

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, July 10th, 2012**

The public meeting at the Canaan Fire Station 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 in attendance included Larry Gaudette, Brett MacDonald, Michael Farnsworth and Al Posnanski.

Acceptance of the Minutes June 26th, 2012

Motion by Scott Borthwick with second by Marcia Wilson to approve the minutes as amended for June 26th. Unanimous. The Board indicated that the next meeting on the 24th would be at the Meeting House.

Farnsworth/Hill Climb/RidgeRunners Complaint

Samson distributed copies of the Farnsworth complaint about costs and heavy police presence at the June hill climb. Farnsworth spoke to the Board and indicated that he believes that there was grossly excessive police activity that will scare off future attendees. Farnsworth said that he had proof that there were 12 or more undercover state police officers, that facial recognition software was used that police were stopping people for going two miles over the speed limit and were using sobriety checkpoints. He also indicated that the \$4,500 cost of the police protection, although what the parties had agreed upon, was excessive and would prevent him from making money for his non-profit. Samson repeated that he had been assured that there were no undercover officers, that no facial recognition software was used and that the Town had only cited two people for DUI and both were unrelated to the hill climb. He also stated that the Town had requested that 3 state police officers be available in the area should back-up be required. Farnsworth was asked what he considered to be appropriate costs and coverage. He indicated that he should pay no more than \$3,000 for no more than 9 officers and that there should be no command trailer nor cameras on the grounds. After considerable discussion and offers of proof from Farnsworth and Brett MacDonald, the Board indicated that they would review the situation again and report back at the next Board meeting.

Larry Gaudette Junk Yard Application

Larry spoke with the Board describing his plans for cleaning up his property. As requested, he has submitted an application for a junk yard license. All parties agree that the existing and proposed junk yard area does not meet setbacks from the river nor from the road. Larry indicated that he will be cleaning the northside entirely and will rebuild a suitable wall and screening gate for the south side of Route 4. The Board indicated that as long as the property is screened and there is no discharge to the river, the Town will not enforce the state junk yard law in keeping with Town enforcement policy.

DRA Review of Assessing

Samson reviewed two memos from Sam Greene of DRA regarding our assessing practices. Basically, there are a couple of inconsistent applications of what is residential and what is commercial. There is a major problem with all current use properties being

assessed as 100% usable for current use purposes. There is a state Supreme Court case saying that uniform treatment of current use is arbitrary. There is also a case of a current use property that is not eligible for current use. Samson indicated that he would contact Cross Country to discuss these issues with them and also plan on how to address the uniform current use properties.

Budget vs. Actual

Samson reviewed the current expense numbers and indicated that there were no new surprises and that we should be alright for the rest of the year unless there was a late year emergency expense in excess of \$20,000.

Summer Swim and Beach Program

Marcia Wilson gave a report on the beach and swim program. She indicated that there were more than 20 students who signed up for lessons and that the Recreation Commission had secured the services of a certified WSI and 2 lifeguards. The employees would teach swimming 5 days a week for 2-1/2 hours a day and provide lifeguard coverage for 6 hours a day, 5 days a week and for 7 weeks. She reviewed the existing budget available and the grants, gifts and fees collected to date and indicated that there were enough funds to pay for the \$5,700 program. Marcia asked that the program and hiring be approved. Motion by Scott Borthwick with second by Marcia Wilson to approve the program and Samuel Foxall at \$11 per hour, Ashleigh King at \$14 per hour and Daniel Delback at \$11 per hour, all based on availability of funding from the Recreation budget and funds raised. Unanimously approved.

Town Administrator Report

Samson indicated that the meters were progressing and most should be installed within the next 3 weeks.

The playground equipment has been installed and a grand opening will be held on August 3rd at 4:00 PM. The cost came in about \$10,000 under budget and only uses part of the Williams Field money.

The salt shed is complete except for the need of a back panel on the shed used for salt. The Meeting House progresses and the issue of beam approval and architectural shingles has been resolved. Parker has been assured by LaValley that the beams will be cut and delivered by next week.

Back Bay bridge has been set and the road way will be adjusted to pass more perpendicular to the bridge abutments.

Samson indicated that there was no progress on Chuck Adams Route 4 junkyard and a certified letter indicating the start of fines will be sent. There is also no progress on the approved plan for Lepine and a notice will be sent.

Samson reviewed the weights for the transfer station and indicated that the waste had increased 18% so far this year and that we needed to start policing the sources of trash. The increased trash would increase disposal costs and increase trucking costs. The savings on trucking should still be more than half of the rolloff cost. It was suggested that the Town use colored trash bags to identify what trash is coming into the transfer station from the Town that is hauled by Rudder. Samson handed out a statement on the recycling revenues that need to be deposited in the solid waste non-lapsing accounts. Motion by

Scott Borthwick with second by Marcia Wilson to approve depositing \$6,155.73 representing 25% of the 2011 in the non-lapsing account and \$4,742.09 representing 25% of the 2011 recycling revenue in the non-lapsing account. Unanimously approved.

Other Business

Bob asked that we undercoat the new Fire Department command vehicle.

Bob asked that we get the cross walks painted for old home days. Marcia suggested that we hire two of the kids who volunteered for the playground equipment installation.

At 8:30 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Marcia Wilson and unanimously approved by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Marcia Wilson
Canaan Board of Selectmen