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**East Haven**

**DATE 05/07/2024 TIME 10:35 am**

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

EAST HAVEN, CONN

*Lisa Balter*

TOWN CLERK

## **A Special Meeting of the East Haven Town Council**

The East Haven Town Council held a Special Meeting Thursday, April 25, 2024, at the East Haven Community Center, 91 Taylor Avenue, East Haven, CT at 7:00 p.m. in order to enact the following:

Chairman Deko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call-14 Present 1 Absent (Santino)

Chairman Deko recognized Mayor Joseph Carfora who read the following statement:

First, I would like to thank the Board of Finance and the Town Council for all your hard work this budget season....

As Mayor - it is my duty to speak with you about the adjustment to our mill rate.

I am here this evening to request that you adjust our mill rate to 2.24. The reason for this request is two-fold.

One...to provide the Board of Education with a modest 250k increase and to add an additional 132k to our self-insurance line item. This request does not impact any of the minor adjustments that you proposed in your last work session.

Additionally, it in no way impacts our police and fire departments, as they remained unchanged from my budget proposal, as well.

I will address the self-insurance entry first. Our annual insurance renewal has started over the last two weeks.

Like all municipalities, our insurance costs will rise significantly. One of the main reasons is that the number of insurers in the public market is shrinking, and those who remain have to face the prospects that replacement costs in the property side of the equations are rising. This entry to self-insurance will certainly help us.

As far as Education, I want every teacher, and every resident to know that their concerns did not fall on deaf ears. Your input was invaluable, and it impacted our decision.

I also recognize that any adjustment in taxation can understandably provoke concern, and I want to emphasize that the decision we've made has been the result of careful consideration and deep reflection, fully understanding its impact on our community.

During the budget process, my intent was clear: to effectuate change and foster a dialogue between our town, me and our Superintendent. —a dialogue that could be sustained and fruitful for the benefit of our community as a whole.

In the past week, I have had productive, direct, face to face, conversations with Erica Forte and RJ Caponera—where we all voiced not only our concerns, but our commitments as well.

These discussions were marked by shared assurances to find solutions that serve the best interests of our students, teachers, and taxpayers alike. Erica and I are confident that with consistent dialogue, we can navigate the challenges ahead together.

As we move forward, I urge all residents to remain engaged and involved in the decisions that shape our community. Your feedback, your ideas, and your support are essential.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

To consider and act upon the enactment of an ordinance adopting the Town and Board of Education portion of the budget and fix the tax rate in mills for 2024-2025 fiscal year for the Town of East Haven.

Vice Chairman Pacelli read the ordinance in its entirety as follows:

At a Special Meeting of the East Haven Town Council held **April 25, 2024** the following Ordinance as introduced at public hearings on **April 16, 2024** and **April 17, 2024** was enacted, said ordinance will be forwarded on **April 26, 2024** to the Mayor for his approval.

**ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE TOWN AND BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET AND  
FIXING THE TAX RATE IN MILLS FOR THE 2024 - 2025 FISCAL YEAR OF THE TOWN OF  
EAST HAVEN**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAVEN:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of the general statutes of the state of Connecticut and the town Charter of the town of East Haven, this council is empowered to adopt a budget and set the tax rate in Mills for the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed the budget submitted by the Mayor and has held public hearings thereon; now, therefore, be it ordained:

Section 1. Anticipated revenues for the 2024 - 2025 fiscal year are as follows:

Current & Delinquent Town Taxes	\$ 80,556,745
State and Federal Grants for Education	\$ 18,764,125
State Grants and Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 1,439,063
Other State Grants	\$ 20,443
Income from Short-Term Investments	\$ 750,000
Licenses, Permits, Fees and Services	\$ 1,522,500

Miscellaneous	\$ 2,515,000
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TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES	\$ 105,567,876
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Section 2. Total Appropriations for the fiscal year are as follows:

General Government	\$ 3,551,290
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Employee Benefits	\$ 14,532,755
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Public Services	\$ 6,800,337
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Public Safety	\$ 18,082,368
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Health	\$ 393,664
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Social Services	\$ 73,313
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Counseling & Community Services	\$ 139,325
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Housing Authority	\$ 300
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Urban Renewal	\$ 3,375
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School Building Committee	\$ 450
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Library	\$ 944,036
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Recreation	\$ 562,416
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Recreation/ Ice Rink	\$ 451,615
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Youth Services	\$ 57,522
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Senior Center	\$ 311,903
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Debt Service	\$ 4,335,069
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Community Services	\$ 144,897
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Insurance	\$ 3,882,470
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General Services	\$ 2,006,500
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Total Municipal Appropriations	\$ 56,273,605
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Total of Board of Education	\$ 49,294,271
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Section 3. This ordinance shall be deemed to approve the budget proposed to the council by the Mayor on March 26, 2024, except as the same may be specifically amended by this ordinance. The Director of Finance is directed to adjust all figures and summaries in the budget to reflect the amendments, if any, to the mayor's proposed budget which are set forth in this ordinance as finally approved.

Said amendments are as follows:

To Amend the Following Appropriation Line Items:

A.	To decrease Account #01-110-0615 Registrars Printing & Binding by	\$	1,350
B.	To decrease Account #01-334-0110 Fire Dept Salaries Reimburse by	\$	45,650
C.	To decrease Account #01-662-0201 Ice Rink electricity by	\$	3,510
D.	To increase Account #01-109-0350 Town Clerk Prof Develop by	\$	1,200
E.	To increase Account #01-110-0658 Registrars Equip. Mant. Serv by	\$	1,350
F.	To increase Account #01-120-0694 Administration Other Contract by	\$	1,000
G.	To increase Account #01-555-0801 Board of Education by	\$	250,000
H.	To increase Account #01-665-0115 Senior Center Part-time Wages by	\$	1,310
I.	To increase Account #01-881-0970 Insurance – Fire/ Property Ins by	\$	178,170

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) NET APPROPRIATIONS	\$	382,520
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To Amend the Following Revenue Line Items:

A.	To increase Account # 01-01-1100 Real Estate Taxes by	\$	378,797
B.	To increase Account # 01-01-1150 MV & Personal Prop Taxes by	\$	3,723

NET INCREASE (DECREASE) NET REVENUES	\$	382,520
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Section 5. The tax rate in Mills to be levied on the taxable real estate and personal property in the town of East Haven is hereby fixed at a rate of 33.44 mills. The tax rate in Mills to be levied on the taxable motor vehicles in the Town of East Haven is hereby fixed at a rate of 32.46 mills, which is the cap set by State Statute.

Section 6. All bills for Real Estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes for the fiscal year which total \$200 or less shall be due and payable in full on July 1st 2024. Bills for such taxes which total more than \$200 shall be due and payable in two installments, one-half (1/2) on July 1, 2024, and one-half (1/2) on January 1, 2025.

Section 7. This ordinance shall be effective in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter of the Town of East Haven.

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

Motion carried

Councilman Thompson moved to adjourn.

Councilman Pacelli second the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:16p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta A. DeLuca  
Town Council Clerk