

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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East Haven Board of Police Commissioners to Hold Monthly Meetings at Various Town Locations -

April 28th Meeting to be held at East Farm Village Police Substation

Mayor Joseph Maturo, Jr., and William Illingworth, Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners, announced today that, to further improve and expand the department's dialogue with residents, the Board of Police Commissioners will be hosting some of their upcoming regular monthly meetings at various locations throughout the town as opposed to the regular meeting location at the East Haven Police Department.

Maturo explained, "Our Police Department already has a healthy and open dialogue with our residents, especially thanks to the host of community policing measures put in place by Chairman Illingworth and Chief Larrabee. This new idea is just another extension of the Town's and the Police Department's efforts to enhance transparency and improve residents' access to the police department and the police commissioners."

According to the regular meeting schedule posted in East Haven Town Hall, the Board of Police Commissioners meets every last Tuesday of the month at Police Headquarters on North High Street. With this new initiative, the April 28th meeting will be held at the new East Farm Village Police Substation on Messina Drive. With the official beach season kicking off Memorial Day weekend, and in light of the new parking regulations adopted by the Commission and the Town Council, the following meeting, scheduled for May 26th, will be hosted at the Town Beach House located on Cosey Beach Avenue.

Chairman Bill Illingworth explained, "We hope that by moving the locations of some of the meetings, residents living around Town will seize the opportunities to attend, meet the Commission, and take the opportunity to voice any concerns they may have."

When asked about the legalities of moving regularly scheduled meetings, Town Attorney Joseph Zullo explained, "Since the Town is changing the locations of these meetings, they will be re-noticed as 'Special Meetings' to comply with the state's Freedom of Information laws. All other aspects of the meetings will remain the same. They will still allow public comment and be held on the same dates and at the same times as the regularly scheduled meetings. The change of meeting type simply signifies that it is not being held in the normal location."

Mayor Maturo concluded, "I applaud the Commissioners for taking a proactive, creative step to improve residents' access to the Police Commission. I encourage all residents to take advantage of the opportunities to attend meetings in their neighborhoods as they are announced in the coming months."

For more information, please contact the Mayor's Office at 203-468-3204.