

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 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: Al Posnanski, Philip Salvail, Ellie Davis and Matt Wilson. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting our pledge of allegiance.

Minutes of May 26, 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 May 26, 2009 meeting as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Minutes of June 3, 2009 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Lewis moved and Selectman Borthwick seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Budget vs. Actual

Michael reviewed the 6/8/09 budget worksheet with the Board and those present. He noted that 23 weeks into the budget year account balances should be near 56.00%. The overall balance is at 57.36%. Michael noted that most of the lines that were of concern because of lower than expected balances earlier in the year continue to be closely monitored. They include Health and Safety, Government Buildings Repairs and Maintenance, Police Department Overtime, Welfare Rental Assistance and Welfare Utility Assistance. Michael also mentioned that the Highway salt line was overspent in an effort to purchase as much salt as the shed would hold before the June 1 price increase. This would save the Town money in the long run. Chairman Reagan asked about the Auditing Services line. Michael commented that the bill for the audit came in under budget by \$1,576.76. This was due to the auditors having to spend less time reviewing the books due to the quality of the work performed by Gloria, Vicky, Cindy and Kendra. Selectman Lewis asked about expenditures against the Recreation Maintenance and Repair line. Michael mentioned that one of the charges against it was for last years' share of the Portable Toilet at Goose pond. He said he would check on the other expenses.

Review and approval of Septage Agreement

Michael presented the Board with two proposals for septage agreements from the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District. They are one of the two back up facilities the Town uses for disposal of septage when our lagoons are not available. One proposal was for a one year agreement at \$150.00. The second was for a five year agreement at \$100.00/year. Selectman Lewis commented that the Town has been using this facility for many years and they provide a good level of protection for Canaan. He thought the five year agreement would be a better option to pursue. Chairman Reagan agreed that the \$250.00 savings over the term of the agreement was a benefit. Selectman Borthwick made a motion to accept the five year agreement. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 in favor by the Board. The agreement was signed by the Board and given to Michael to forward to Plymouth for their signatures.

Review and approval of Revised Contract for River Road Bridge

Michael informed the Board that he had received the contract for the final phase of the River Road Bridge project from H.E. Bergeron Engineers. In addition, Chris Fournier had e-mailed a breakdown of the fees associated with the final phase of the project. It included adjustments to accommodate the shift in funding from 80/20 State Bridge Aid to funding supported predominantly with federal dollars. The changes added \$110,753.00 to the overall project estimate. Michael noted that he needed to review the impact of the cost increases with DRA prior to having the Board approve the contracts so he requested that the Board postpone the discussion at this time.

Other Business

Michael informed the Board that he had attended a meeting at the High School to discuss the State's safe routes to school program. There is funding available for projects that would support programs encouraging students to walk and bike to school. Presently, the funding is only for schools with grades K thru 8. After a brief presentation regarding the program, attendees discussed how this program might work in both Enfield and Canaan. Another meeting is planned in August to discuss if it is practical to pursue developing a funding request.

Michael mentioned that he was preparing a written procedure for Transfer Station Personnel to follow in an effort to assist with enforcement of permits at the Transfer Station. He should have a copy available next week for review.

Michael mentioned that the sewer smoke testing was still on schedule for 6/16-6/18. The long term pump test for the well project is also scheduled for the same time. The load cell testing on the wastewater plant has been pushed back to the week of June 23rd due to scheduling conflicts.

Michael asked the Board if they wanted to have a representative from Wright-Pierce at the Special Town Meeting on June 23. The Board felt that it would not be necessary, but did think that it would be helpful to have a representative from DES present. Michael said he would contact Rick Skarinka to see if he would be available.

Selectman Borthwick asked about the buoys for the swimming area. Michael commented that he and Tom had been getting prices for replacement buoys because we did not have enough for the swimming area. Michael thought the order would be placed no later than Thursday.

There was also a brief discussion of placing the markers for the reservoir area. Michael mentioned that he had spoken with Joe Frazier to find out if he might be able to assist should Judge Fleetham not be available. Matt Wilson said that he may have access to a boat if we needed one. Michael was going to follow up with Joe to see how to best complete this task.

Selectman Lewis asked about the status of State Revenues and the State Budget process. Michael provided an update to the Board and noted that it would appear that nothing would be resolved on the State Budget until the end of June at the earliest. Most of the uncertainty with regard to the budget remains. In addition, there is growing concern about a large drop in State Revenues and how it could impact the budget. Michael noted that there is a proposed amendment to a bill being considered that would allow communities to conduct a special Town meeting to reconsider budget appropriations from last spring in light of the potential loss of State revenues.

Selectman Lewis suggested that we extend the hiring freeze and begin a preliminary review of cuts that could be made to the budget to compensate for any revenue shortfalls. He felt that everything should be considered, including layoffs. Michael commented that he had begun a review of the budget earlier in the year to look at where cuts could be made and would revisit the matter. The other members of the Board agreed and asked Michael to look through the budget.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:17 PM Selectman Borthwick moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 by roll call vote to go into non public session to discuss a personnel matter and advice from legal counsel. At 9:41 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to come out of non-public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 9:41 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to seal the minutes of the non public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 9:42 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen