

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, August 9th, 2011**

The public meeting at the Meeting House 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, John Bergeron, Bill Chabot, Karen Wolk, Roger Baldwin, Elizabeth Jutlie, Mandy Ruest, Dick Abington, Charlotte Abington, Barbara Woodward, Robert Scott, Phil Salvail, Aaron Allen. Gary Woods and Erin Darrow.

Police Department Report

Chief Sam Frank reported on the year to date. He indicated that Old Home Day went fairly smoothly with only a few minor disturbances. He thought that the crowds were down slightly. He also reported that the Town had received a \$2,500 grant for a new breathalyzer. He reported that he has been successful in reducing officer overtime (about a 50% reduction) that he hopes will last throughout the balance of the year. He was asked if the new computer system is helping to reduce this cost and he indicated that it is cutting the after hours record input to 20 minutes and is a big help. He said that the effort with the Town Administrator to do a long term cruiser replacement plan was successful and will cut the annual replacement cost about \$6,000 a year going forward.

Impaired Watershed Application

Erin Darrow reported that she had submitted a preliminary grant notion of application for Impaired Watershed improvement. The Town would be responsible for 40% local funding and this local match would come from the highway crew normal manpower cost and equipment and material value. The project would do additional drainage management near the beach on Canaan Street Lake, as well a drainage work on Fernwood Farms Road, Corno Road, Back Bay and Moss Flower Road. The total overall project cost is \$160,000 including a major culvert replacement of \$80,000. The project could be split into two separate projects or remain as one. She will consult with the Board further after hearing how the pre-application progresses. In addition to the Impair Watershed application, she is exploring a Safe Routes to School grant. Samson indicated that there were several organizations already exploring this possibility and suggested that she contact the Recreation Commission and Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) regarding their efforts. Erin also indicated that she is looking at getting FEMA money either as a storm event repair or as pre hazard improvement. The match on this grant would be 75% federal and 25% local. She is planning on using this money to fix the bridge on the access road leading to the transfer station. Joe Frazier asked what was going on at the Town Beach and she indicated that the NH Lakes Association was putting in rain gardens to reduce run-off into the lake. The Board indicated that she should keep them informed of her progress.

Bill Chabot – Conservation Commission

Bill indicated that the Conservation Commission is supporting the efforts of the Nature Conservancy to protect the former Casperson property in north Canaan. He noted that

there were concerns expressed by Selectmen and others regarding restrictions that would be placed on the land if managed by the Silvio Conte Management program. He reviewed the numerous emails that had been received from Silvio Conte and Nature Conservancy regarding forest management practices and recreational use of the land. Samson reviewed his research from other towns with Silvio Conte that indicated that usually the tax revenues were higher but that horses, dog sledding and sugaring were not allowed and that snowmobiling is allowed if previously existing and documented. There was considerable discussion as to whether wilderness forest management was preferable to managed forests. It was also noted that there are pre-existing preservation easements on the property even if Silvio Conte does not acquire the property. There were suggestions that the Interior Department is not known for appropriate forest management and others indicated that forestry management practices were good in the eastern part of the country. Aaron Allen asked the Board to indicate whether they would support the Nature Conservancy efforts. Scott indicated that he would not support the use of Silvio Conte but did support the protection of the property generally. Bob Reagan indicated that he would not support Silvio Conte but would support Nature Conservancy. Marcia Wilson indicated that she would support either.

Minutes of July 26, 2011

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

Mobile Equipment Capital Budget

Samson reviewed the proposed Capital Budget for major mobile equipment. He indicated that the new proposal would go to a capital reserve account for the police department and a modified replace schedule that averaged 6 years rather than 5 years and would reduce the annual town cost by \$6,000. He also noted that there was still a gap between the annual budgeted amount and the average annual need of \$25,000 that would eventually need to be addressed but that the amount budgeted last year will meet about 80% of the long term need. He also noted that the need for next year was for a command vehicle for the fire department (\$15,000), a new back hoe and a new cruiser. All of these would be funded from the capital reserve account.

Report on the FAST squad design

Samson handed out a print for a 1,700 addition to the police station that would expand the FAST squad capability by adding two small over night bunk rooms and an additional ambulance bay. The plan is to offer private pay transport service to increase the revenue to the FAST squad that would keep the town's cost flat over the next five years. In addition it would provide bunk quarters for up to 4 people (separate sexes) that could be shared by the police department for weekend on-call coverage and by the FAST Squad for overnight accommodations. In addition, the police department would get needed evidence and general storage space and a bathroom near the holding cell for security. The plan is to raise all of the money from grants and FAST contribution. The building would continue to be owned by the town. Samson indicated he will report back as the budget and funding gets firmed up. Phil Salvail asked if this would go to the voters and the answer is no since there would be no local funds used. Maintenance would be minimal as

the FAST squad does their own cleaning. That would leave heat and lights. While there would be additional lighting, a motion detection system would actually reduce lighting. The cost of additional heat would be marginal and would be offset by a five stable service contract.

Report on Senior Center Elevator

Samson indicated that we must either replace the elevator at the senior center next year or stop using the second floor. While there preliminary estimates that were three times higher, it looked like the total project cost would be less than \$30,000. The only interior structural work would include moving four 8 foot long non-load bearing walls and closing in four windows. Samson is meeting with Rural Development to see if we can obtain funding.

RIB Report

The Rapid Infiltration Beds are 50% complete and should be ready for the end of the month.

Budget versus Actual

Samson reviewed the expenses year to date and noted that the budget is in good shape this year with an anticipated under expenditure of funds. He noted that the web site development is progressing slowly as we are maintaining the old site as well as creating the new site. He asked that the board authorize an increase in the hours for the web manager by \$2,000 to complete the work. Motion by Marcia Wilson to approve and second by Scott Borthwick. Unanimous approval. There was discussion that we need to lock in fuel prices and Samson indicated that this was underway and would be done as soon as possible.

Trees on Depot Street

Samson indicated that there were two trees that needed to be replaced and that the cost to replace them would be about \$450 dollars. Gary Wood indicated that he believed that if Jeff Majewski would maintain them they will survive. The Board indicated that Samson could prepare a purchase order and asked that Majewski sign the new volunteer agreement indicating that any additional expense would need to be approved by the Board.

Other Business

Samson was asked to post the new valuations on the web. Scott asked Samson to see if the new building at Cardigan Mountain School has a building permit. There was general discussion regarding beach access and dogs and smoking.

There was a request to replace Tom Guillette on the Library Board of Trustees with Susan Remacle until March. Scott Borthwick moved to do so. Marcia Wilson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 10:10 PM Selectmen Borthwick made a motion to enter non-public session to discuss items 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 10:28 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 10:30 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 10:31 PM Selectman Wilson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Marcia Wilson
Canaan Board of Selectmen