

Minutes
CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2007

The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by Chairman Reagan at the Canaan Fire Station. Selectmen Burnett and Waldner were present. Acting Interim Administrator Dexter Bucklin was also in attendance.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF October 23, 2007

Having reviewed the minutes the Board voted the following: Selectman Burnett moved, Selectman Waldner seconded, and the Board voted 3-0 to accept the Minutes of the October 23, 2007 meeting as amended.

Friends of Canaan Village, Inc

Carolyn Barney appeared before the Board to review the results of the public forum that was held on October 5th as a follow up to the November 2001 two day Community Profile forum. There was a general discussion of the cultural, recreational, and community activities in Canaan today and what participants would like for the future. Three subcommittees were formed: a group to study building/space issues, a wants and needs group which plans two surveys (adult and students), and a grant writing group. The Groups sentiment was that any activities generated should not impact the tax burden of Canaan residents.

Budget Projections for 2007

The Board reviewed the status of the current budget expenditures through the first three weeks of October. Although certain line items in the budget have been over expended, assuming no major emergencies, it is anticipated that the Town will be within the bottom line for 2007 year.

2008 Budget Modifications

The Board reviewed the proposed 2008 Budget; with the updated expenditures and revised cost projections, the Board made several adjustments to the Selectmen's Budget proposals. The most significant was made in the General Government line item for gasoline and diesel. With two and a half months to go in 2007 the \$60,000 budgeted has been expended. The Board increased the proposed amount for this item to \$85000 for 2008.

2008 Town Meeting First Session

Canaan has been notified by the Mascoma School district that it will hold its first session of the 2008 School District Meeting on Saturday, February 2nd starting at 9:00 AM. After

a brief discussion the Board determined that Canaan would schedule the first session of the 2008 Town Meeting for Saturday, February 2nd starting a 1:00 PM. This would provide February 9th as an emergency fall back date.

Sidewalk Snow Removal Equipment

The Board reviewed the memo prepared earlier in the year outlining the current situation and needs assessment for equipment to address sidewalk snow removal, road side mowing and park maintenance-mowing. The memo provided several recommendations to address these needs. After review, the Board's consensus was to prepare an Article for the next Town Meeting requesting \$32000 for the purchase of a Kubota B3030HSDC, or similar tractor, with attachments. Although this equipment would not address all the needs, it would provide multi purpose usage.

No Overnight Parking Notice

The Board directed that, in accordance with Town Ordinance, notice should be advertised that as of November 1, 2007 and remaining until April 16, 2008 there will be no overnight parking in Canaan between the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM.

Administrator Ad

The Board reviewed and approved the draft of an ad forwarded from the Local Government Center for the position of Town Administrator for the Town of Canaan. Barry Cox will be notified and the ad will be placed with the selected papers and recruitment sources.

Water Quality Notice

The Town has been notified that the water quality failed to meet certain minimum standards and users must be notified of this situation. The Water Department, with the assistance of DES and the firm of Wright-Pierce, continues to seek a solution to this problem. The latest modification has been to introduce chemicals into the system further down stream in the distribution system, rather than at the still well. It is anticipated that that this will allow the chemicals to be more effective in the treatment of the water.

Cell Phone Update

In researching the new cell phone contract suggested by Chief Frank several weeks back, a question of roaming charges was raised. As with the existing plan, there will be 60

minutes of free roaming calls. (Roaming calls are calls made outside the New England area) In reviewing 2007 billings it was noted that the Town has paid for over \$350 in roaming charges. The Administrator was directed to send a memo informing staff that these cell phones are for Town business and not personal use.

Granite State Fair Tax Coalition

The Coalition is requesting Towns to place a resolution on town warrants to address the issue of the unfairness of the local property tax. The Board will take the request under advisement.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:04 PM.

Robert Reagan

Kristina Burnett

Jay Waldner
Canaan Board of Selectmen