

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2010**

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

Minutes of December 29, 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 December 29, 2009 meeting as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Library Renovation Bids – Open and Review with Trustees

The Library Trustees had requested that the Board open the bids received for the Library Renovation project that will remove the stage area on the first floor of the Library. Chairman Reagan noted that this project was being funded entirely by private donations and would not use any tax money.

Library Trustee, Tom Guillette, was present to represent the Trustees. Chairman Reagan opened each of the seven bids received. The bids were then given to Tom to take to the Library Trustees for their review and consideration. Since this project is privately funded, the Library Trustees will make the final decision with regard to the vendor with whom they will contract.

2010 Budget Update

Michael provided an updated budget worksheet for the Board to review. In addition to the proposed budget numbers for 2010, the worksheet included the final budget expenditures for 2009. There were no questions from the Board with regard to the 2009 numbers.

Michael asked the Board if there were any other adjustments they wished to make to their 2010 recommended Budget. The Board offered no further adjustments. The final total for the Selectmen's recommended budget was \$2,989,874.00.

Default Budget-Review and Discussion

The Board reviewed the draft copy of the Default Budget Michael had presented to the Board members at the December 29, 2009 meeting. Michael explained how he had arrived at the numbers for the Default Budget. The Board reviewed the draft and agreed that no changes were necessary. The Default Budget for 2010 will be \$3,207,088.00.

2010 Estimated Revenues – Review and Discussion

The Board reviewed the non property tax revenue estimates for 2010 as well as the 2009 non property tax revenue numbers that Michael had provided for them at the December 29, 2009 meeting. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to accept the estimates as presented. The Selectmen's estimated non property tax revenues for revenues for 2010 will be \$1,231,984.00.

Review Warrant Article Submissions

Michael presented the Board with a list of warrant articles for their review. Pursuant to a vote taken at last years Town meeting, the Board would be required to provide a vote tally for each article with a note to recommend or not recommend.

The votes for each article were:

Article 2

Article 2: Operating Budget – the Board did not vote pending final number from the Budget Committee

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$176,825.00) for Water and Sewer Operations for the Town of Canaan. These funds are raised by user fees and are not funded by property taxes.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to Authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire or sell land and/or buildings in accordance with RSA 41:14-a. This authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the Town meeting.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Nine Dollars (\$345,789.00) to pay the outstanding balance on two USDA loans. This sum to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance (surplus) and will require that no amount be raised from taxation.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the previously established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund and name the Governing Body (the Board of Selectmen) as Agents to Expend.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund established in 1944 with said funds and accumulated interest to be transferred to the Water and Sewer Surplus account.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to be added to the previously established Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend.

The Board of Selectmen **recommends** this article **3-0**

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease agreement for One Hundred Six Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$106,560.00) for the purpose of leasing a backhoe for the Highway Department to replace the existing 2004 JCB backhoe, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty One Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$21,312.00) for the first years payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease agreement for Ninety Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$97,817.00) for the purpose of leasing a front end loader for the Highway Department to replace the existing 2001 Komatsu Loader, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Three Dollars and Thirty Six Cents (\$19,563.36) for the first years payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 12

To see if the Town of Canaan will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) for paving Roberts Road and a portion of Goose Pond Road.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 13

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Eighty Six Thousand Dollars (\$186,000.00) to purchase a new cab, chassis, sander body and plow equipment to replace the 2001 Freightliner dump truck and authorize the withdrawal of Sixty Six Thousand Dollars (\$66,000) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of One Hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) is to come from general taxation.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 14

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Eight Thousand Dollars (\$98,000.00) for the replacement of the 2004 550 Ford one ton dump truck.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 15- Petitioned Article

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to give the hourly, non union paid employees a 3% raise.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 16 – Petitioned Article

Shall the Town appropriate the sum of Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$2,100.00) to help support the crisis intervention and support services and community outreach and violence prevention programs at WISE (Women’s Information Service) located in Lebanon, NH and serving the Town of Canaan as well as twelve additional towns in the Upper Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 17 – Petitioned Article

We request that Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) be appropriated to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. for services to Canaan residents in 2010. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, the town food pantry, transportation, adult in-home care, outreach support, Service Link support and more. In 2009, Grafton Senior Citizens Council, Inc. provided services for 316 Canaan residents (Service Link:73 Residents), and the cost of providing these services was \$186,091.65.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 18 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town of Canaan will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$7,600.00) to go to Advance Transit, Inc. for services to Canaan residents in 2010. These services include transportation for work, shopping and appointments. In 2008, 10856 passenger trips boarded Advanced Transit in Canaan. Advance Transit provided services to the Town of Canaan at a cost of \$93,000.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 19 – Petitioned Article

Shall the Town appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$9,700.00) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients’ homes and in community settings by the **Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH**. In 2009, the VNA & Hospice of VT and NH made 1,969 homecare visits to 168 residents and provided approximately \$108,101 of uncompensated care to Canaan residents.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 20 – Petitioned Article

Shall the Town of Canaan raise and appropriate Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$3,300.00) for the support of West Central Behavioral Health. This appropriation will be used for uninsured and underinsured Canaan residents who use West Central Behavioral Health’s psychological, psychiatric, case management, vocational, respite and emergency mental health services. Last year one hundred twenty one (121) Canaan residents were patients of West Central Behavioral Health. 61 of the 121 residents were children.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 21 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to designate Goose Pond Road from the Hanover town line to Talbert Hill Road as a low salt (Type 5) road as defined in NH Department of Transportation (DOT) policy. Winter maintenance shall follow DOT recommendation for Type 5 roads to use abrasives only. The use of sand mixed with a minimum amount of salt to keep it from freezing would satisfy this requirement.

The Town shall provide appropriate signage during the winter maintenance period to notify the public of this policy.

At the end of the winter maintenance period, the Town shall sweep up the sand on Goose Pond Road. Excess sand shall also be cleaned from culverts by the Town as necessary to keep sand from entering Goose Pond.

This will help to minimize the harmful effects to Goose Pond of the chloride and phosphorous contained in road salt.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 22 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to continue to maintain and operate the bathhouse located at the Canaan Street beach. The Town may solicit and use volunteers or organizations to assist with labor and/or materials, but it shall be the Town's ultimate responsibility to maintain and operate the bathhouse. The bathhouse shall be open daily, at least eight hours per day, from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. The bathhouse shall not be demolished. A portable toilet shall not replace the bathhouse.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Article 23 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town of Canaan will vote pursuant to RSA 673 to establish a **Heritage Commission** to identify and promote preservation and appreciation of historic buildings and sites. The Commission will work to research, record, and inventory historic resources, assist the Planning Board as requested and advise local agencies and boards. This vote will authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint five citizens as members of the Heritage Commission pursuant to the provisions of RSA 673:4-a and RSA 673:5, and to appoint up to three additional citizens as alternate members, or take any other action relating thereto.

The Board of Selectmen **does not recommend** this article **3-0**

Other Business

Michael presented the Board with a copy of the amended services agreement from H.E. Bergeron Engineers for the River Road bridge project for their signature. After a brief discussion, Selectman Lewis made a motion to accept the agreement and authorize Chairman Reagan to sign on behalf of the Board. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 in favor by the Board.

Michael also informed the Board that the project had been advertised for bid. The construction requirements are that the project begins in May with substantial completion by the end of July, 2010.

Michael also had copies of the Water System Operators agreement, the agreement from our Auditors and the agreement from the Assessors for the Board to review and discuss at their next meeting.

Michael mentioned to the Board that he had been contacted by Pat Mercer, a Selectman from Orange with regard to recycling. She had been informed by some residents from Orange that there was an agreement with Canaan and NHDES tied to recycling funding that would allow Orange residents to recycle in Canaan. Another provision is that Canaan would provide stickers to Orange for recycling. Michael had not found anything with regard to the matter and was going to contact Pat to find out what information she had. Al Posnanski suggested that Michael look back through some of Dexter's old files to see if he had any information with regard to an agreement.

Selectman Lewis asked Michael to send a memo to Chief Bellion and Chief Frank asking about the status of the ordinance review that had been discussed during 2009.

Selectman Lewis mentioned that he had been contacted by David Zani with regard to a possible lot line adjustment and some changes to a Right of Way on a property abutting the old landfill along route 4. Michael mentioned that he had pulled the file on this property and would place it in the Selectmen's review basket in the Office.

Tom Guillette asked if there had been any changes made to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Senior Center. Michael informed Tom that there as yet have been no changes to the previous agreement.

Al Posnanski noted that the tonnage per container for the loads of material going out of the Transfer Station had gone down recently. Selectman Lewis and Chairman Reagan noted that this usually happens in the winter because the cold temperatures prevent material from compressing as much as it does in warmer weather.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that he had received an inquiry with regard to purchasing winter weight coveralls for employees at the Transfer Station. It was noted that other employees had not received them and as such it was probably not practical to issue them to the Transfer Station employees.

With no further business before the Board, at 9:12 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 in favor by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen

