

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Chairman, Bob Reagan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. In attendance were Selectmen Robert Reagan, Scott Borthwick and David McAlister, TA Mike Samson, and Sherri Farrell. Motion by Scott Borthwick, second by Dave McAlister to go into executive session. Unanimously approved. At 6:48 PM, motion by Scott Borthwick to recess the executive session until following the open meeting with second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Chairman Bob Reagan called the open session of the Board to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance, Selectmen Robert Reagan, Scott Borthwick and Selectman Dave McAlister. Also in attendance, TA Mike Samson, Al Posnanski, Phil Salvail, Ellie Davis and Bob Scott.

Minutes of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Motion by Dave McAlister to approve the minutes of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Second by Scott Borthwick. Unanimously approved.

**Canaan Speedway & Elliot Field**

There were no residents in attendance to lodge additional noise complaints about either the Speedway or the Hill Climb. Samson reported that he had verified with Tillman Gerngross that he was still planning on purchasing the Canaan Speedway and building a road track to race vintage race cars. Samson also noted that discussions were continuing regarding the use of Canaan Hall. The intent is to sign a lease with the Town for a nominal sum for the use of the hall and the parking area near the hall. The Town would exempt the hall and parking area from taxes which would cost the Town about \$5-7,000 a year. Offsetting the reduction would be in excess of a million dollars invested in new infrastructure on the property. The Town would operate the hall as a community center open to the public and as a venue for recreation programs. The revenue from the use of the hall would have to support heat, lights, maintenance and capital improvements. Gerngross also wants to move the existing Elliot Field from the property to a new location in the Town. Samson indicated that he had asked the Mascoma District for permission to move the field to the north end of the Elementary School property with the understanding that we would maintain that field and the cost of moving would be covered by the buyer and seller. The Town would have priority in use of the field. The school board is addressing the issue tonight. Samson noted that the only way that all of the parties could afford the move would be if the Highway Department did all of the excavation and moving work and only contract out the electrical and fence work we couldn't do. The Board suggested that the school mow the field to share in the maintenance cost. Ellie Davis questioned how we could afford the high electrical cost for the lights on the field. Samson indicated that the total electrical bill for all of Williams Field including the ball fields, horseshoes, the buildings and parking was between \$500 and \$1,000. Ellie questioned whether that included the skating rink. Samson indicated

that it did. The Board asked that Samson develop a list of the teams and organization that will use the field. Samson indicated that he would get costs on the electrical and fencing and the level of use and consult with the Board individual on Friday so a response can be given to Gerngross.

#### Autoware

Samson indicated that there were discussions with Danny Ware regarding the Autoware property and a third party had alleged that the Town had inappropriately taken title and possession of the Autoware property. Samson indicated that he had asked Bernie Waugh to review the process that was used with the tax deeding of the property, the computation of payments necessary for redemption and the take-over of possession of the property. Waugh indicated the process and amounts subject to collection were all appropriate.

#### Delinquent Taxes

The Board authorized Tax Deed Forebearance Agreements with Doug and Evan Hammond and Earl Pike. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the Forebearance Agreements. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved. Samson noted that the heirs of the Wescott estate were requesting that the Town take the property by tax deed, clean it out and sell the property for the taxes and costs with the balance to be paid to the heirs of the estate. The consensus of the Board was to do so.

#### Champney Trailer

Samson indicated that the trailer was half removed and that he would contact Jason Fields about completing the job.

#### Senior Center

Samson reviewed a proposal by NH HHS to sole source contract all Title 20 (federal) services to save on state staff needed for contract administration. This would put all Senior Center meals programs and hospice and home health programs under the control and operation of one contractor that would bid the service. As a large proportion of the Senior Center programs use volunteers and donated food they may be seriously jeopardized by the change. Certainly accountability locally would disappear and monies available for programs would be spent on profit and contract management costs that would shift to the contractor with perhaps no real oversight.

#### Transfer Station Holidays

The Board consensus was to change the transfer station holidays so that transfer station employees get every holiday off except when two holidays are back to back such as Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.

#### Health Care

Samson highlighted the results of the first health care meeting which identified that major issues facing the health care system (cost, access, quality of care) and what 90 local people wanted for local health care at the primary care level. The second meeting will

prioritize the local needs and will be held at Mascoma High School on June 18<sup>th</sup>. He has also had good cooperation and feedback from Dave Beaufait and Ed McGee and John Croteau as well as many other professionals.

#### Paving Bids

Samson reviewed the paving bids. Initially, Pike had the lowest bid but had a mistake in the computation that raised their bid to the highest bid. Blaktop came in second but Bob Scott indicated that he would rather reject the bid as the issues surrounding the last paving performed by Blaktop had never been resolved. He recommended the second lowest bid of \$186,193 submitted by United. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the bid of United. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved.

#### Junkyards

Samson indicated that both Gaudette and Lepine has met their requirements at this time and recommended that the criminal cases be dropped. He noted that the next enforcement would be against Tim Lewis if the sub-division plans aren't submitted by his engineer, Erin Darrow.

#### Other Buisness

Recreation hires were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The next meeting of the Board will be at the Meeting House at 7 PM.

Bob Reagan asked that the crosswalks be painted before old home days.

Samson asked that the general assistance standards for food and shelter be revised to reflect the market conditions for rental housing. Motion by Dave McAlister to approve the revised standards attached. Second by Scott Borthwick. McAlister and Reagan in favor and Borthwick against.

At 8:27, Selectman Borthwick moved to reenter executive session. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 8:42 Selectman McAlister moved to come out of Executive Session. Borthwick seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

At 8:43 PM Selectman McAlister moved to seal the minutes and Selectman Borthwick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Scott Borthwick to send a letter to Sherri Farrell listing the conclusions reached regarding her application and a requirement for additional information to make further modifications and authorization to release a held check for \$300 and issue a second check for \$300. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Motion by Scott Borthwick to adjourn with second by McAlister. Unanimously approved.

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Robert Reagan, Chairman

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Scott Borthwick

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David McAlister  
Canaan Board of Selectmen