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East Haven
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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
EAST HAVEN, CONN

Lisa Balter

TOWN CLERK

East Haven Town Council
Minutes

The East Haven Town Council held its Regularly Scheduled Meeting Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT in order to transact the following:

Staff Present: Jim Keeley Finance Director, Shayna Acampora Tax Collector, Mheegan Bachinski Deputy Tax Collector, Matthew Marcarelli Fire Chief, and Town Attorney Michael Luzzi.

Vice Chairman Pacelli called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll call-10 Present 5 Absent (Deko, Lesco, Capotorto, Santino, and Hedley)

Item #1

Approval of Minutes
Councilwoman Cesare moved to approve the minutes.
Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #2

Correspondence
The clerk read the following names:
The following residents sent correspondence with regard to the “Finding of No Significant Impact at Tweed New Haven Airport:”

- Lorena Venegas
- Katherine Bennett
- Jean Edwards Chieppo
- Patricia Ranney
- Andrew Laudano
- Mario Piscitelli
- Deborah Bradley
- Sandra Reiners
- Melissa Ranalli
- Muna Whitfield
- John Graham

***Statement to the East Haven Town Council from the Honorable Joseph Carfora, Mayor
2/6/2024***

Let me be clear, I stated almost immediately after the FAA issued the FONSI that the FAA presented us with no option other than to file an appeal. (CT Examiner, January 2024) We had been speaking with appellate counsel at Pullman & Comley in anticipation of the release by the FAA, so that if a FONSI was issued the Town would be prepared to take all necessary steps. The formal planning meetings started almost immediately after the December 22, 2023 FAA release. This is not a small undertaking. It is a legal endeavor that needs to be thoroughly researched, and meticulously prepared.

As I indicated in my release on December 22, I am disappointed with the FAA's decision. The proposed action will have a significant impact on our community across the board- in areas that our experts outlined in exhaustive detail throughout the Town's submission to the draft EA in March. It shocks the conscience to reason that placing a close to 200-million-dollar facility in the middle of wetlands, plus approximately 6000 parking spaces that will be at or below sea level, will not have a significant impact. Nothing that was presented by this decision is fair, safe or equitable. It in no way addresses the host of issues that a project of this magnitude presents to our community. As I stated previously, an EIS is required. The FAA has presented us with no other option but to appeal this decision.

The town has spent a significant amount of money on experts and legal representation-- to date. What is another point of frustration to me is that many of the obstacles and battles that we face today are a product of my predecessor and his administration not being engaged in any fashion in the planning stages and development of the Master Plan. But like so many issues that were dropped on my administration, we will continue to responsibly move forward with the best interests of our taxpayers in mind.

The Town will file a timely appeal. The legal reasons for the appeal will be made public once our filing is made.

*Joseph A. Carfora
Mayor*

All additional correspondence retained.

Item #3

Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Education, Library and School Building
- b. Public Health, Safety, and Welfare
Councilwoman Martin indicated that they attended the Police Commission meeting to address chronic traffic violations; running of Stop signs and Speeding.
- c. Finance
- d. Public Services, Parks, and Recreation
- e. Urban Renewal/Housing
- f. Blight
Councilman Thompson and Vollono have been receiving updates from Chuck Licata, Blight Officer.

Councilman Thompson moved to amend the agenda to remove Item #13 and add #25A and #25B.

Councilwoman Cesare second the motion.

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

Item #4

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Shayna Acampora and Mheegan Bachinski Tax Collector and Deputy Tax Collector who explained the reasons for the refunds.

1. To Consider and Act Upon a Resolution to provide a tax refund for the following: Refund \$2,348.89 / 2022-01-0000972
John Blando / payment made by CoreLogic
275 Thompson St.
Reason for Refund: sale or refinance of property; paid by both the closing attorney and bank escrow CoreLogic
2. Refund \$2,369.64 / 2022-01-0001762
Danielle Cesarato / payment made by CoreLogic
10 Clancy St.
Reason for Refund: sale or refinance of property; paid by both the closing attorney and bank escrow CoreLogic
3. Refund \$3,176.63 / 2022-01-0007078
Lautaro Fonseca / payment made by CoreLogic
247 North High St.
Reason for Refund: sale or refinance of property; paid by both the closing attorney and bank escrow CoreLogic
4. Refund \$2,523.61 / 2022-01-0010303
Kristin Varunes / payment made by Zullo, Zullo & Jacks
123 French Ave.
Reason for Refund: sale of property; paid by both the closing attorney and bank escrow Corelogic
5. Refund \$2,218.95 / 2022-01-8068
Arnold Popolizio
96 Foxon Blvd.
Reason for Refund: Taxpayer paid in full back when the 1st installment was due; sent in second installment which overpaid the account.

Councilman Thompson moved to approve the tax refunds.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #5

Councilman Thompson moved to consider and act upon setting a public hearing date for March 5, 2024 for the following transfer

To: 01 881 0970 Fire/Property Insurance \$250,000

From: 01 771 0711 Debt Service \$250,000

Councilwoman Martin second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved Meeting set for March 5, 2024

Item #6

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Paul Norwood to the Blight Appeals Board for a term to expire January 31, 2027.
Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #7

Councilman Thompson moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Robert Cubellotti to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2027.
Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #8

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Richard Caponera Jr. as a Constable for a term to expire November 15, 2025.
Councilwoman Penington second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #9

Councilman Thompson moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Anna Rose Russo as a Constable for a term to expire November 15, 2025.
Councilwoman Penington second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #10

Councilman Thompson moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of David Sagnella as a Constable for a term to expire November 15, 2025.
Councilwoman Penington second the motion.
Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.
Approved

Item #11

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Mary Sparago as a Constable for a term to expire November 15, 2025.

Councilwoman Penington second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #12

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Lia Sabin to the Board of Ethics for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #13

Item Removed, two items added

To consider and act upon the re-appointment of Susan Giangreco to the Housing Authority for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Item #13 Removed-Approved

Items #25A and 25B Added to Agenda-Approved

Item #14

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Amy Derbacher to the Old Cemetery Board for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilwoman Penington second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #15

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Ann Murray to the Old Cemetery Board for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Thompson second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #16

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Richard Caponera Jr. to the Old Cemetery Board for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #17

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Steve DeLucia to the School Building Committee for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Bimonte second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #18

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of David Gersz to the School Building Committee for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Bimonte second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #19

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Anthony Moscato to the Urban Renewal Agency for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #20

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Anna Rose Russo to the Urban Renewal Agency for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilwoman Cesare second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #21

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Roberta DeLuca to the Urban Renewal Agency to fill the unexpired term of Albert Fucci and for the term to expire January 31, 2025.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #22

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of David Gersz to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #23

To consider and act upon the appointment of William Carbone to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #24

To consider and act upon the appointment of Lawrence Lamothe as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #25

Vice Chairman Pacelli read the following to consider and act upon the approval to ratify the determination that only one polling location is necessary in the Town of East Haven for the purpose of early voting.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Albert Vitale Registrar of Voters, *Inaudible*.

Attorney Luzzi who addressed the need for an additional polling place, the Secretary of States office is requesting these additional polls during the presidential election. The cost will be going through the budget process for this polling station.

Councilwoman Martin asked if this polling place will be ongoing.

Attorney Luzzi indicated for the presidential election.

Councilwoman Cesare moved to approve.

Councilman Thompson second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #25A

Councilman Thompson moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of David Sagnella to the Housing Authority for a term to expire January 31, 2026.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #25B

Councilwoman Martin moved to consider and act upon the re-appointment of Michael Enders to the Housing Authority for a term to expire January 31, 2027.

Councilman Vollono second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

Item #26

Councilwoman Martin moved to enter into executive session.

The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. with regard to the following items.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved

1. Upon 2/3 vote, convene into executive session per C.G.S. § 1-200(6) the status of, and possible action pertaining to pending litigation regarding One Barberry Real Estate Holding, LLC, et al. v. Joseph Maturo, et al. (Case No. 3:17-cv-00985-KAD); and, Town of East Haven et al v. Allied World Insurance Company, Allied World National Assurance, and Starr Indemnity and Liability Company (Case No. 3:17-cv-01004),
2. Upon 2/3 vote, convene into executive session pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(E) and 1-210(b)(10) to discuss with legal counsel strategy and opinions relative to the proposed expansion of Tweed-New Haven Airport; and, legal strategy with respect to pending and ongoing litigation; and
3. Upon 2/3 vote, convene into executive session per C.G.S. § 1-200 (6) to discuss Drinan, Melody G. v. Town of East Haven (Docket No. NNH CV 22 6123446 S) & HARNEDY, ANDREA, CO-ADMINISTRATOR OF ESTATE OF ELE Et Al v. TOWN OF EAST HAVEN Et Al (Docket No. NNH CV 21- 6118629-S)

Councilwoman Martin moved to reconvene the regular meeting and adjourn.

Councilman Cesar second the motion.

Voice vote-all in favor. None opposed. No abstentions.

Approved-Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta A. DeLuca
Town Council Clerk