuries and others in training mode, overtime has gone up.

- Councilman Palladino says based on the two studies done on the Police Department, one under Bob Norman and one under the last administration, they recommended an increase in man power to somewhere around 65 members total. He asks Chief Larrabee in his opinion and his experience in several Police Departments, does he feel that raising the Department to that level or somewhere close to it would help us to reduce the overtime cost.
- Chief Larrabee says there are a couple approaches. One is the Mayor's approach for civilian dispatch which he supports. In his last three stops, there have always been civilian dispatchers. This would put trained police officers on the street. The second approach is when looking at national statistics, which is 2.1 police officers per thousand. Taking that and applying it to East Haven, it would be about 60 officers give or take. The model is slightly less when you go more west because they don't use civilians to do any administrative work. We currently have 53 on the rolls; if you were to take the 5 or 6 civilian dispatch positions it kind of offsets and is almost a wash. He says that he understands the restraints as well as his wants and the desires of the Police Department. He believes that 55-57 officers is a reasonable number and it can be accomplished easily by civilianizing dispatch. He says they looked at the call volume and will continue to do it; the busiest time is 8-4 versus people assuming it is 4-12. He thinks the number of 53-57 and possibly 60 with the money to support it, but he is not saying that is what we should do. He feels the Mayor's approach for civilian dispatch is a great idea and we can re-do the numbers, look at the call volume, look at overtime and then determine what should be done in the next few years.
- Councilman Badamo asks if there are any certification requirements for the civilian dispatchers.
- Chief Larrabee says yes, they have to be certified with the State. It depends upon what they are doing, originally they were looking into just civilian police dispatch now we are looking into a public service/public safety model and there is additional training required for that. It becomes 9-1-1 at that point. He says the Mayor's approach is going towards public safety combining dispatch, fire, ems and it is about an additional three weeks of training for this approach versus just a civilian dispatch.
- Councilman Badamo says we have a 9-1-1 dispatch at the Fire Department now, will they combine it?
- Chief Larrabee says we are just beginning to roll it out and work on it; he and the Fire Chief are working on a draft job description. There are a number of things to work through but he thinks that is going to be the model.
- Councilman Badamo asks if these will have to be tested through Civil Service to which Chief Larrabee says yes.
- Councilman Riolino asks about the wages account that we will be moving money from to the overtime account, it may be too early to predict now but would there

possibly be a shortage in that account come the end of the year after this transfer. He asks if they looked into other accounts first before this one.

- Chief Larrabee says that it has been the practice since he has been here that they move the money now, then at the end of the year look for any savings or offsets from other accounts. Some positions are not filled right now which is an offset. We will look at all of this at the end of the year.
- Councilman Riolino asks if the \$125,000 is a projection for the next three months or so.
- Chief Larrabee says he had a consultation with Paul Rizza and they hope this will be it. There are some uncontrollable factors that do come in such as illnesses, vacation, etc.

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

Item #5A

A Resolution authorizing Mayor Joseph Maturo, Jr., on behalf of the Town Council and the Town of East Haven, to sign a Waste Delivery Agreement with City Carting, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven presently contracts for the disposal of municipal solid waste generated by the Town;

AND WHEREAS, said contract is set to expire on December 31, 2013;

AND WHEREAS, on November 12, 2013, the Legislative Town Council waived the Town Charter's competitive bid requirements insofar as they pertain to the Town entering into a new contract for municipal solid waste disposal and waste delivery services;

AND, WHEREAS, the Town has since entered into negotiations and developed an Agreement with City Carting, Inc. to contract for said services;

AND, WHEREAS, the Town believes that it is in the Town's best financial interests to enter into said Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Joseph Maturo, Jr., on behalf of the Town of East Haven and the Town Council, is authorized to execute said Agreement along with any and all additional documents in connection with said Agreement.

This resolution shall be effective in accordance with the East Haven Town Charter.

Dated, this _____ day of December, 2013.

Danelle Feeley,
Clerk of the Legislative Town Council

Councilman Santino makes a motion
Councilman Butler seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Councilman Palladino says that this was waived back in November when he was not there, he asks for the highlights of this. His questions are why did we waive this and how will this be beneficial to the Town.
- Town Attorney Joseph Zullo explains that the Mayor authorized a team to be put together to look into re-negotiating this contract. Initially they were going to bid out and as the team began looking at the companies it became obvious that we were better off negotiating privately, outside of the competitive bid process. They came to the Town Council with a set of proposals that they obtained from what they considered the four viable contractors. He explains that we have two companies that handle our trash; Trashmaster is responsible for the curb to curb pickup and Wheelabrator, whose contract is up, which is the facility that burns/processes the trash. He says they determined there were four companies that were feasible to take up the contract. They were City Carting , All American Waste, Wheelabrator which we currently have, and one that was further away whose price was higher. He says they came to the Council and explained that presently we are paying \$68-\$69 per ton which means that for every ton we dump or deliver to Wheelabrator, we pay \$69 to have it processed. That number under the current contract goes up at the rate of 3% each year. The next closest offer was from Wheelabrator again, they agreed to start us at a price of \$65.50 per ton and to have a 5 year contract that will escalate again at 3% each year. The Town received a proposal from City Carting and this agreement calls for a three year fixed period where the rate remains at \$65 per year for three years and then begins an escalation of 3%. 3% is the maximum that it can go up, based on the national cost of business index. If you take the max that it can go up, the cost of this contract can never exceed the cost of the next closest competitor because it starts lower and is fixed for a lower period of time.
- Councilman Palladino asks if this contract is for five years or three years.
- Attorney Zullo says it is actually through December 31, 2019 so it is a 6 year contract.
- Councilman Palladino asks if it is correct that this is a six year contract and the first three years the rate is \$65 per ton. After the three years it can go up, up to 3% per year for the next three years, and that is the most it can go up.
- Attorney Zullo says that is correct. He says he would be more than happy to go through each section if the Council wishes because it was given to them today. He adds that even if any new taxes or fees are passed, the contract makes it clear that the Town is only responsible for the fees spelled out in the contract; we are not going to inherit any future costs.
- Councilman Santino notes that the hours of operation are listed, and they are daytime hours. He asks if they have looked at these hours of operation.
- Attorney Zullo explains that they contacted Trashmaster and they indicated they are more than willing to work within the time frame this contract calls for.
- Councilman Santino says this means that the trucks are going to be on the road during the day again instead of at night like they are supposed to.

- Attorney Zullo says the current contract allows them to work within those periods of time as well and they do.
- Councilman Santino says when the truck is full they can't empty it because it doesn't open until 5 or 7am. What do they do when the truck is full at 4 AM.
- Attorney Zullo says Trashmaster indicated that every day they leave with a full truck and they make that delivery in the morning.
- Councilman Santino says that is why they are on the road during the day with busses and everything else; we are looking to avoid this.
- Attorney Zullo says again, they checked with Trashmaster who said there would not be any significant change. He says they could try to re-negotiate.
- Councilman Santino says they start at about 10:00 at night, they don't go all night with one truck, and they make a few stops to the landfill and then go back out. Where are they going to go? Can we look into this?
- Attorney Zullo says they can look into it, but they agreed to these hours because Trashmaster said there would not be any change for them.
- Councilman Palladino asks if there will be any additional expenses for Trashmaster for using this place instead.
- Attorney Zullo says they actually save money because it is closer and there is a lessened wait time. Currently, our trucks are waiting about two hours in line at Wheelabrator. This company has agreed to give us some priority as far as getting in and the lines are significantly lower at this transfer station. So we expect there will be a gas savings for wait time as well as distance traveled. Trashmaster will benefit from this savings for the next 6 months because the contract is expiring, but it will also allow us to re-negotiate costs with Trashmaster when their contract comes up next July. Overall it is a saving on the tipping cost and the transaction.
- Councilman Butler adds that the Police officers have been out riding with them and they used to pick them up at the Police Department at 4 AM and they would be back at the PD by noon. They were picking up the trash at 4 then they would bring it to the incinerator and have them back by noon.
- Councilman Santino says that was for dumpsters, not residential.
- Chairman Anania asks Arthur DeSorbo, Director of Administration and Management if they are out at night starting their pickup; he thought they couldn't because of the noise.
- Mr. DeSorbo says one of the biggest complaints we get regarding trash pickup is that they are out in the middle of the night, especially with the warmer weather when windows will be open. There are hours in the contract with Trashmaster which indicates a time that they can start pickup and they aren't able to pick up at 2:00 in the morning. A lot of time people mix up residential pickup and commercial pickup which we do not have control over, those are private contracts.
- Councilman Riolo asks if this contract is similar to Wheelabrator where they collect the trash and bring it to a facility in New Haven.
- Attorney Zullo says he is told that City Carting which operates the Stratford transfer station actually has an end point at Wheelabrator. So it goes from Stratford to Wheelabrator anyway, but we are getting a better deal from the

middle man. The agreement we have here is similar to the one we currently have with Wheelabrator, we just changed some of the terms so they would be more beneficial to us.

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

Item #6

To consider and act upon a Resolution setting the regular meeting schedule of the Town Council from January 2014 to December 2014.

Councilman Santino makes a motion.

Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

No public comment.

No Council comment.

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

Item #7

To consider and act upon a Resolution setting the regular meeting schedule of the Administrative Services Committee to the Town Council from January 2014 to December 2014.

Councilman Santino makes a motion.

Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Councilman Badamo asks if the November 24th meeting is a problem because it is close to Thanksgiving.
- Chairman Anania says it is not a problem because the meeting is on a Monday.

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

Item #8

To consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

U.S Bank

Attn: Tax Servicing

1850 Osborn Ave

Oshkosh, WI 54902

2012-03-72165 E/S 22860

Reason: Bill removed. Sent to Branford

TOTAL: \$ 641.90.

Councilman Riolino makes a motion.
Councilman Badamo seconds the motion.

No public comment.
No Council comment.
Roll call vote: all in favor- none oppose- none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #9

To consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

Ally Financial
Louisville PPC
P.O. Box 9001951
Louisville KY 40290-1951

2012-03-72406 E/S 22017
Reason: Insurance Removed 6/13

TOTAL: \$553.08.

Councilman Palladino makes a motion.
Councilman Riolino seconds the motion.

No public comment.
Council comment:

- Councilman Santino asks about the reason being the insurance was removed. Even if they remove the insurance, the taxes still have to be paid.
- Attorney Zullo explains that the reason is for an overpayment, they paid \$967.90 and the amount due was \$414.82. He thinks the tax office just did not include the full reason of vehicle sold, insurance removed.

Item #10

Adjournment of Regular Meeting.

Councilman Santino makes a motion.
Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.
Voice vote: all in favor- none oppose- none abstain. Motion carries.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:46PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danelle Feeley, Clerk, East Haven Legislative Town Council