

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, November 19, 2015  
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Al Posnanski, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells;  
Budget Committee members not in attendance: Scott Borthwick, William Crowther, Patty Duszynski, Martha Pusey, Philip Smith Jr.  
Canaan Town Administer Mike Samson; recorded by Roger Lohr, not in attendance.

Final Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Ellie Davis called the meeting of the Canaan Budget Committee to order at 7:01 PM.

2. Minutes Approval

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Al Posnanski to approve the September 17, 2015 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed with 4 in favor and one abstention (Wells).

Al Posnanski made a motion which was seconded by Sadie Wells to approve the October 15, 2015 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted and amended. The motion passed unanimously. The changes were to correct the spelling of Neily and Denis, and to add Denise Rectsma to the public attendee list.

3. Committee Discussion of the CIP

John Bergeron reviewed the CIP document and Town Administrator Mike Samson commented on various items.

The health insurance premium figures are expected to be received by the December 17 Budget Committee meeting. The significant town CIP expenditures are for vehicles and roads.

A. Nonmobile Equipment

This section of the CIP budget includes mostly smaller items such as computers and radios. The largest item is the brush chipper. The state has guidelines regarding capital improvement whereby small items can be grouped together.

There was a discussion about the demolition waste and the need for scales if the town was to begin accepting such waste. Additionally, compost waste is another area that the town can organize. Construction waste is 14% (140 tons) of the town waste stream and compostible materials (such as food scraps) represent 18% (180 tons). The town could save money if it develops a compost operation.

Town administrator Mike Samson commented that the town departments are willing to move equipment acquisition dates if it would be helpful to the town budget.

#### B. Mobile Equipment

The committee looked at the police vehicle purchase schedule and it was pointed out that one of the Crown Victorias had a 10 year life expectancy in the CIP document. Mike Samson commented that the police department now has 5 full time officers and no part time officers and if 7 officers are needed in the future, another vehicle will be needed. The town has not been able to find or keep part time officers.

The water and sewer department is not going to purchase a tractor this year and the Ford will be purchased by the water and sewer account. There is a transmission problem with the Kubota.

The highway has big ticket items. The Transfer Station vehicle runs less than 7,000 miles per year.

#### C. Bridges, Roads and Buildings

These budgets are flat and the committee discussed plans for further in the future such as the highway garage renovation in 2020. The town office renovation is under consideration for 2021 and nine different plans are being considered. The \$300,000 for the office work is likely to fall short for what is needed. The office is running out of space for cabinet storage.

#### 3. Other Discussion

Chair Davis spoke about the percentage of the school budget in Canaan and Enfield. Mike Samson stated that the CIP program analysis on income and expense for the year shows that full funding for the capital reserves should be accomplished. Revenues are up again and there is a town policy to not use revenues until they are in place for two years. The revenue considerably exceeded the projection for this year.

#### 4. Adjournment

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Al Posmanski to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Next meeting of the Canaan Budget Committee is December 17, 2015 at 7:00 PM.