

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009**

The meeting was brought to order at 6:30PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator, Michael Capone, were also in attendance. Others present and those who joined the meeting in progress: Ellie Davis, Phil Salvail, Al Posnanski, Steve King, Dale Morse, Richard Wheeler, Duane Mansur, Wesley Mansur, Ross Longley and Steve McKinney. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting our pledge of allegiance.

Meeting with Transfer Station Personnel

Transfer Station personnel Steve McKinney and Ross Longley were present to discuss operations at the Transfer Station. There was a consensus that given the procedures that were already in place, the station could be run effectively with no changes to staffing after Glenn leaves in January. Vendor call lists were all set. Michael said that he would speak with the road agent to be certain that the grounds were cleared of snow so residents and employees could access all areas of the station. Time cards and time sheets would be available from the Town office. The employees would still have their pro-rated sick and vacation time available to them. Michael informed the Board that he had spoken with Jon Lounder regarding his availability to fill in as needed and that it would not be a problem.

There was also some discussion with regard to continuing to allow Orange residents to recycle and how to step up enforcement. It was agreed that these areas needed further review.

Meeting with Highway Crew

Steve King, Dale Morse and Richard Wheeler were present to discuss their concern with the lack of overtime available to the highway crew. They were upset that they were being called in early to work and not being allowed to stay after their eight hour shift to get more overtime. They were told by the Road Agent, Bob Scott, that if there was work to do, there would be overtime, but he would not have employees hanging around if there was nothing to do.

Selectman Lewis mentioned that he had no problems with paying overtime to employees provided there was productive work to be done. He agreed with the Road Agent that employees should not be sitting around doing nothing.

There was a concern expressed that employees were being called in, sent home and then called back in on the same day. The employees felt that if they came in for a shift and there was still work to be done, they should not be sent home only to come back later the same day.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that the Board would review the matter with the Road Agent, but he also felt all work time needed to be productive time.

Steve King mentioned that employees had not received raises for the past three years.

Selectman Lewis corrected Steve and reminded him that, including 2010, it would only be two years. He also noted that the Board needs to control expenses in these uncertain economic times and suggested that employees who felt they needed to make more money consider looking for other jobs.

There was some discussion involving all present with regard to the call out for the last storm and the how priorities were assigned. Selectman Lewis noted that the Board would review the call out policy and make adjustments to it if necessary.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that the Board will also review this issue with the Road Agent. The Board thanked Steve, Dale and Richard for coming in and for their service to the community.

Minutes of December 1, 2009 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Lewis moved and Chairman Reagan seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2009 meeting as written. The Board voted 2-0 in favor of the motion.

Minutes of December 2, 2009 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Lewis moved and Chairman Reagan seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting as written. The Board voted 2-0 in favor of the motion. Chairman Reagan also made a motion to approve the minutes of the executive session from the December 2, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis. The Board voted 2-0 in favor of the motion. Chairman Reagan also made a motion to unseal the executive session minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis. The Board voted 2-0 in favor of the motion.

Budget vs. Actual

Michael reviewed the Budget vs. Actual report of 12/14/09 with the Board. There was a brief discussion with regard to how best to handle budget adjustments. The Board decided to continue discussion of the matter at the 12/29/09 meeting when Selectmen Borthwick returns.

2010 Budget Update

Michael mentioned that the 2010 bill for the County Prosecutor had come in and the amount of the bill was \$27,138. Since this was below the preliminary estimate, Michael was going to suggest that the budget committee revisit the legal budget and reconsider their vote.

Michael also asked the Board if they wanted to consider adjustments to the Transfer Station budget in light of the changes that will go into effect at the first of the year. The Board wanted more time to consider the changes and suggested that the matter be taken up at the meeting on 12/29/09.

Michael reminded those present that the next budget committee meeting would be on Thursday, December 17 at 7PM at the Senior Center. Michael was going to submit a draft of the Default Budget and projected revenues for 2010 at that meeting. He noted that a copy of the draft was in the Board's box to review.

Other Business

Michael informed the Board that he was working with Wright-Pierce to refine the original project estimates for the filter sand replacement and clear well baffling at the Water plant.

Chairman Reagan asked if the Board wanted to consider charging commercial properties a fee for recycling instead of not allowing them to recycle at all. He thought that it might help both the Town and the businesses. Selectman Lewis expressed his concern that the Transfer Station was set up to handle household material and he did not want to see taxpayer dollars spent on commercial businesses.

Duane Mansur voiced his concern that the Highway crew was not utilizing their time effectively. During a recent storm, he traveled a school bus that had not been sanded and then noticed that the Highway crew was downtown removing snow. He felt that sanding the school bus routes should be a priority. Selectman Lewis said that he would speak to the Road Agent.

Al Posnanski expressed his concern with regard to a potential conflict of interest with Selectman Lewis having the contract to haul roll offs to Lebanon for the Town. Chairman Reagan noted that the contract had been put out to bid and been awarded when Tim was not a member of the Board. Michael mentioned that he planned to review the contract and put it out to bid again next year.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:30 PM Selectman Lewis moved, Chairman Reagan seconded and the Board voted 2-0 by roll call vote to go into non public session to discuss a personnel matter. 8:35 PM Selectman Lewis moved, Chairman Reagan seconded and the Board voted 2-0 by roll call vote to come out of non public session. At 8:35 PM Selectman Lewis moved, Chairman Reagan seconded and the Board voted 2-0 by roll call vote to seal the minutes of the non public session. At 8:36 PM Selectman Lewis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chairman Reagan and voted 2-0 in favor by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen