

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

Scott Borthwick called the open meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Conference Room. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister, Al Posnanski and TA Mike Samson. Others: Philip Salvail and Ellie Davis.

**Minutes**

Dave McAlister moved to approve the minutes for 12/20/18 and 12/27/16. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimously approved.

**School Tax Rate**

General discussion of the meeting on December 27. There was a consensus that going to a direct election of school board members which required a use of weighted voting would significantly reduce the voting power of Dorchester and Orange. They would drop from having 14% of the votes each to have about 4% of the votes each. There was a discussion about John Franz thinking that an 80%-20% blended rate might be acceptable to Dorchester since they had previously paid the tax with that formula. The consensus of the Board of Selectmen was to drop the weighted voting article and go with 80%-20% tax allocation article. There was discussion that a request had come in for a public, district wide, question and answer session. Samson indicated that he would set one up for Sunday evening the 8<sup>th</sup> at Canaan Hall.

**Year End Budget**

Samson reviewed the preliminary year end budget and noted that there could be as much as \$200,000 in unspent money. Gloria will have a final budget report by mid January.

**DRA objection to warrant articles**

Samson reviewed DRA's objection to letting the voters authorize expending money from the operating budget to put money into the capital reserves. Samson was directed to work with the Legislature and attorneys to get a bill passed specifically allowing our practice and giving us a waiver for 2017.

**Encumbrances**

Samson reviewed the encumbrances. Most have now been invoiced and paid. There are only a handful outstanding.

**Contract Approval**

Commerford, Nieder Perkins, Avitar and Humane Society contracts were considered for approval. Motion by Dave McAlister to approve all three and sign them. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimous approval.

At 6:21 PM Selectman Dave McAlister moved to enter executive session. Al Posnanski seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:36 PM Selectman Posnanski moved to exit executive session, seconded by McAlister and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:36 Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:37 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by McAlister.  
Unanimously approved.

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Scott Borthwick, Chairman

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David McAlister

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Al Posnanski  
Canaan Board of Selectmen