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East Haven Town Council
Minutes

The East Haven Town Council held its Regularly Scheduled Meeting Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT in order to transact the following:

Vice Chairman Pacelli called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.
Roll Call- 13 Present 2 Absent (Deko and Ginnetti)

Staff Present: Town Attorney Michael Luzzi, Fire Chief Marcarelli, Fire Marshal Miller, Michelle Benivegna Director of Administration, Charles Coyle Superintendent of Operations, Shayna Acampora Tax Collector, Deputy Tax Collector Mheegan Bachinski, and Andrea Kenney Youth Services.

Item #1

Correspondence

A letter from Lorena Venegas with regard to Tweed New Haven Airport was provided to each member and the town attorney.

Item #2

Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Education, Library and School Building
 Councilwoman Parlato indicated that year end activities are now taking place.
- b. Public Health, Safety, and Welfare
- c. Finance
- d. Public Services, Parks, and Recreation
 Vice Chairman Pacelli stated all the parks are being cut and cleaned, the roads are being swept and patched.
- e. Urban Renewal/Housing
- f. Blight

Item #3

Councilwoman Cesare made the following motion to Consider and Act Upon a Resolution to provide a tax refunds for the following in the amount of:

Refund \$4,715.26 Account #2021-01-0000008 (1270 North High Street).

Reason for Refund: An adjustment on the property's assessment was made by the Assessor after the bill was paid in full, which resulted in an overpayment. The escrow bank, CoreLogic, advised that the refund should go directly to the property owner, at 1270 North High Street LLC/dba Woodview Associates.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized the Tax Collector Shayna Acampora and the Deputy Tax Collector Mheegan Bachinski to answer any question from the council.

Ms. Acampora explain that there was a change in the assessed value, which lower the taxes and created overpayment.

A Resolution to provide a tax refund of \$4,715.26 to 1270 North High Street LLC/dba Woodview Associates.

WHEREAS, C.G.S. Section 12-129 provides that a local board of selectmen, or its equivalent, may, upon recommendation and certification of the Tax Collector, issue a refund for tax overpayments;

AND, WHEREAS, the following entity or person has requested a refund for the following overpayment:

1270 North High Street LLC/dba Woodview Associates

Account #/List: #2021-01-0000008 (1270 North High Street).

Reason: Overpayment

Total: \$4,715.26

AND, WHEREAS, the Tax Collector, via backup paperwork submitted to this Council, has recommended and certified the accuracy of this refund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said refund is approved and the tax collector is authorized to effectuate said refund.

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

Councilman Bimonte second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #4

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Annarose Russo to the Urban Renewal Commission to fill the unexpired term of William DeMayo to expire January 31, 2024.

Councilman Kikosicki second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #5

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon the appointment of Charles Coyle to the Flood and Erosion Board for a term of February 1, 2023 to expire January 31, 2026.

Councilwoman Capotorto second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #6

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon a Resolution authorizing the mayor or his duly sanctioned representative to execute any and all documents necessary for the Town of East Haven to enter into an agreement for a fire inspection compliance program with Brycer Corporation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven, or his designee is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to enter into an agreement for a fire inspection compliance program with Brycer Corporation.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Fire Marshal Miller who explained that Brycer Corporation manages the town's data base as it relates to fire safety equipment and when inspections are completed and alerts the town and those at the location that an inspection is due and required. This is no cost to the town and will greatly assist fire safety.

Councilman Thompson asked if there is a fee for those that are inspected.

Fire Marshal Miller indicate companies such as All State Fire who install fire suppression and hoods pay Brycer a fee to track.

Councilwoman Martin second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #7

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon a Resolution authorizing the mayor or his duly sanctioned representative to execute any and all documents necessary for the Town of East Haven and its Youth Services department to enter into a Data Sharing Agreement for DCF Data Enhancement Project.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven, or his designee is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to enter into a Data Sharing Agreement with Dillinger Research and Applied Data Inc, for a DCF Data Enhancement Project.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Andrea Kenney of Youth Services who explained that Youth Services Bureau analyzes all the data used to received grant money. The data sharing agreement keeps the town in compliance for any eligible grants.

Attorney Luzzi explained if we don't have the data we cannot receive grants that we are eligible for.

Councilman Kikosicki asked if the data is currently collected.

Ms. Kenney stated there is no system in place currently therefore there is no accurate data.

Attorney Luzzi stated currently there is no uniformity in receiving grants this will create uniformity through recording the data.

Councilwoman Martin second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #8

Councilwoman Cesare moved to consider and act upon a Resolution authorizing the mayor or his duly sanctioned representative to execute any and all documents necessary for the Town of East Haven to enter into an animal control mutual aid agreement with the Town of North Branford, Connecticut.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joseph Carfora, as Mayor of The Town of East Haven, or his designee is authorized and directed to execute and to deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Haven to enter into an animal control mutual aid agreement with the Town of North Branford, Connecticut.

Attorney Luzzi indicated that the council is in possession of the redlined copy explaining the legalities.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Director Michelle Benivegna and Animal Control Officer Emily Higgins.

Ms. Benivegna indicated that the Town of North Branford does not have an animal shelter, since 2005 they have had a mutual aid agreement with the Town of Branford. At this time their relationship is not comfortable for the town of North Branford. They came to us with the number of calls and their needs for our consideration. In addition, we should receive approximately \$100k in revenue. This has been an ongoing conversation for about a year.

Vice Chairman Pacelli asked if our facility could handle the addition volume.

Ms. Benivegna indicated East Haven does about 300-400 calls a year and North Branford does about 40-50 and we have budgeted for an additional part-time position and the facilities is large enough.

Councilwoman Cesare asked Ms. Higgins if that meant she would always be on call.

Ms. Higgins stated that there is enough staff to cover the additional calls.

Attorney Luzzi we will evaluate this agreement in 2 years to see if it is working for us.

Councilwoman Cesare asked if this is a set amount the town will receive and what about the vet and food bills.

Ms. Benivegna indicated that there will be an increase cost, the Finance Director, Jim Keeley is working the numbers out and that has all been considered.

Councilwoman Martin asked if we would have staff in North Branford.

Ms. Benivegna stated no it is our staff working from our facility with an extra vehicle and additional staff.

Councilwoman Martin second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Item #9

Councilwoman Cesare made the following motion to consider and act upon a Resolution authorizing the mayor or his duly sanctioned representative to execute any and all documents necessary for the Town of East Haven to adopt the 2023 SCRCOG Hazard Mitigation Plan.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven has historically experienced damage from natural hazards and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of those hazards profiled in the plan (i.e., flooding, drought, ice jams, hurricanes, severe winter storms, thunderstorms, tornadoes, and wildfires) resulting in loss of property and life and threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Haven has developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for its hazard mitigation plan update entitled **S2023 SCRCOG MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE** under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held throughout the planning process regarding the development and review of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedures for the Town of East Haven; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of East Haven, with the effect of reducing vulnerabilities and protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of East Haven eligible for funding to reduce long term risks of future hazards; now therefore be it

Be it RESOLVED by the East Haven Town Council:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official Plan of the Town of East Haven;
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them;
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance are required by 44 CFR 201.6, and FEMA are hereby adopted as part of the resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution; and
4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the required body by the East Haven Emergency Management Director.

In accordance with the authority vested in the Town of East Haven Board of Selectmen, they thereby adopt the **S2023 SCRCOG MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**.

Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized Fire Chief Marcarelli who gave a summary of the Mitigation Plan. Chief Marcarelli stated this is an evaluation of an emergency plan and hazard mitigation, which is done on a regional basis through his department and the town engineer. We are required to have SCRCOG come and evaluate our storm resiliencies, open space, and the effects of climate change. The agreement will be submitted to the Mayor for his signature and submitted to SCROOG for adoption.

Councilwoman Glassman second the motion.

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

Motion carried.

Approved

Councilwoman Cesare moved to adjourn.

Councilwoman Lesco second the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta A. DeLuca

Town Council Clerk