

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, September 13th, 2011**

The public meeting at the Meeting House was called to order at 7:12 PM by Chairman Reagan. Others present: Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Marcia Wilson and TA Michael Samson.

Motion at 7:00 PM to enter into executive session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c ) (d) & (e) by Scott Borthwick second by Marcia Wilson. Unanimously approved.

At 7:40 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 7:42 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.

The public meeting reconvened at 8:00 PM. Members of the public included Al Posnanski and Scott Lepine

Minutes of August 23rd

The minutes of August 23<sup>rd</sup> were reviewed. Motion by Marcia Wilson, second by Scott Borthwick to approve the minutes. Unanimously approved.

Final Hearing on Junkyard Enforcement Policy

There was a final review of the proposed Junkyard Enforcement Policy. Scott Lepine asked about the time he would have to get into compliance. He indicated that the car in the highway right of way was already scheduled to be removed. He also asked what he would need to do to avoid enforcement. He was told that the car in the right of way would need to be removed and that the remaining cars would need to be screened from the road. Samson noted that while he would not be eligible to get a junkyard license because the remaining vehicles were too close to the road, the Town had drafted the policy to indicate that the distance to the road would not automatically start an enforcement action so long as the area was visibly screened from the road. He also noted that while that was the Town's new policy for enforcement, the decision not to enforce was not binding on the state which could choose to enforce. Samson indicated that the Town was only enforcing against the worst offenders as objectively described in the new policy. Al Posnanski asked if new junkyards could follow the new, less restrictive standards. Samson indicated that they could not and Al noted that that should be clarified in the policy so that people would not be discouraged from applying for a junkyard license. Marcia Wilson moved to adopt the policy with that clarification and Scott Borthwick seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Report on Hurricane Irene Damage and FEMA Authorizations

Samson handed out the summary of damage that had been submitted to FEMA after the hurricane. He also reviewed the areas that had the greatest damage and indicated that he would be working to prepare applications for FEMA assistance during the next three weeks. The largest financial damage was to remediate and fix three bridges. Two of the

three bridges are on the State's red-list. Damage claims from the Town are currently about \$500,000 and may well reach \$800,000. Samson indicated that he had met with Gloria to set up the accounting system for reimbursement and had reviewed our current cash flow needs to make sure that we can pre-pay the repairs. He also checked with DRA and the Town's accountants to make sure that we can spend beyond our current appropriations. He noted that we need to hold the warned meeting (tonight) to accept FEMA funds and to use those funds for repairs to Town infrastructure. The hearing was warned to accept FEMA money for repairs and to expend those monies that are received and are in addition to regular voted appropriations for those repairs. The warning was run in the Valley News and as part of our agenda on-line and posted. Motion by Scott Borthwick to accept FEMA money for repairs and hazard mitigation needed after Hurricane Irene. Second by Marcia Wilson. Unanimously approved. Motion to expend any FEMA monies received for the purpose of storm damage repair and future hazard mitigation where such expenditures are beyond voter approved appropriations and where the expenditures are reimbursed by FEMA made by Scott Borthwick and seconded by Marcia Wilson and unanimously approved.

#### Department Head Budget

Samson walked through the Department Head Budget one last time before its submittal to the Budget Committee. The current draft is approximately \$22,000 less than the amount appropriated in the current operating budget. We are still waiting for contract numbers for health care, workmen's comp insurance, property and liability, Prosecutor, BMSI and Avitar. Samson indicated that he thought the insurances were fairly conservatively budgeted but did not know what the other numbers will be yet. He also indicated that he was trying to increase the highway contingency to fund dirt road reconstruction. The budget has \$20,000 included for the meeting house tower that may or may not be needed but would be used for other building expense. The budgeted number for salt assumes saving money by mixing salt and sand which would require a salt shed. No action was taken at this time. The budget will go to the Budget Committee.

#### Budget v. Actual

Samson reviewed the Budget v. Actual. There were questions regarding the projections for the end of the year. Samson indicated that he had reviewed the projections and still believed that there would be at least \$60,000 in surplus generated from less expense and an additional \$150,000 in funds raised above the budgeted revenue. While the projection column may not be up to date, we are still running with less expense than appropriated. He indicated that he will get the projection column up-dated for the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### Water and Sewer Rates

Samson put the spreadsheet software up on the screen to show what would happen if we raised an additional \$60,000 per year for capital costs and \$30,000 a year for water and sewer operating expense. The projected budget that was demonstrated assumes that we will have accurate water and sewer bill based on actual flows with new radio transmitted meters. It also assumes that we will bill actual flows rather than a range. Based on those assumptions, about forty users' bill would drop and thirty nine users would go up less

\$2,000 a year and twelve users would go up \$2,000 or more a year including the Town and the School District. The Board indicated that we should schedule a hearing on rates for the end of October and run a new series of rates with the same budgeted amounts but with flat increases at the bottom of the schedule and see what happens at the top of the schedule. This will reduce the current subsidy for the largest users but eliminate the reductions for the smallest users with all of the increases from reduced subsidies going into the capital budget funding and increased operating budget.

#### Other Business

Motion by Marcia Wilson and second by Scott Borthwick to approve bereavement pay for Barry Geddis if it is approved by the Cemetery Trustees. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve the application by Hersey Auto for an inspection station and dealership made by Scott Borthwick and seconded by Marcia Wilson. Unanimous approval.

Motion to reappoint Andrew Mulligan and Michael Roy to the Historic District Commission for new three year terms expiring in 2014. Motion by Scott Borthwick and second by Marcia Wilson. Unanimous in favor.

Motion to approve the request by NH Electric Coop for a pole placement by Scott Borthwick and second by Marcia Wilson. Unanimous in favor.

Motion to send a letter of thanks and commendation to the Canaan Fire Department, Police Department, Highway Department and Emergency Management Director for the excellent service they provided during Irene made by Marcia Wilson and seconded by Scott Borthwick. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve mailing a source water protection mailing with payment to come from the water fund made by Scott Borthwick and seconded by Marcia Wilson and unanimously approved.

At 9:57 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