

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013**

The East Haven Town Council held a special meeting Wednesday, December 11, 2013, at 7:00PM at the Mario Giaimo Room, East Haven Town Hall, 250 Main Street, East Haven, CT 06512.

Chairman Richard Anania calls the meeting to order at 7:00PM.
Chairman Anania asks all to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Item #1

Roll Call- 10 present – 5 absent (Mckay, Palladino, Badamo, Riolino and Butler).
A quorum is present.

Item #2

Review of and potential action on the recently-issued arbitration award with regard to the arbitration proceedings between the East Haven Board of Education and the East Haven Education Association (AKA, the “teachers’ contract”).

Likely executive session based on C.G.S. 1-210(b)(9) – “Records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining.”

- Town Attorney Joseph Zullo explains that under the Statute which governs the arbitration process for this contract, it is at the stage now where the legislative body, which is the Town Council, has the right to reject the contract or reject certain aspects of the arbitration award if they are in disagreement with it. There is no official action or vote that the Council has to take tonight if they are pleased with it. The only vote that would need to be taken is if there is dissatisfaction. If the Council is dissatisfied and wishes to reject a provision of it or the contract as a whole, it would require a 2/3 vote in favor of rejection. If they did that, they would need to specify in writing the specific reasons for the rejections at which time those would go back to the arbitration panel and they would go through another round of review and eventually a decision would be issued. At the state level it sets very specific time lines for when things have to be done so they do not linger like other contract negotiations. Attorney Zullo states that his only other piece of advice is that technically because this contract/award is still subject to rejection by the Council, this is still an active collective bargaining negotiation. For that reason he advises they go into executive session so that the Finance Director, who is essentially the person who negotiated this, can speak candidly and freely about some of the provisions of it. In order to do that they would just need a motion and a roll call vote to do so as well as specifying the people they would like included along with the Council.

Councilman Robert Sand makes a motion for the Council to enter executive session along with Finance Director Paul Rizza and Town Attorney Joseph Zullo.

Councilman Joseph Santino seconds the motion.

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

Executive session begins at 7:03PM.

Councilman Santino makes a motion to end executive session.

Councilman Robert Parente seconds the motion.

Executive session ends at 7:55PM.

Councilman Santino says that he would like to give Paul Rizza credit for all of his hard work on this contract.

Item #3

Adjournment of Special Meeting.

Councilman Parente makes a motion.

Councilman Santino seconds the motion.

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

Meeting is adjourned at 7:56PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danelle Feeley, Clerk, East Haven Legislative Town Council