

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

The public meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Reagan. Others present: Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Marcia Wilson and TA Michael Samson. Members of the public included Al Posnanski, Phil Carter, Patsy Carter, Omer Ahern (Grafton County Commissioner), and Ellie Davis

Minutes of June 14, 2011

Motion by Marcia Wilson to approve the minutes. Second by Scott Borthwick.  
Unanimously approved.

**Street Light Hearing**

Samson indicated that the hearing was published in the Valley New and all abutters were notified of the planned action. Ellie asked why there was a light at the end of both Highland and Graceville Road. It was noted that they are both intersections and the policy was to leave the lights at intersections, even if they are only fifty feet apart. Carters asked why the light was being removed at the end of Fox Hill. Since it is an intersection, it should stay. It was noted that one could be removed below Moss Flower on Canaan Street but since it was not warned it will be left for now. There were no further comments. If no further objections are received by July 26<sup>th</sup>, the Town will proceed to have the lights shut-off.

**Hearing on Advertising at Williams Field**

The hearing is to determine if there are any objections to selling advertising space on the fences at Williams Field with revenue to go to the non-lapsing recreation fund. There were no objections and there was a consensus of the board to sell advertising space as long as the signs were professional in appearance.

**Report of Ohmer Ahern**

Commissioner Ahern addressed the Board of Selectmen and answered questions. He noted that originally, there was an anticipated tax increase of 14% that the County Commissioners were able to reduce to 8.18%. There has been a reduction in equipment costs by deferring equipment replacement. Ohmer reminded the Town that the Grafton County Dispatch Center is available to dispatching if the Town wants us to have them do the work. He discussed the new nursing home (which has a waiting list) and the new corrections facility (which has a capacity of 250 and current population of 150). 90% of the corrections facility food comes from the farm operation. Grafton County is one of the few operating farms left. Other cost savings were in health care where the co-pay and deductibles were increased and through tight billing oversight of nursing home billing by the State of New Hampshire. Ohmer asked that he be allowed to visit quarterly and the Board welcomed him.

**Transfer Station Operations Manual**

Samson reviewed the organization of the Manual. The Board indicated that the sticker requirement was only that they have a sticker, not that it be attached to the vehicle. After

discussion, it was agreed by the Board that the resident have a sticker attached someplace on the vehicle or on a placard that they carry provided that their name is marked in permanent ink on the sticker. There were two other suggestions made by Al Posnanski that would allow some discretion regarding assistance to transfer station patrons and also included batteries on the list of recyclables. The Board also asked that the date of approval be printed on the operations manual. Scott Borthwick moved approval of the Operations Manual with all of the proposed changes. Marcia Wilson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Junk Yard Enforcement Policy

Samson reviewed the proposed policy regarding junk yard enforcement. Al Posnanski wanted to know how far the enforcement would actually go. He understood what the policy said and that it was currently limited to a very few cases but wanted to make sure that the public would be advised if the intent changed and broader enforcement was contemplated. Samson suggested that a clause be added that in the event that any enforcement notices were to be mailed, that the proposed action be noticed for a Selectmen's meeting at least 30 days prior to the initiation of enforcement. The Board concurred with the suggested change and asked that the policy be advertised for hearing in July.

#### RIB Project

There was a general discussion of the RIB project and water and sewer rates. The state has not yet issued a permit to allow for the new rapid infiltration beds. Samson will continue to push to get the beds started next week. The Board indicated that when the new capacity is available, applicants should be required to pay more for renewals of connection applications to penalize them for holding capacity allocations without actually constructing the projects or using the capacity. Samson indicated that he would include the ideas in the revised rate structures for water and sewer that are to be completed in July and August. He noted that Granite State Rural Water is scheduled to come in on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The strategies for capacity management include water reduction for the largest users to reduce sewage flows and a rate structure that encourages conservation and sewage minimization. The second strategy is to dose the RIB's each day to reduce the average daily rate. The third strategy is to reduce rain loading of the lagoons.

#### Tax Abatements

The Assessor's recommendations for tax abatements as well as the proposed rejections of abatement requests were reviewed and signed by the members of the Board.

#### Henley and Rodgers Deeds

The Board reviewed and signed quit-claim deeds for the Henley and Rodgers properties that were redeemed.

#### Other Business

Indian River Nursery School. Marcia asked that since there was a prior restriction against advertising and the Indian River Nursery School had made a donation of \$50 for a sign on the fence which they were later required to remove, the Town should refund the \$50

donation. She moved that the Town make the refund. Seconded by Scott Borthwick and unanimously passed.

South Road Manure. Samson was asked to include the Board when the South Road manure discussions were undertaken.

Facility Tours. Samson was asked to set up facility tours for the public at the water, waste water facilities during September. It was suggested that we could include fire, highway, police and transfer station facilities as well.

Board Meetings at Meeting House. The Board recommended that both August Meetings be held at the Meeting House.

Beach use by Enfield. Samson was asked to contact Steve Schneider at Enfield about life guard coverage at Canaan Street Lake Beach if the recreation program at Canaan is using our beach.

Canaan Recreation. Marcia described the reorganized recreation program in Canaan.

Library Plantings. The Board indicated by consensus that the proposed plantings in front of the Library be approved.

Bulldozer Purchase Order. The Board signed for an extension of the bulldozer purchase order but asked that it be fully utilized or stored at the Highway Garage.

At 9:05 PM Selectmen Borthwick made a motion to enter non-public session to discuss potential litigation under 91-A:3 II(b) (e) &(c). The motion was seconded by Selectmen Wilson and voted 3-0 by a roll call vote of the Board.

At 9:28 PM Selectman Wilson 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 9:30 PM Selectman Wilson 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 9:31 PM Selectman Wilson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by the Board.

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Robert Reagan, Chairman

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Scott Borthwick

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Marcia Wilson  
Canaan Board of Selectmen