

**TOWN OF CANAAN  
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 17, 2011  
Canaan Fire Station  
Draft Copy**

Members present: Chair Eleanor Davis; David McAlister; Dave Barney; Al Posnanski; John Bergeron; Bill Crowther; Karen Wolk; Martha Pusey; Denis Salvail; and Scott Borthwick. Also present was Town Administrator Mike Samson, Robert Reagan, and Chief Sam Frank.

Eleanor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and took attendance.

**Deliberation of Department Budgets for 2012**

Eleanor Davis noted that committee members should have an updated budget spreadsheet.

**Selectmen's Budget**

Mike Samson summarized that the Board of Selectmen is now recommending a three percent salary increase for employees now that the health insurance increase has been finalized.

Mike Samson also noted that the data processing budget has been increased by \$3,500 so that the town can sell advertising space on the town's webpage.

Mike Samson explained that the negotiated police contract does not take effect until April 2012 but that future contracts after 2012 will take effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mike Samson summarized that additional funds have been added to government buildings budget for additional custodial services at the library.

Mike Samson noted that the Department of Revenue has requested that the contingency funds be included in the department budgets so a new miscellaneous line item has been added to the police, fire, highway, transfer station, and emergency management budgets.

**Police Department: 01-4210**

There was general consensus that the Budget Committee members should receive copies of the negotiated police contract for review. It was also noted that a copy will be placed on the town's website for the public to review. Mike Samson summarized negotiated changes in the police contract including the elimination of the performance based salary increases.

Mike Samson summarized his efforts to find a more affordable health insurance plan for the town.

**MOTION** by David McAlister and seconded by Dave Barney to accept a 2012 department budget of \$506,075 for the police department budget.

**VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative**

**Cemetery Budget: 01-4195.10**

Eleanor Davis summarized that the Cemetery Trustees approved adjustments in the salary line items and that the Cemetery Trustees would be amendable to the three percent salary increase. It was explained that the funds in the contracted services line item is for tree removal, which has been broken up into a six year plan. It was noted that the power company has agreed to do some of the tree work at a reduced cost. Eleanor Davis noted that the Cemetery Trustees will apply for reimbursement from two separate funds: The Emmeline Davis Fund for the well project and the Professional Care Fund for the mowing. Eleanor Davis also noted that some funds will be encumbered for tree removal.

**MOTION** by Scott Borthwick and seconded by David McAlister to accept a 2012 department budget of \$ 31,268 for the cemetery budget.

**VOTE: 9 YES      0 NO      1 ABSTAIN (E. Davis)**

**Other Business**

Committee members reviewed draft minutes dated September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**MOTION** by Dave Barney and seconded by Scott Borthwick to accept the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011, as presented.

No corrections were suggested at this time.

**VOTE: 9 YES      0 NO      1 ABSTAIN (Denis Salvail)**

**MOTION** by Dave Barney and seconded by Martha Pusey to accept the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, as amended.

The misspelling of the word “these” was corrected in the last paragraph of page one.

**VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative**

**Next Meeting**

The next scheduled committee meeting is December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 P.M. at the fire station.

**MOTION** by Eleanor Davis and seconded by Denis Salvail to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

**VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative**