

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 7, 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: Jessica Longley, Jason Lambert, Ellie Davis and Phil Salvail.

Minutes

Dave McAlister moved to approve the minutes for 11/7/17 after taking Phil Salvail's name out of the minutes. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimously approved.

HB 251

This is a bill that will prevent Canaan from using operating budget funds to fund capital reserve accounts even if we obtain voter permission first. The Director of DRA's municipal programs had proposed a bill that would have allowed us and several other towns to use this process which all of us and our attorneys believed was a legitimate process. By the time that the work group of the municipal operations committee in the house was done with the bill, we were absolutely prevented from using that process, so now we can either use surplus funds or raise taxes but we can no longer take funds from the operating budget to fund capital reserves.

Tatem Appeal

To executive session.

DES Lewis Property

Samson reported that DES was going after Michelle and Tim Lewis on the front property on Fernwood Farms Road. At issue is the lack of potable water, no sewage capacity and an illegal mobile home park. The Town's attorney has not yet served the papers to remediate the property.

Water & Sewer at Autoware

Samson requested that the water and sewer service at Autoware be discontinued so that we do not pay any more capacity charges on the property. If it goes back to commercial use in the future, the developer will pay a connection charge to reinstate the service.

School Tax Rate Discussion

There was general discussion about how the school deliberative session went. The funding formula issue is now owned by the School District. Samson handed out a sheet with the fall anticipated tax rates. If the tax base stays the same and the state aid doesn't drop, Canaan's rate will increase 7%. Dorchester will increase 24%, Grafton will increase 18% and Orange will increase 12%. Enfield will actually drop about 1%. This will add additional pressure for change. State aid is likely to drop by 1-2% and tax base value may go up 1-2%.

There was no other business.

At 6:22PM Selectman Dave McAlister moved to enter executive session. AI Posnanski seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:25PM Selectman Posnanski moved to exit executive session, seconded by McAlister and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:25 Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:27 Selectman Posnanski moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the response to Julie Tatem. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:28 PM Selectman AI Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

AI Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen