

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Bob Reagan at the Fire Department. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Al Poznanski, Phil Salvail, Denis Salvail, Pop Cantlin, JoAnn Poloean, Lynn Wheeler and John Bergeron. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the August 5, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to accept the Minutes of the meeting of August 5, 2008 as written.

Acceptance of Minutes of the August 12, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to accept the Minutes of the meeting of August 12, 2008 as written.

Lynn Wheeler/Candidate for Registry of Deeds

Lynn had asked to come to the meeting and introduce herself to the Board. She outlined her qualifications and her reasons for seeking office. In addition, Lynn took questions from the Board and those in attendance.

Discussion of Fall Meeting Schedule

Michael asked the Board if they had considered continuing with their current meeting schedule or wished to return to meeting every week. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to meet next on September 2, 2008, and resume their weekly meeting schedule beginning on September 16, 2008.

Public Hearing on Revised Transfer Station Ordinance

At 7:15PM Chairman Reagan opened the Public Hearing on the revised Transfer Station Ordinance. Michael read a portion of a letter received from Eric Hiltunen who was concerned that the changes to the ordinance would force recycling on the residents of Canaan. Michael explained that he had spoken with Eric and explained that the changes were to help with enforcement of existing regulations at the transfer station.

Chairman Reagan asked if there was any additional public comment. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed at 7:22PM. Michael mentioned that since the comments received required no changes to the proposed ordinance, the Board could vote to adopt the Ordinance at this time. Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adopt the Ordinance as written. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of adoption.

Al Posnanski, Chairman of the recycling committee, asked if the Selectmen and the Police Chief would meet with them to discuss enforcement of the ordinance. Chairman Reagan suggested that they could discuss this topic after the department meeting on August 27.

Dave Barney-Goose Pond Lake Association – Winter Maintenance of Goose Pond Road

Dave Barney, President of the Goose Pond Lake Association was present to discuss winter maintenance of Goose Pond Road. He outlined the history of efforts to limit salt use on the road and asked the Board to consider adopting a policy that was written in 2006 by the Road Salt Working Group. In addition he was requesting that repairs be made to parts of Goose Pond Road where there is increased risk of ice build up.

Chairman Reagan asked Dave if he had looked at septic systems in the area to see if they may be contributing to conductivity readings in the pond. Dave had not looked into it.

Al Posnanski asked if there were additional costs associated with this type of road maintenance. It was noted that in the spring, seventeen truckloads of sand had to be removed from Goose Pond Road. Selectman Lewis noted that information from a 1994 pilot study of low salt application on State Roads in Nashua had shown that “application of additional sand in test sections had created environmental concerns due to sediment deposition, but these impacts were not measured.” This study also noted that while there were savings on salt and reduced chloride levels in monitoring wells, additional costs were incurred for clean up for lawns, drainage ditches and culverts.

Chairman Reagan told Dave that the Board would speak with Road Agent, Bob Scott to get his input on this issue. In addition, they would have Bob review the list of road repairs requested by Dave.

Budget vs. Actual Review

Michael noted that at 34 weeks into the budget year 65.3% of the budget had been spent. The major concern with the Budget was that the Gasoline and Diesel line would be out of funds by the first week in September, sooner than previously thought due to extra work undertaken by the Highway Department during the heavy rains of the last few weeks. This means that even with normal, and in some cases, reduced vehicle use by Town Departments, the Gas and Diesel line would most likely still need \$35,000 to \$40,000 dollars in funding through the end of the year. Money will have to come from other areas of the budget to fund these expenditures. Michael mentioned that the program to have the Town vehicles that run on diesel start using the State maintenance shed for a fueling station should be starting in a few weeks. This should result in lower fuel costs for these vehicles.

In addition, there are potential shortages in other areas of the budget including legal expenses, insurance, mechanics parts and supplies and heating oil. This may require shifting funds from other areas of the budget to cover these expenses.

Michael mentioned that there had been further reductions in fixed pricing offered for fuel oil by area heating companies. He will continue to monitor the situation and advise the Board of any further reductions.

Discussion of Budget Adjustments

Selectman Lewis asked that the Board consider making further adjustments to the budget so additional funds would be available for gasoline and diesel. The Board reviewed three lines in the Regional Association section of the budget and voted the following:

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission: \$4,048- Motion by Selectman Borthwick to deny funding. Second by Selectman Lewis. Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Mascoma Visiting Nurses: \$15,250 – Motion by Selectman Lewis to reduce the amount of funding to \$5,250. Second by Selectman Borthwick. Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Mascoma Health Initiative: \$2,500 - Motion by Selectman Borthwick to reduce the amount of funding to \$500. Second by Selectman Lewis. Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Selectman Lewis asked Michael to total the amount of these changes as well as the changes voted from the July 8, 2008 meeting. Michael noted that the amount of the reductions in this section of the budget was \$40,448. Selectman Lewis made a motion to transfer \$40,448 from the Regional Associations to the Gasoline and Diesel line of the operating budget. Second by Selectman Borthwick. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Dave Barney asked if the Board had acted on the request of The Goose Pond Lake Association (GPLA) that they not receive the \$500 in funds voted on at the July 8, 2008 meeting. They were asking that those funds be given to the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. (GCSCCI). Selectman Lewis made a motion that the Board not fund the \$500 set aside for the GPLA. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion. The Board did not vote to move the funds to the GCSCCI pending further review.

Other Business

Given the recent increase in the price for pine, Selectman Lewis thought this might be a good time to initiate the timber cut at the transfer station. Michael will contact Jim Burnett about getting the contract started so the cut can be done in October.

John Bergeron expressed concern with the number of temporary no parking signs that are placed on Canaan Street to help control traffic at the meeting house poetry readings. He asked if we could decrease the number of signs or possibly use cones to designate the no parking areas. Chairman Reagan will contact the Road Agent to see what he would like to do.

Bill MacDonald had a list of questions for the Board regarding the involvement of the Canaan Police Department in the Central New Hampshire Special Operations Unit. The Board asked that Bill provide them with a list of questions for them to review and comment on.

Joanne Poloean was present to ask about vehicles blocking lines of sight on Route 4. Michael noted that the Town had been working with NHDOT to have a truck and flatbed trailer removed from the shoulder westbound. As of today, that vehicle had been removed. Other encroachments are being looked into and will be addressed as time and resources permit.

With no further business before the Board, at 8:34PM Selectman Lewis moved, Selectman Borthwick seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Robert Reagan

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis

Canaan Board of Selectmen