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East Haven

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**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN
PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2024 – 2025 FY TOWN BUDGET**

Vice Chairman Pacelli called the public hearing to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call-11 Present 4 Absent (Deko, Santino, Thompson, and Hedley)

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilwoman Cesare read the following:

In accordance with Chapter VII, Section 5 of the East Haven Town Charter, the East Haven Town Council will hold two public hearings regarding the proposed 2024 - 2025 fiscal year Town Budget, as follows:

1. A Public Hearing with regard to the Board of Education portion of said budget will be held at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Total Board of Education Appropriations	49,044,271
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Vice Chairman Pacelli recognized the follow from the public:

Michael Archambault, 41 Van Horn Drive President of Teacher's Union stated in order to keep qualified teachers and attract new qualified teachers' funds are needed meet the contractual obligations, not for more administrators. We are asking you fulfill the budget request of the BOE.

Dana Palmeri, 94 French Avenue teaches at the Academy for 17 years and urges the council for funding, this is an investment in the community.

Jeff Lendroth 320 Tyler Street stated he is not sure why every year the BOE has to go through the same issue at budget time. The town seems only cater to the elderly. Stop spending money on bull***t.

Lauren Condosta, 1 Cecelia Drive has been a teacher for 20 years and believes the funding will help with teach retention and hope that class size does not increase.

Angela Catalano, 190 Borrmann Road is a paraprofessional is pleading for funds to pay for things in the classroom instead of the teachers paying out of pocket.

Kerry Collins, 180 Meadow Street, echoes everyone sentiment and is concern about extracurricular like the drama club which empowers students.

Michaela Carbone, 34 Piscitelli Circle she only has 4 years of teaching at this time she is the most marketable and can't see class size increase. She does not want to teach elsewhere.

Thomas Hennessey, 34 Columbus Avenue he has been on the BOE for 22 years 6 months and he supports the mayor's courageous decision. This need to start a conversation to improve our school system. The previous administration had a hands-off policy toward the BOE. The council holds the purse strings. Besides health and safety, the students need educators to educated to read and write. The BOE has funds to spend. With the \$72M they receive, it amounts to \$26k per student.

Tia DePalma 10 Seaview Avenue stated she has been on the BOE since 2009, and has been through several administrations. If we do not receive funding we won't be having field trips, extracurricular, etc. The board has a very healthy relationship with the teachers. You need to do what is best for the school system.

Councilwoman Martini moved to adjourn.

Councilwoman Penington second the motion.

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

Hearing adjourned 7:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta A. DeLuca

Town Council Clerk