

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2008**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:05PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Phil Salvail (arrived at 7:45). Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting our pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the December 16, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved and Selectman Lewis seconded the motion to accept the Minutes of the meeting of December 16, 2008 as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Review and possible acceptance of F.A.S.T. Squad contract

The Board reviewed the copy of the revised contract that had been approved and signed by Carol Goodman, President of Canaan F.A.S.T. Inc. The only significant change to the original draft was to fix the price at \$55,000.00 per year for the three year term of the contract. With no further questions from members of the Board, Selectman Borthwick made a motion to have Chairman Reagan sign the contract on behalf of the Board. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and the Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion. Chairman Reagan then signed the two copies of the contract, one for the Board to keep on file and the second for Canaan F.A.S.T. Inc.

Other Business

Michael and the Board discussed some of the concerns raised by residents with regard to winter sand. Complaints had been received that the pile was frozen and was only available during hours the Transfer Station was open. The Board agreed to have Michael speak with the Road Agent and have the pile checked to try to keep it from freezing. The Board also agreed that the pile should stay inside the Transfer Station to be certain the sand was only being used by Canaan residents.

The Board discussed some of the options under consideration with regard to sidewalk maintenance. They agreed that the Ford Tractor with a bucket attachment and the snow blower at the Transfer Station could be used for maintenance. If the clutch were to fail on the Ford Tractor it could be replaced at that time.

The Board also discussed some options for purchasing a portable screening device for the Highway Department. Selectman Lewis had suggested that having this equipment available at the Town Pit would greatly reduce the need to purchase materials for road maintenance such as gravel and sand, because we would be able to make our own from material dug out of the pit and put through the portable screener.

There was unanimous agreement that this would represent a cost savings to the Town with the potential for a one to two year payback on the investment on a piece of equipment that could last ten to fifteen years depending on what was purchased. The Board discussed some of the options available based on information supplied by Selectman Lewis, Bob Scott and Michael. They considered the outright purchase as well as a no interest or low interest one to two year purchase of a unit. The biggest issue was trying to determine what piece of equipment would be the best value for the Town. Selectman Lewis wanted to check with one of the local contractors to see what equipment they were using. Michael was also going to follow up with a couple of the other vendors he had contacted to get referrals from local contractors who might be using some of the equipment under consideration by the Board.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that he thought it might be a good idea to write a letter in support of the idea being put forth by other area Towns that this was not the time to be spending money on the new County prison. The Board agreed and Michael said he would draft a letter for the Board to sign in support of not building the prison at this time.

Chairman Reagan also asked members of the Board if the Town should consider having the Granite State Rural Water Association (GSRWA) assist the Town with an inspection of some of the catch basins in the sewer system to see if they might have developed leaks. Michael mentioned that he had previously discussed doing this with GSRWA, possibly in conjunction with the smoke test on the sewer system. The other Board members agreed that it was worth looking into. Michael will contact GSRWA.

Chairman Reagan also asked if the Board would support the purchase of a commercial grade portable heater for the baling shed at the Transfer Station that could be used until the more permanent solution of sealing and insulating the building can be accomplished. Other members of the Board were in support of the idea. Michael will follow up with Tom Guillette.

With no other business to come before the Board at 8:12PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen

