

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2008**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Bob Reagan at the Fire Department. Selectman Scott Borthwick and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Al Poznanski, Phil Salvail, Nelson Therriault, Phil Carter, Pat Carter, Denis Salvail, Gayle Germain, Lois Longley, Brenda Souza, Beth Wolf, Ellen Rocke, Marvin Rocke, Karen Wolk, Police Chief Sam Frank, Cindy Neily and Amy Thurber. Selectman Lewis was not present. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the July 22, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved, Chairman Reagan seconded and the Board voted 2-0 to accept the Minutes of the meeting of July 22, 2008 as written.

**Roberta Berner, Executive Director, Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.-
Discuss Funding**

Roberta expressed her concern to the Board at having the funding for the seniors council removed from the budget. She mentioned that the center provides services for about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the seniors in Canaan. She noted that the Town had been supportive of the work of the Center in the past.

Chairman Reagan noted that the decision to not fund the Senior Citizens Council was a difficult one for the Board. With the Town in the second year of a default budget, there is little money left for contingencies. High fuel costs were going to impact the budget and would require money to come from other areas of the budget. Chairman Reagan mentioned that the Council had the use of a Town building valued at over \$270,000 and paid no taxes which is an additional savings of over \$5,700. The Town had supported warrants in 2004 and 2005 for \$60,000 worth of improvements to the building. In addition, the Town provided ongoing maintenance and repair services in the building which have totaled over two thousand dollars so far this year.

Chuck Townsend also spoke in support of Roberta's request asking that the Board to consider making any extra funds available, no matter how small, to support the Seniors and possibly be used to secure matching funds.

Roberta asked if the Board would consider making funds available should there be money available at the end of the year. Selectman Borthwick commented that the Board would consider her request.

Library Trustees – Discuss Library Renovations

Beth Wolf, Chairman of the Trustees, was present to update the Board and the Public on the status of the upcoming phase of Library renovations. Beth mentioned that all of the money from this project had come from donations. The Trustees had met with the architect and he was preparing bid documents to be sent to potential vendors. The project would be coordinated between the Trustees and the Board of Selectmen.

Cemetery Sexton- Discuss new equipment for Cemetery

Cemetery Sexton, David Heath was present to discuss a requisition he had placed for a cyclone rake for leaf clean up in the Cemeteries. David noted that he felt this was the only equipment for the job and there were no other options available. Phil Carter, Chairman of the Cemetery Trustees requested that the Board not act on this requisition until after the Trustees meeting next week, so alternatives could be discussed. The Board agreed not to act on the requisition until after the Cemetery Trustees had their meeting on August 13, 2008.

Bill Bellion, Fire Dept. Chief-Discuss Hose and Pump Testing

Chief Bellion was present to discuss a requisition that had been placed by the department for hose and pump testing. He noted that the purpose for doing the testing was to meet ISO requirements to maintain a rating for the department. This rating would impact insurance rates for commercial and residential properties in Canaan. Selectman Borthwick asked how it would impact insurance rates. The Chief explained that should the Department rating be lowered due to non compliance, insurance rates could increase for properties in Canaan. The Board will consider the input from the Chief prior to acting on the requisition.

Budget vs. Actual Review

Michael noted that at 32 weeks into the budget year 61.5% of the budget had been spent. Once again, the overall numbers are in line with the total dollar amount of the budget, but lingering areas of concern remain. Even with departments doing what they can to conserve fuel, the budget line for gasoline and diesel will most likely run out of funding by the end of September. This will require funds to be taken from other areas of the budget to pay for fuel in the last three months of the year. Michael noted that he was in the process of establishing accounts for the Highway and Fire Departments to use the State fueling station at the Maintenance shed on route 118 to take advantage of the lower pricing the State typically offers for their fuel. It will provide another option for the Town. The heating oil line may be exceeded depending on how soon the weather cools down. Michael mentioned that there had been recent reductions in fix pricing offered for fuel oil by area heating companies. Industry reports indicate that these prices may go lower, but he will continue to monitor the situation and advise the Board.

Other Business

Michael informed the Board that the Towns' Groundwater Discharge permit had been renewed by NHDES. The new permit is valid until July 27, 2013.

Michael mentioned that he would post a draft of the revised Transfer Station Ordinance and notice a public hearing for the next Board meeting on August 19, 2008. At that time the Board could take public comment and possibly vote to adopt the revised ordinance.

Michael informed the Board that the meeting with Water System Operators to review their agreement with the Town was scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 8:00AM in the town office conference room. This would be a public meeting and would be posted as such in a least two public places.

Michael mentioned that he was continuing his discussion with NHDES in regard to the force main in Orange Brook. He hoped to have drawings available for DES to review next week.

Lois Longley was present to express her continued concern with the quality of the water at her home. She was expecting the Board to have determined a course of action to present to her tonight. Chairman Reagan noted that the Board had not been able to meet with Water System Operators as of yet. Michael mentioned that he had not yet received the results of the independent water sample the Board had him take at the Longley residence. Chairman Regan explained to Lois that she would hear from either the Board or a representative from Water System Operators early next week.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:21PM Selectman Borthwick moved, Chairman Reagan seconded and the Board voted 2-0 to go into non public session to discuss personnel matters and advice from legal counsel. At 8:50 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to come out of non-public session. The motion was seconded by Chairman Reagan and voted 2-0 by the Board. At 8:50 PM, Selectman Borthwick made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session. The motion was seconded by Chairman Reagan and voted 2-0 by the Board. Selectmen Borthwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chairman Reagan and the Board voted 2-0 in favor of adjournment at 8:51PM.

Robert Reagan

Scott Borthwick

Canaan Board of Selectmen

