

**TOWN OF CANAAN
CANAAN SELECTMEN MEETING
April 3, 2007
Canaan Fire Station**

Selectmen present: Robert Reagan, Kristina Burnett, and Jay Waldner. Also present were Dana Hadley, Phillip Salvail, Al Posnanski, Eleanor Davis, Shirley Packard, Roger Cantlin, and the minute taker Christi Berube.

Robert Reagan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointments:

There were no appointments scheduled at this time.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the following minutes for approval: February 26, February 27, March 6, March 20, and March 27, 2007.

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the minutes dated February 26, 2007, as corrected.

Kristina corrected the phrase "...dependent on citizen..." and corrected that an explanation involved the "length of meetings".

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the minutes dated February 27, 2007.

No corrections were suggested.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the minutes dated March 6, 2007.

No corrections were suggested.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the minutes dated March 20, 2007.

No corrections were suggested.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the minutes dated March 27, 2007, as corrected.

Kristina corrected on page one that the hourly rate proposed for the Road Agent position for 2007 was offered to Dale Morse.

Robert Reagan corrected on page one that the \$5,000 cut from the police salaries was for the overtime line item.

Jay Waldner suggested adding the word “cost” to “debt service” on page three.

Jay Waldner suggested replacing “homeless individuals” on page four with “individuals under certain circumstances.”

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

Junk Yard Application

Dana Hadley summarized that a revised draft of the junk yard application includes suggestions that were offered at the March 6th meeting. There was general discussion and consensus that including a copy of the best management practices would be a good idea. There was general discussion as to what charge should be set for the application fee in order to cover the material costs. Dana Hadley commented that he only expects eight to ten applications once the documentation process is implemented. Jay Waldner offered to complete another draft of the junk yard application. Jay Waldner suggested the following revisions and formatting changes: extending the title to include “Certificate Approval of Junk Yard Location”; repositioning of map and lot numbers; including a statement of felony; moving #5 to the conclusion of the application and a statement to verify proof of site ownership.

Kristina Burnett suggested that the applicant should not be asked whether their site is in compliance; rather the applicant should provide a signature to testify that the site is in compliance or should provide a description of remediation plans if the site is not in compliance. Kristina Burnett also suggested that #7 needs rewording.

Jay Waldner commented that the applicant should not be asked whether their site is offensive; rather the public and the Board of Selectmen determine whether the site is offensive during the Public Hearing discussion. Jay Waldner also noted that some of the included RSAs are no longer applicable.

Kristina Burnett suggested that the wording of the last paragraph should read that the acceptance of a junk yard location “may be revoked”.

There was general consensus from the Board of Selectmen to have Jay Waldner provide a revised draft of the junk yard application for the next meeting. It was suggested that legal counsel and Paul Sanderson should review the next draft of the application.

There was general question whether penalties or fines will exist in order to enforce junk yard compliance. Jay Waldner responded that there are laws that stipulate guidelines and actions. There was general discussion that the application and guidelines are being drafted so that the Board of Selectmen will know how to react whenever a formal citizen complaint is made.

Dana Hadley explained that applications from junk yard operators will need to be filed on a yearly basis. Some applications may not require a Public Hearing. There was general discussion regarding fencing whether by natural barriers or a fence. Set back requirement were also discussed.

There was general discussion that the Department of Environmental Safety only checks junk yards for pollution and sanitary issues. There was general discussion and consensus that junk yards are a viable and valuable business for the Town of Canaan.

Default Budget

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the proposed draft of the default budget, as presented at the last meeting. Dana Hadley noted that the pickups for the yearly cyclical revaluation are completed and that no more abatement work will be scheduled during this budget year. Dana Hadley asked the Board of Selectmen whether they support the revision of the default budget without the salary and benefit line items being changed. There was general consensus from board members to maintain the salary and benefit line items.

Robert Reagan expressed concern regarding the shortage of gravel if the tentative agreement with the private land owner fails.

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to accept the default budget as presented but with the modifications that will need to be made throughout the year.

Dana Hadley asked whether he can assure Dale Morse that the Board of Selectmen will support a nomination for the vacated truck driver/laborer position. The general consensus was yes.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

Dana Hadley asked how board members would like to proceed with capital items. Dana Hadley summarized that the Ford Expedition needs to be replaced but that a new six wheel truck is also important to replace. There was general discussion that no set date

exists when the vehicle needs to be transferred from the Police Department to the Fire Department. There was general discussion regarding the ordering processing for police vehicles and that the new police cruiser ordered last fall is ready for pickup.

Kristina Burnett asked whether the transfer could be delayed until June if the dealership would be willing to hold the new cruiser until June. There was general discussion that the savings associated with the delayed purchase would be minuscule. Dana Hadley suggested that adequate cash flow in June or July would enable a cash payment for the new cruiser. There was general consensus to have

Dana Hadley calculate figures for the various options and to discuss a purchase postponement with the dealership before the next meeting.

Dana Hadley suggested that the purchase of a six wheeler should not be decided until next October or November in order to see what is left in the budget at the end of the year. There was general discussion that the major concern with the current truck is safety issues during winter season.

Al Posnanski of the Transfer Station Committee reported that the existing wiring in the conduit at the transfer station was tested and is adequate to power the new compactor. It had been thought that new wiring might be necessary but the electrician has said that there is no need to replace any of that wiring.

New Business:

Building Manager's Report

Board members reviewed a report from Tom Guillette dated through March 31, 2007. Dana Hadley informed board members that the twelve gallon water heater was replaced in the town office. Dana Hadley commented that the building manager position is working out well and that Tom Guillette is doing a good job but will be transferring to do cemetery work soon.

MS-5 Report

Dana Hadley requested signatures from the Board of Selectmen regarding the MS-5 report. Dana Hadley explained that this report is completed by the auditor but that the figures are taken directly from the town's bookkeeping system.

Other Business:

Dana Hadley noted that John Bergeron has two vacancies on the Historic Commission Committee.

Dana Hadley requested signatures on three land use change tax forms.

Dana Hadley circulated a request from National Grid regarding relocation of telephone poles on May Street. There was general discussion and consensus to have Dale Morse review the existing poles and locations and the proposed locations. Board member signatures were tabled until Dale Morse's review and feedback.

Dana Hadley received signatures from the Board of Selectmen instructing the treasurer to draw on the Town's line of credit at Mascoma Savings Bank. Dana Hadley explained that the Town of Canaan needs \$500,000 due to limited cash flow at this time. Dana Hadley added that more funds may be needed in May in order to pay the school bill.

Dana Hadley requested signatures from the Board of Selectmen regarding current use applications.

Signatures from the Board of Selectmen were received for abatement on a water bill for \$8.25.

Board members signed the water warrant. Dana Hadley noted that the water bills have been mailed.

The Board of Selectmen signed the manifest.

Robert Reagan asked whether Larry Brabant could include part descriptions on his bills since part numbers are not informative.

Dana Hadley noted that Tom Guillette and members of the Safety Committee will be attending a conference on April 4th hosted by Primex.

Pending Items and Status:

Dana Hadley summarized the status of the following pending items:

1. Barn Preservation Easements – Dana Hadley reported the assessor are working on the easements.
2. Update of Personnel Handbook – This project is under way with a committee working with Barry Cox of Local Government Center. The next meeting is scheduled on April 18th.
3. The update and codification of the Code and Ordinance Book is ongoing.
4. Survey Work at the Transfer Station – The attorney is working on title resolutions with Grafton Superior Court.
5. Junk Yard Application for Patrick Jameson – The application is still pending while the Board revises the Town's Junk Yard Application form.
6. The following have been selected for the Park Use Rules Committee: David Heath, Tom Guillette, Wally Medeiros, and Barbara Haywood. The first meeting will be scheduled in April.
7. Feedback from Local Government Center regarding bomb scare training – Sam Frank will report to the Selectmen Board in the near future.
8. Policy Committee Regarding Building Permits on Class VI/Discontinued Roads – Work is underway by the Planning Board's Sub Committee.

There was general discussion that the Conservation Commission should blaze the boundaries of the land behind the Transfer Station.

Al Posnanski informed board members that members and parents of the 4H Club have a roadside cleanup scheduled on May 19th and that a town dump truck and driver has been utilized in past years to transfer the compiled trash from the clubhouse to the Transfer Station. Al Posnanski clarified that there are fifteen to twenty participants each year. Dana Hadley commented that there may be plastic bags available from the State of NH.

Al Posnanski noted that the NRRA seminar for recycling is scheduled May 5th and 6th.

MOTION by Kristina Burnett and seconded by Jay Waldner to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 P.M.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

Respectfully Submitted,

Christi Berube, Minute Taker

Minutes Accepted by the Board of Selectmen on April 10, 2007