

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, November 27th, 2012**

Chairman Bob Reagan called the open session of the Board to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance, Selectmen Robert Reagan, Scott Borthwick and Marcia Littlefield. Also in attendance, TA Mike Samson, Al Posnanski, Bob Scott, Keith and Lindsay Batten, Marilyn & Dan Kierstead, Mark Sanbourne, Jeannette Boucakis, Barry Laraway, Bill Crowther and Ellie Davis.

Minutes of November 13th, 2012

Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the minutes of November 13th, 2012. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved.

Road Discontinuance

Mark Sanbourne and Jeannette Boucakis spoke on the desire to keep Rameor Road a town road. Bob Scott indicated that the issue for the highway crew was the lack of visibility exiting Rameor Road onto Route 118. Mark indicated that he would develop a plan and bring it back to the Board that would address the issue. The Board by consensus indicated that if they received a plan by the first of the year would agree to leave the road a town road. Bill Crowther also asked that Ricard Drive remain a town road. Bob Scott indicated that the issue with Ricard is that there is no area sufficient to turn the grader and plow trucks around. Bill indicated that he would remedy the problem and the Board indicated that if the turn around area was sufficient they would drop the plan to discontinue the road.

Street Light

Lindsay and Keith Batten asked the Board if they would reconsider the removal of the street light in front of the Batten property on RT 4 and School Street (at the intersection of School and US 4). The Board indicated that there were at least three public hearings, a mailing to all affected homeowners and maps at the 2012 Deliberative session and no one attended to ask that the light remain. At this point all of the lights warned for removal have been removed saving the Town \$3-5,000 per year. The consensus of the Board was to deny a reconsideration. The Battens were encouraged to reinstate the light themselves if they wished.

Kierstead Logging Operation

The Kiersteads described their efforts to open fields on the former McKee property. Samson described the limitations that were imposed by the conservation easement and indicated that they would need to provide a timber management plan that was in conformance with the conservation easement requirements. Samson also indicated that the State Stewardship Office wanted two weeks to consider the next steps that should be taken. Samson provided the Kiersteads with a copy of the conservation easement language and the last adopted timber management plan.

Water & Sewer Operator Applications

Samson indicated that several applications had been received and that the last day would be on December 4th. Copies of the applications received to date were given to the Board members.

Budget vs. Actual and Encumbrances

Samson indicated that while there were a few changes, in needs versus savings, it was clear that there would be enough money to pay for all of the proposed encumbrances including a new electrical entrance, generator (town office), rescue truck repair and highway garage diagnostics. At this time, we do not have bids in for the generator or the rescue truck repairs and they will be available before the end of the year. Bob Scott reviewed the cost of the diagnostic system for the highway garage. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the encumbrance of \$9,672 for the merger of the two electrical entrances at the Library/Town Offices into a single entrance with the work to be done by Langlois Electric. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the encumbrance of \$9,102.24 to NAPA for the diagnostics at the highway garage and \$300 to Twin Bridges for the up-grade of a lap-top for use at the garage. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved.

Default Budget

Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the proposed default budget of \$3,033,768 for 2013. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved.

Proposed Revenue Budget

Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the proposed Revenue Budget for 2013 that will raise or otherwise obtain from undesignated fund balance a total of \$3,531,716 with no more than \$2,024,434 coming from property taxes. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved.

Proposed Expense Budget

Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the proposed Expense Budget for 2013 that will raise and appropriate or otherwise obtain from undesignated fund balance a total of \$3,111,321 and an additional \$164,000 for capital reserve funding (revaluation, police, fire and highway) to come from the undesignated fund balance. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Selectmen Reagan and Littlefield in favor and Selectman Borthwick opposed. Scott indicated that he was fearful that the revenue would not come in and we would have to raise taxes. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the proposed water and sewer budgets totaling \$171,109. Second by Marcia Littlefield. Unanimously approved.

Other Business

Samson indicated that perhaps we should check on the quality of the old trailer that we took for taxes. The Board's consensus was to check on the quality of both trailers and store them if they were of value.

Motion by Littlefield to adjourn with second by Borthwick. Unanimously approved.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Marcia Littlefield
Canaan Board of Selectmen