

**EAST HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016**

The East Haven Town Council held a regular meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2016, at 7:00PM at the East Haven Senior Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512.

Chairman Parlato calls the meeting to order at 7:10PM.
He asks all to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Item #1

Roll Call- 10 present – 5 absent (McKay, Santino, Spaduzzi, Butler III and Anania).
A quorum is present.

Item #2

Approval of minutes from the September 6, 2016 Public Hearing.

Councilman William Richardson makes a motion.
Councilman Nicholas Palladino seconds the motion.
Voice vote: all in favor-none oppose-none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #3

Approval of minutes from the September 6, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Councilman Robert Parente makes a motion.
Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.
Voice vote: all in favor-none oppose-none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #4

Approval of minutes from the September 29, 2016 Special Meeting.

Councilman Richardson makes a motion.
Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

- Chairman Parlato explains that the New Haven register quoted him as Frank Parlato and stating that for the project at 200 Tyler Street we had \$32 million dollars invested in it. What he said was that we had a little over \$32 million

dollars in bonding; that was debt services that the Town has, it had nothing to do with that project. He was either misunderstood or misquoted; he wanted to clarify it because people were upset that he was talking about \$60 million dollars but he was saying what it would be on top of our current amount.

- Councilman Richardson adds that they did come out with a correction in the paper.

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

Item #5

Correspondence-

- Mr. Rizza distributed a letter from the Auditors that was given to him addressed to the Council. Basically there is a new Federal requirement that auditing firms draft correspondence to the entity that hires the audit firm which in our case is the Town Council. The letter states what they are going to be doing during the course of their audit and how they will issue a report at the end. It is nothing new that they are doing this year versus any other year it is just that the Federal government is requiring the auditing firm to tell the hiring agency or individual what they are doing.
- Chairman Parlato says they have gotten some resignations from some of the Commissions, one just came in today so he is going to have the Vice Chairman make a list and send it electronically to all of the members to inform them of who is resigning and see if they have any suggestions or recommendations to fill the posts.

Item #6

Subcommittee Reports-

- Park/Rec- Chairman Parlato tells Councilwoman Archambault that he has a letter from Lou Pane giving recommendations for the baseball field to try and remedy the balls hitting cars and houses. He would like her to submit it to the Park/Rec Commission. They can come up with a plan they think is best to solve the problem, he thinks they have netting but no poles.
- Housing-no report
- Finance- Chairman Richardson says they have some year-end transfers one of which is for seasonal wages. There was discussion at their meeting about that and the Council will talk about it tonight.
- Board of Education-Councilman Parente says they are still ironing out some concerns with the busses. They had the Superintendent's picnic a few weeks

ago, they do it on the first Saturday after the kids go back to school with pony rides, cotton candy, pizza, etc. and it was very well attended this year and they had a great time.

- Public Safety-no report.

Item #7

To consider and act upon an "Ordinance approving a transfer of \$149,213.00 for the Police Department and Fire Department" as follows:

AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE OF THE East Haven Town Council

An Ordinance approving a transfer of \$149,213.00 for the Police Department and Fire Department

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven, upon recommendation of the Board of Finance, must approve transfers of monies in excess of \$50,000.00 in any given fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS, the Board of Finance, on August 16, 2016, approved and recommended the following transfer to the Town Council:

Police Department/Fire Department

To:

01-334-0110	Salaries	\$134,710.00
01-224-0190	Overtime Wages	\$5,528.00
01-332-0190	Overtime Wages	\$9,245.00
TOTAL		\$149,213.00

From:

01-334-0150	Vacation	\$36,959.00
01-334-0115	Part-time Wages	\$7,597.00
01-334-0530	Gas	\$14,312.00
01-885-0689	Contingency	\$90,345.00
TOTAL		\$149,213.00

Reason: To close out 2015-2016 FY.

NOW THEREFORE, be it **ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that said transfer is approved.

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

Submitted by:	Danelle Feeley, Council Clerk	Date: _____
Approved by:	Joseph Maturo, Jr., Mayor	Date: _____
Received by:	Stacy Gravino, Town Clerk	Date: _____

Councilman Parente makes a motion.

Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

No public comment.

No Council comment.

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

Item #8

To consider and act upon a Resolution to provide the following tax refund:

Nissan Infiniti LT

PO Box 650214

Dallas TX 75265-0214

Acct./List: 2015-03-64776 E/S 28433

Reason: Vehicle Sold 10/21/15

TOTAL: \$ 554.96

A Resolution to provide a tax refund of \$554.96 to Nissan Infiniti LT

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:

Nissan Infiniti LT

PO Box 650214

Dallas TX 75265-0214

Acct./List: 2015-03-64776 E/S 28433

Reason: Vehicle Sold 10/21/15

TOTAL: \$ 554.96

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 Palladino makes a motion.

Councilwoman Linda Hennessy seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Councilman Richardson asks if this is a dealership.
- Attorney Zullo says that this is a lease trust.
- Councilman Richardson asks if it is a taxpayer that has this lease.
- Attorney Zullo says the taxpayer has the lease, but the owner remits the payment. With leasing companies they submit a large check for \$10,000 or \$20,000 and they include in accounting which accounts it is for. This car sold just after the grand list started so they received a refund for the majority of the grand list year.

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

Item #9

To consider and act upon a Resolution authorizing a Transfer of \$32,501.00 for the Recreation Department as follows:

A Resolution authorizing a Transfer of \$32,501.00 for the Recreation Department

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of East Haven, upon recommendation of the Board of Finance, must approve, by resolution, transfers of monies in excess of \$25,000.00 but not in excess of \$50,000.00;

AND WHEREAS, the Board of Finance, on September 21, 2016, approved and recommended the following transfer to the Town Council:

Various Recreation

To:

01-661-0118	Seasonal Wages	\$32,501.00
TOTAL		\$32,501.00

From:

01-881-0970	Fire Insurance	\$30,702.00
01-881-0945	Excess Insurance	\$1,799.00
TOTAL		\$32,501.00

Reason: Funds needed to close out FY 2015-2016.

NOW THEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of East Haven that said transfer is approved.

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

Councilman Parente makes a motion.

Councilwoman Susan Archambault seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Councilman Richardson says he understands when they have to make overtime transfers for the Police Department or Fire Department. When it comes down to Parks/Rec he has a problem with it because they are presented with a budget that goes to the Board of Finance and the Town Council. The head of Parks/Rec never comes to the Council budget meetings or Finance meetings and now he is \$32,000 over. He knew about it ahead of time that he wasn't going to have enough money to cover the people they hired so he shouldn't have hired them or should have gone to the Town Council or Board of Finance before asking for the monies. He has a problem with it going to them now after they spent the money.
- Chairman Parlato says he attended the Board of Finance meeting and if you look at the original budget that Mr. Pane submitted he was right on track with what he wanted and the budget was cut. He also added four additional people to his staff that he didn't budget for. So the money being allocated now he would have no way of anticipating it, even though his budget was accurate he added four more people either parking attendants or something to do with the operations at the shore. He brought figures and said if they look at what he asked for originally, he

was very close to what he needed. It is not that he is looking for additional funds because he mismanaged, he is looking for additional funds because he was given more personnel and also taking into consideration the change in the minimum wage law and when adding people to it the hours added up. He did have a legitimate case for it, if he knew they would add four more people he would have put that in his budget but his budget was cut substantially.

- Chairman Richardson he understands that but the reason they vote on a budget and approve it is to make sure there are enough funds. What if every Department says they asked for x and got y but are still going to spend x; they have to stay within their budget; they have to live with what they were given.
- Chairman Parlato says but if the administration gives four more people for their operation that they have to pay, what are they to do?
- Councilman Richardson says they should go back before the Board of Finance and Town Council and say they need the money before, not after when we are closing the books.
- Mr. Rizza explains that between the time when the budget was put together and now, the seasonal wages salary was cut. This isn't for the summer that just ended, this was from a year ago and they did get an increase in minimum wage. Seasonal wages also cover the park/rec summer program and there has to be a certain number of supervisors per kid, they had a larger group of campers who pay to go to it and they needed additional people. At the beach itself, they did have more people; they hired the people to guard the parking lot to ensure the people had parking passes which was almost an everyday event. There were 2 people, 1 per lot for most of the day. Seasonal wages also includes the ball fields which are used by outside groups that pay us. Did he return some additional money? Yes. Should he have come in sometime prior to 3 weeks ago at the Board of Finance? Yes.
- Councilman Richardson says that is his point it is not a lot of money but this is going back to a year ago and he knew he had to hire those people and know he would fall short.
- Mr. Rizza says the Mayor did issue a letter to all of the Department heads that if they are going in for a transfer either at the Board of Finance or Council they should appear.
- Councilman Palladino says in living down there and that being his district, the biggest problem this year is that the attendants were not given enough hours to be there. One attendant would come in at 10:00 and say the lot is filled and they have no stickers because they weren't there to check it. People go to the beach at 6:00. He talked to several of the attendants, nice guys trying to make a couple bucks and they are dedicated to what they are doing but their hours keep getting cut and the lot is getting filled up and nobody is there to say do you belong here.

They have to extend the hours so going into the next budget they have to do a little more for that seasonal account because we all got complaints on it and that is what they have to do.

- Councilman Gary Depalma says especially in the afternoons, he can attest that after 5:00 the help is home and it is getting crazy down there. People are hanging all over the walls, drinking, etc. so they need to either add money in the police budget to put officers down there from Memorial Day to Labor Day or have added seasonal help down there that can call when the violations occur.
- Chairman Parlato addresses Steve Tracey in the audience who is a member of the Parks/Rec Commission.
- Mr. Tracey says people came to their meeting complaining about the same thing, they wanted people there after 5:00 to check everybody. He went down there himself and there are parking attendants there at 10:30.
- Councilman Depalma says it happens after they go home for the day; they can maybe get a few Police Officers on the bikes.
- Chairman Parlato says since the Council doesn't control the Park/Rec Commission and shouldn't be doing that, he thinks the Commission should come up with some recommendations on how to improve that whole process and determine if they need more help or at what times. They can make recommendations and put them through the chain of command so when it comes time for the budget process they can justify why the money is needed one way or another. If they have some facts to go with it and justify why there is an increase, they could consider getting it done to make a better situation.
- Councilwoman Judy Esposito asks when these disturbances are because she walks down there around 5:00/6:00 and it is peaceful.
- Karen Martin-15 Oak Grove Road, East Haven, CT- Ms. Martin says they have been meeting for the last year about all of the problems going on along the Shoreline; they had Officer Naccarato come to a meeting to talk to them about what his plans were for next summer to make it a little better. In the evenings there is drinking, people cooking with fire, partying, etc.
- Lori Plocharczyk-47 Cosey Beach Avenue-Ms. Plocharczyk says people who live at Victoria Beach are trying to sleep and they hear the people doing things on the beach they shouldn't be, the noise travels.
- Sal Brancati, Director of Administration & Management says he has been present at all of the meetings of the Cosey Beach Association and they have addressed numerous concerns that they had. This summer there were some issues in the parking lot after hours as well as on the beach. He spoke with the Chief and Deputy Chief and they put patrols down there in the evenings which he thinks helped part of the problem. The issue was that when they saw the uniformed officer or patrol car they went somewhere else, the officer can't stay all night long

so when the officer leaves they go back. He agrees with Council comment, the attendants come in at 10:00 and leave at 2:30, in many cases the lots already have people from out of Town with no stickers and it is too late they have already parked and gone to the beach. When the attendants leave at 2:30, more people come down. It is a public beach, people do have the right to be there but not park in the lots but it is almost impossible to monitor it once the attendants leave at 2:30. We do need more hours but it wasn't in the budget there was no money to pay them to come in at 8:00 and stay until 4:30/5:00. The only allocated resources were from 10:00-2:30.

- Councilman Depalma says they have a police substation down there; they can put someone in it.
- Chairman Parlato says he thinks the best thing is for Steve and his Commission to come up with a proposal and present it to the administration and justify the additional expense and it can go from there. The Council has the final say in the budget and usually whoever comes up with the best case gets the most money and if it is something that is affecting the quality of life there, unfortunately they created a monster down there that became very popular and you get 5% of the population who go down and spoil it for everyone else.
- Mr. Tracey says people have been going to the meetings and telling them about the beach problems but like Sal said, there is no money so there is nothing they can do.
- Town Attorney Joseph Zullo interjects and says if they want to continue on the topic of quality of life concerns at the beach they should add it on the Agenda because they are flirting with an FOI violation as it is totally off topic of the transfer. By all means it can be added.
- Councilwoman Letizia Lettieri-Morales asks if there is some sort of rule that can be enforced to say a Department head has to come to the meeting and if they don't is there some kind of repercussion for it. To put it nicely it takes a certain amount of arrogance to ask for a certain amount of money and not show up in person. So is there something they can enforce or does the administration enforce it? The Police and Fire Department are here because they are asking for money and they are there all the time when they need more money they show up and answer the questions.
- Councilman Parente says he agrees with her 100% and says they can table this tonight; it is well within their rights.
- Councilman Depalma says he agrees.
- Councilwoman Lettieri-Morales says she doesn't want to hurt Paul in any way with his budget process but personally are there any repercussions for the Department.

- Councilman Parente says there was a letter sent to the Department heads and they should be here to discuss it. There should be consequences.
- Mr. Rizza says he thinks the memorandum that was sent should maybe be reissued or reiterated.
- Chairman Parlato says he was told there would be a representative from Park/Rec here tonight and he is not here. He is a union member so he doesn't know labor wise if he has to come or not come. He thought someone would be here to explain it though but apparently not.

Roll call vote: 9 in favor- 1 opposed (Richardson)- none abstain. Motion carries.

Item #10

To consider and act upon a Resolution Appointing Robert Cubellotti to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

A Resolution Appointing Robert Cubellotti to the Board of Assessment Appeals

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Board of Assessment Appeals;

AND, WHEREAS, pursuant to the East Haven Town Charter, the Town Council is designated as the appointing authority to re-appoint an individual to said position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section I, Item 7 of the Town Council Standing Rules, the Town Council hereby appoints Robert Cubellotti to the vacancy on the Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate) for the unexpired term beginning February 1, 2015 and ending January 31, 2018.

BE IT UNDERSTOOD that Robert Cubellotti is presently an Alternate on said board and this resolution shall have the effect of appointing him as a full member;

Said appointment shall be effective in accordance with the East Haven Town Charter.

Councilman Parente makes a motion.

Councilwoman Lettieri-Morales seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Chairman Parlato thanks Mrs. Cianelli for her service; she decided to no longer pursue it. Mr. Cubellotti is experienced in real estate and has been on as an alternate so he makes for a good choice.
- Councilwoman Lettieri-Morales asks if Mrs. Cianelli sent in a letter of resignation.

- Chairman Parlato says yes they will be putting together all of the resignations electronically.
- Councilman Palladino says with all of these resignations will they be advertised as discussed?
- Chairman Parlato says yes he will get input from the Council when filling the vacancies.
- Councilman Palladino says but they will be advertised so people from the public know they are open.
- Chairman Parlato says yes electronically is probably the best way to make people aware.
- Councilman Palladino says either the Town website or ETV.
- Chairman Parlato says yes and they have openings for Urban Renewal and the Old Cemetery Board and there will soon be one on Housing because his grandson is going into the Marines.

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

Item #11

To consider and act upon a Resolution Appointing Ed Donroe to the Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate Member).

A Resolution Appointing Ed Donroe to the Board of Assessment Appeals as an Alternate Member

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate Member);

AND, WHEREAS, pursuant to the East Haven Town Charter, the Town Council is designated as the appointing authority to re-appoint an individual to said position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section I, Item 7 of the Town Council Standing Rules, the Town Council hereby appoints Ed Donroe to the vacancy on the Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate) for the unexpired term beginning February 1, 2014 and ending January 31, 2017.

BE IT UNDERSTOOD this resolution shall have the effect of appointing Ed Donroe to fill the vacancy simultaneously being created by the appointment of Robert Cubellotti as a full member of said board.

Said appointment shall be effective in accordance with the East Haven Town Charter.

Councilman Palladino makes a motion.
Councilwoman Hennessey seconds the motion.

No public comment.

Council comment:

- Chairman Parlato says he worked with Ed Donroe Sr. for many years, the family has been in East Haven he thinks longer than he has. He served on Inland/Wetland and did an admirable job and he thinks he is a good addition, he is quite receptive and he thinks it is a good choice.

Roll call vote: 9 in favor-none oppose-1 abstention (Sand). Motion carries.

Councilwoman Lettieri-Morales makes a motion to add Item #11A- discussion of beach quality of life issues.

Councilman Parente seconds the motion.

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

Item #11A

- Councilman Richardson thanks the Council for adding this as he was asked to bring something to the Council from the beach attendants and he promised he would. Several weeks ago there was a huge party with 200 people at the pavilion at the beach. They were from out of Town, not from East Haven but that is not the issue. The problem was that some of the people at this party were drinking alcohol and some had open fire on the beach. The beach attendant called the Police. Apparently there used to be signs at the beach that say no fire, no alcohol and when he approached these people they said there were no signs saying that. They requested getting signs or getting the signs back there with the rules and regulations of the beach.
- Councilman Depalma says there is a sign that says no alcohol but he doesn't know if there was ever one that say no fire.
- Councilman Parente says there is a sign on the building that says no open fire.
- Councilman Richardson says there should be a sign so it should be posted or reposted.
- Chairman Parlato asks Steve Tracey to have his Commission work with Councilman Parente to see where the signs are located and where they should be.
- Mr. Tracey says there are signs on the building when you walk in on the right.
- Deputy Police Chief James Naccarato says they discussed putting the sign that is on the building now on a pole so when you walk in you can see it. They also

talked about putting one on the far side by the bocce courts and the opening where people are walking in by the condominiums.

- Councilman Parente says there should be four signs around the pavilion properly posted on poles.
- Councilman Depalma says a lot of people will park on Bradford Avenue or George and come down Second Ave and go through the opening down there.
- Councilman Palladino says the fact that a Police Officer told them is all that was needed; legally you don't have to have a sign. He agrees they should have them and it would be nice but you shouldn't argue with Police when they tell you no fire and that is it.
- Councilman Richardson says in this case they did do that but they said there were no signs saying they couldn't.
- Councilman Palladino says there isn't a sign saying you can't murder anyone but common sense tells you not to do that.
- Chairman Parlato asks Mr. Tracey if he could get them a preliminary report so they can recommend something for the next season to eliminate a problem.
- Ms. Plocharczyk says they have been meeting with their association for about a year and the Town has been great in attending all of their meetings. It is pretty obvious from this discussion tonight that it is needed. It is obviously a public beach so anyone can come but for the parking if they are from out of Town they should be paying to park just like in every other Town. If anything that will give the Town money to pay for more attendants and get signs and help for cleanup. A lot of people are coming early and parking there. They can have a meter someplace where they put their license plate number and get a ticket to put in their window and if there isn't a ticket in the window then they get a ticket from our Police Department so they can start making some revenue on this.
- Chairman Parlato says they will have to look into different options he doesn't know legally if they can do that but if there was a parking attendant there earlier people wouldn't be able to park their cars there.
- Ms. Plocharczyk says other Towns have done it; West Haven did it with their beach she doesn't live there so she has to pay.
- Chairman Parlato says they are not the enforcement body in Town, they are the legislative body so if someone comes up with a recommendation and it meets legal, social and moral obligations and it comes to the Council they can vote and enact it. As far as the Council itself initiating something like that he doesn't think they have or should have the power to do it. There are other elected and appointed boards that should be doing this and he is more than happy to work with them to solve the problem.
- Councilman Richardson says during one of his visits to the beach about two weeks before the end of the season, he and his wife counted 70 cars that didn't

have a beach pass in the parking lot and there were 35 that had an expired beach pass at about 10:30/11:00 in the morning and there was a parking attendant there.

- Councilman Palladino says if they didn't get there until 10:30/11:00 in the morning, by 7:00 the parking lot is half full on a nice day, it is a very busy place.
- Mr. Tracey says the attendants don't start until 10:30 so that's why.
- Councilman Depalma says New Haven promotes at the entrance for people to go to East Haven because it is free.

Item #11

Adjournment of Regular Meeting.

Councilman Parente makes a motion.

Councilman Palladino seconds the motion.

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

Meeting is adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danelle Feeley, Clerk, East Haven Legislative Town Council