

**MINUTES**  
**JOINT BOARDS OF MAYOR AND BURGESSES AND**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING – JULY 12, 2011**

1. Mayor Robert A. Mezzo called the special meeting to order at **6:00 p.m.** with the following in attendance:

**BURGESSES:**

T. K. Rossi	L. Jackson
M. Bronko	R. Neth, absent
R. Burns	R. San Angelo
M. Ciacciarella	P. Scully
C. Ernsky	

**PRESS:**

R. DeRosa  
A. Malik  
L. Weschler

**RESIDENTS:**

None

**FINANCE BOARD:**

R. Butler, Jr.	A. Pistarelli
D. Carten	D. Scinto
R. Gallant	D. Sheridan, Jr.
M. Katra	J. Tavares, arrived 6:30 p.m.
J. Merrill, absent	

**ALTERNATES:**

K. Kiernan  
E. Linares  
J. Sampaio

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

W. McAllister, Controller  
K. Hanks, Fire Chief  
E. Murray, Deputy Fire Chief

**OTHERS:**

W. Mailicki, Fire Commission  
L. Santoro, Naugatuck Ambulance  
J. Baldelli, Jr., NA Inc. Accountant  
Attorney E. Fitzpatrick

2. Mayor Mezzo led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. Mayor Mezzo turned the meeting over to Finance Board Chairman Robert Butler, Jr. who appointed E. Linares in the absence of J. Merrill and K. Kiernan in the absence of J. Tavares.
4. Motion by T. K. Rossi and seconded by R. Burns that the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Finance Board approve a transfer request of **\$39,500.00** from **Contingency** to the **Fire Department** for the replacement of rescue tools, as recommended by Fire Chief Kenneth Hanks.  
**Motion withdrawn.**

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by T. K. Rossi and seconded by L. Jackson that the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Board of Finance approve a transfer request of **\$36,280.40** from **Contingency** to the **Fire Department** for the replacement of rescue tools, as recommended by Fire Chief Kenneth Hanks.

5. Mayor Mezzo told the Joint Boards that borough officials met with Naugatuck Ambulance Inc. and were informed they do not intend on having a full-time

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paramedic in Naugatuck starting in September. A paramedic will be dispatched from Waterbury to Naugatuck once a call is received. Mayor Mezzo said the borough's position is that there is a current agreement in place with Naugatuck Ambulance and paramedic services are to be provided to the borough. If Larry Santoro, President of Naugatuck Ambulance Inc., decides to eliminate or change the terms, the borough will have to take legal action. The current contract ends in a year. Mr. Santoro said he will extend the contract for one year with the current terms (a paramedic) and then renegotiate during the year. He said it costs \$300,000 a year to have a paramedic in town stocked with meds. He did a two year look back from May 2009 through April 2011 and the revenues were \$536,000 for both years. Twenty-five percent of the calls received required a paramedic. Twenty percent were through the interceptor service. On average there are 4,100 calls per year, 1,200 billable calls per year. When questioned, Mr. Santoro said the definition of a first responder is basic life support, the ambulance itself and advance life support is a paramedic. He also said the state will not allow his organization to have a paramedic part-time in Naugatuck. They require paramedic services to be provided full-time or eliminated. Mr. Santoro said Naugatuck Ambulance is losing money every year. When asked if they actually lost money, he said there was a profit of approximately \$4,000 over the two year look back. He is forecasting a loss for the current year. Deputy Mayor Tamath Rossi volunteered to chair an ambulance subcommittee and Matt Katra volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

**For the record:**

**T.K. Rossi:** "As a burgess and on behalf of all of my colleagues, both the finance board and the burgesses, I was extremely disappointed. I understand that you're a private company. I think very poor judgment was exercised in the fact that when you recognized that there was going to be a huge increase for you that it was, we were not made aware of it. And quite frankly to conduct business, to attempt to do this without notification, is egregious. And I don't think that it really represents a real care for patient quality of care nor for the community. And as a burgess and a member of both the Joint Boards and the Board of Burgesses, extremely upset to see this being spun in the press as something that we made a conscious decision about."

6. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by P. Scully and seconded by L. Jackson to adjourn the meeting at **7:24 p.m.**

**A digital recording of this meeting is available in the office of the Borough Clerk for further review.**

**Attest:**

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Nancy K. DiMeo  
Borough Clerk