

CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Tuesday, April 22, 2008

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Reagan at the Fire Department. Selectman Borthwick, Selectman Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Phil Salvail, Ellie Davis, Al Poznanski, Jackie Lary, Bertha Shepard, Shirley Packard, Alex Crate, Ed Lary and John Bergeron. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the April 15, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Lewis moved, Selectman Borthwick seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to accept the Minutes of the meeting of April 15, 2008 as written.

Mason's request for Property Tax Abatement

The Mason's Lodge had submitted a request for a property tax abatement to the Board of Selectmen in February of 2008. The Board had requested that representatives of the Mason's come before them to explain more about the organization and the charitable work they do. Mr. Lary and Mrs. Shepard discussed the many charitable efforts supported by the Lodge including support of burn victims, educational scholarships and the free use of the Lodge for charitable events, all activities that are consistent with other organizations receiving abatements. Selectmen Reagan made a motion to grant the Lodge a sixty five percent abatement. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis. The Board voted 2-0 in favor of granting the abatement with Selectman Borthwick abstaining.

Budget vs. Actual Review

The Board reviewed the Budget vs. Actual report for April 22, 2008. Michael explained the new format for the report including a column that showed what percentage of each line item was still available. Michael mentioned that overall about 30% of the budget had been spent. Since the Town is seventeen weeks, or about one third of the way, through the fiscal year, the overall number was looking good so far. The Board reviewed the report and took questions from those in attendance. The budget vs. actual report will be reviewed again in two weeks.

Review of Uni-First Contract

Michael reported that he had obtained a copy of the Uni-First contract. This contract covers Uni-First supplying and cleaning entry and hallway runners for the Police Building and the Town Office. The Board wanted to look into purchasing our own runners for these buildings in an effort to save money for the Town. Michael has been pricing replacements for the runners supplied in the contract and was going to look into canceling the contract with Uni-First.

Timber Cut at the Transfer Station

Selectman Lewis presented an outline for a proposed timber cut at the Transfer Station. This selective cut would provide for good forest management and help to address some maintenance issues as well as allow for some clearing in areas where there may be good sources material for the road crew. The Board requested that Michael contact some area Foresters to quote on preparing a plan for the cut.

Pad for dry hydrant on Jones Hill Road

Michael reported that he had been contacted by the Road Agent, Bob Scott, with a request from a resident for the Town to supply material for a loading pad for the dry hydrant that had been put in on Jones Hill Road. This request was made as part of an agreement the resident had with the Town in regard to placing the dry hydrant on his property. The Board discussed what would be required and instructed Michael to contact the Road Agent to get the material for the pad.

Other Business

There was a request from the Historic District Commission for the Board to approve two new appointments to the HDC. Selectman Borthwick made a motion to appoint Andrew Mulligan as a regular member. Selectman Lewis seconded the motion and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of the appointment. Selectman Borthwick made a motion to appoint Tom Hudgens as an alternate member. Selectman Lewis seconded the motion and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of the appointment.

Michael reported that notices were going out to all departments with regard to a meeting with the Board on April 30, 2008 at 8 AM. This is to be the second in a series of meetings with departments to review the Budget and discuss issues of mutual concern. Shirley Packard asked if this was a public meeting. Michael replied that it most certainly was.

Michael mentioned that a Planning Board member had come to the Town office requesting the password for access to the Town account at the Registry of deeds for the purpose of doing research. Michael felt that the Board should decide if the password should be released. There was a brief discussion of the need for the Planning Board to have access when materials were available to them at the Town office. Chairman Reagan asked Michael to get an opinion from the Local Government Center with respect to this issue.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that the Town had an opportunity to utilize the services of a Bobcat with a power broom attachment to assist with the sand clean up down town. A local contractor was offering the unit for \$65/hour which would save the Town on overall labor costs for the project. The Board took the issue under advisement.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:17 PM Chairman Reagan moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to go into non public session to discuss personnel matters and advice from legal counsel. At 9:34 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to come out of non-public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by the Board. At 9:34 PM, Selectman Borthwick made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion. Selectmen Borthwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Selectman Lewis. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of adjournment at 9:35PM.

Robert Reagan

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen