

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Ellie Davis, Al Poznanski, Phillip Salvail, Chief Bill Bellion, Chief Sam Frank, Carol Goodman, George Lazarus, Matt Wilson and State Representative Pete Solomon. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the October 21, 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 October 21, 2008 as written.

Canaan Fast Squad: Collaborative Grant Project

Carol Goodman, President of the Canaan Fast Squad spoke on behalf of the project. She noted that the reason they had taken a lead role in the project was that most of the grants they had considered needed to be pursued by 501(C) 3 not for profit organizations. While initially undertaking the project to meet the needs and objectives of the Fast Squad it quickly became apparent that there were opportunities available to pursue joint projects to provide more space for all three groups, Police, Fire and Ambulance to operate. The space was needed to meet planned growth objectives and Federal requirements for training, safety and emergency management. Carol provided a preliminary drawing of one possible configuration for a joint facility. Carol took questions from the Board and those in attendance with regard to the project. The Board had no issues with pursuing grant funding for such a project, but stressed that they needed to be kept in the loop with regard to any possible funding or commitment involving Town property or land. The Board thanked Carol for attending.

Chief Bill Bellion: Discussion of Options for Engine 3

The Board had begun a review of the options for Engine 3 with Deputy Chief George Lazarus while awaiting the arrival of Chief Bellion who was out on a call. Upon Chief Bellion's arrival, the discussion continued. The Chief presented the options available to the Town with regard to Engine 3. A preliminary estimate from Lakes Region Fire Apparatus was that \$11,000 in repairs would be required to Engine 3. The Chief discussed some recent correspondence he had received with regard to upgrading older equipment to meet NFPA guidelines which might affect Engine 3 as well. The issue would be should we spend money on an older vehicle or put money towards a newer one.

The Chief presented documentation he had received from Lakes Region Fire Apparatus regarding a 2007 Fire Engine that they have available and could outfit to meet the department's needs for \$281,875. Lakes Region would allow the Town to use this engine until a vote to purchase it could be brought to the voters at Town Meeting. There was a discussion of purchase options available to the Town. The Board decided to first review funding options before deciding whether to pursue a possible purchase of the new engine.

Selectman Borthwick asked about the status of the hose testing that had been done. The Chief mentioned that fourteen lengths of hose had failed. At Selectman Lewis' suggestion he had checked with some companies about reusing the couplings from the failed hose and just replacing the hose itself. The Chief had found a company that could do the job at a considerable savings to the Town. The Board requested that Chief Bellion submit a purchase requisition for the work for them to sign.

Mike Eastman asked about hooking up the two doors on the ambulance bays to the emergency generator so they would work during a power outage. The Board requested a requisition from Mike for the work.

Other Business

Michael made note of the following meeting dates. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen was Tuesday, November 18, 2008. The next budget committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 2008.

Michael mentioned that the steel and timbers for the North Lary Road bridge project had been ordered. The preliminary plan was for Barker Steel to prepare the span and have the road crew put it in place and deck it. Residents on the Road would be notified of the work date once the schedule is firmed up.

Michael mentioned that there have been a number of inquires with regard to the Town property for sale on Canaan Street. The deadline for receiving sealed bids is November 10, 2008.

Michael mentioned that he has received a bill for 2009 Software services for the Board to review. There is an option for early payment of the bill which would result in about a four hundred dollar savings to the Town. The bill will be available in the office for the Boards review and comment.

Police Chief Sam Frank was present to speak to the Board with regard to replacing a position that would be open in the department when Detective Chris Kilmer leaves in mid-November. He outlined his concerns with not filling the position and asked the Board for approval to begin the search process to fill the position. The Board discussed with the Chief some possible options for making changes to the level of coverage provided by the Town as well as the increased use of part time officers to fill shifts. The Chief felt that even if those changes were made he would still need to replace the position. The Board had no objection to going forward with filling the opening, but asked the Chief to explore some of the options discussed tonight.

Al Posnanski mentioned that the next meeting of the Recycling Committee would be on December 2, 2008 at 5PM in the Town Office conference room.

With no further business before the Board, at 8:54 PM Selectman Borthwick moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen