

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Dave Barney, John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Al Posnanski and Philip Salvail. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting our pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the February 17, 2009 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 February 17, 2009 as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Budget vs. Actual

Michael reviewed the expenditures charged to date against the proposed operating budget. Dave Barney asked why we were not using the amended budget that was voted at the deliberative session. Michael replied that the only expenses that should be charged against the budget at this point are what the DRA terms “usual and customary” and should not included amended budget items.

Dave also asked if the Board was going to pay the \$315 towards the portable toilet that was used at Goose Pond this past summer. Chairman Reagan replied that the Board will pay the bill from last year, but would not be paying for any future expenses associated with the portable toilets at Goose Pond.

Continuing with the Budget review, Michael noted that overall expenses were in line with projections. Human Services rental assistance, Mechanics tools and Mechanics repair parts were running ahead of projections, but otherwise most other items were on target.

Review Impact of Potential Reduction in State Revenues to the 2009 Budget

Michael informed the Board of the potential loss of over two hundred thousand dollars in State Revenues for the 2009 Budget. The fact that these reductions were announced by the State after the Town budget had been voted on at deliberative session poses a problem. If other revenue sources cannot compensate for this loss of revenue, the money will have to be made up through further budget reductions.

Michael informed the Board that he will begin a review of the budget to see what else might be able to be cut or reduced. He will prepare a discussion document for the Board to consider at the meeting on March 17, 2009.

Discussion of Projects for Possible Stimulus Funding

Michael informed the Board that he was working on pre-applications for water and sewer projects to submit to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for stimulus funding. Among the projects included would be the well blending project, replacement of the raw main from the Lake to the water plant and the transmission main from the water plant to downtown, security fencing for the water plant, and some upgrades to the waste water treatment facility. Michael mentioned that he would be working with Wright-Pierce to develop cost estimates for these projects and would submit them to NHDES by Friday.

Dave Barney was present to ask the Board to submit a pre application for the Goose Pond Low Salt Area project. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to submit a pre-application for consideration. Michael will contact Bob Scott to get some costs for the pre-application.

Selectman Borthwick expressed his concern with accepting stimulus funding for any of these submissions with the exception of the well blending project. Michael reminded the Board that there is no commitment to accept any funds for these projects. Given the size and scope of most of them, they would require Town meeting votes and the further review and understanding of any Federal requirements to secure the funding should it be approved.

Discuss request to meet with other municipalities in our School District to review the Governor's proposed budget and its effect on the District

Michael reported to the Board that he had been contacted by Selectman Franz from Dorchester asking if the Board would be interested in issuing a joint statement with other members of the School District expressing concern with the size of the School District Budget and suggesting that voters consider rejecting it. Michael also mentioned that he had been contacted by the Town of Enfield asking if members of the Board could attend their March 2, 2009 meeting to discuss concerns with the State budget. Michael told the Board that he would be happy to attend the Enfield meeting on behalf of the Board. He could speak with Selectmen Franz from Dorchester as well since he would be at the Enfield meeting as well. Chairman Reagan said he would go to the Enfield meeting as well.

Michael informed the Board that the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) would be holding a meeting on March 2, 2009 to poll the member Towns with regard to what positions they would like NHMA to take towards some of the budget issues before the State Legislature. Michael will attend the meeting on behalf of the Board.

Other Business

Michael mentioned that he will be picking up the 2008 Town Reports in the morning. They will then be distributed to various locations in Town for residents to pick up.

Michael reported that the initial round of Transfer Station letters will be mailed out on Wednesday. Fifty five letters will be going out. Michael will be submitting another list of plate numbers to the Police Department for address verification prior to sending out the next round of letters.

Michael mentioned that Chairman Reagan can be at the polls on Tuesday, March 10, 2009. The Board will each take a four hour shift so that a Selectman will always be present during voting hours and, after the votes are counted, to sign the ballot seal.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:31 PM Selectman Lewis moved and Selectmen Borthwick seconded a motion to enter into non public session. The Board voted 3-0 by roll call vote to go into non public session to discuss advice from legal counsel. At 9:58 PM Selectman Lewis made a motion to come out of non-public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 9:58 PM Selectman Lewis made a motion to seal the minutes of the non public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 9:59 PM Selectman Lewis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen