

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 4, 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: Cindy Neily, Pat Danielson, Stephen Freese, John Bergeron, Phil Salvail, Andrew Cushing, and Ellie Davis.

Minutes

Dave McAlister moved to approve the minutes for 3/21/17. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimously approved.

Friends of Canaan Library

The Friends asked for permission to hold a celebration of donors 2nd annual fundraiser at the library on May 18. The celebration would include wine and cheese etc. The consensus of the board was to approve the use and the wine.

Appointment of Mike Roy to Historic District Commission

John Bergeron asked that Mike be appointed to the Historic District Commission for a three year term. Dave McAlister moved to appoint. Al Posnanski seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Museum Windows

John Bergeron and Andrew Cushing asked for approval to replace the museum windows and to apply for a grant for the cost. The consensus of the Board was to support the effort but they wanted to see any grant applications prior to sending the applications in.

Budget v. Actual

Samson reviewed the budget and noted there were a few corrections and not much in the way of new changes.

Highway Plan 2017 & 2018

Samson indicated it will be presented at the April 18th meeting.

Mechanic

There are no great candidates for mechanic yet. Samson recommended that we change the compensation range to \$55,000 to \$60,000 to see if we could get a good candidate. He indicated that the existing range should have attracted someone. The thought was that there was a lack of candidates or a negative perception about Canaan. The position has been advertised through NHMA, the Union Leader and the Valley News. Samson indicated that he would also shorten the ad to make it more eye catching. Consensus of the Board to change the compensation scale to \$55,000 to \$60,000.

Waste Water Energy Efficiency

Samson reviewed the proposed contracts for the waste water energy efficiency projects. The cost is coming in less but the total cost to the Town will increase slightly since the larger grant for the aeration equipment is prorated as the completed price is reduced from the estimate. The estimate now is that the project will cost the Town about \$16,000 which

is about \$4,000 more. It is also possible that the project could be as low as \$13,000. Al Posnanski made a motion to go ahead with the project with the understanding that all of the match come from water and sewer. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimous. The Board wanted Samson to warn John that he had to complete the project within the required time parameters. John was also to be advised to recycle the old pump motors.

Elderly and Handicapped Exemptions

Samson asked to publicize the April 15th elderly and handicapped exemption deadline. It was suggested that Samson put notices out through the meals on wheels program and have an information meeting on Thursday.

Maville Damages

Samson indicated that the Town had incurred about \$2,000 to repair broken water and heating lines at the Maville property. Those damages and damages to sheetrock and floors were submitted to the Town's insurance carrier. In the event that the Town repairs are not covered, the Town will put a lien on the property (agreed to by Muriel) and recoup the cost when the property sells. Consensus of the Board to approve the \$2,000 and follow the recoupment strategy.

Cash Market

Samson handed out a sheet indicating what the buyback amount will be on the three Cash Market properties (Ware). The total is a little over \$81,000 depending on per diem for interest. Samson indicated that he believes it will be redeemed within the next few weeks.

Health Center Tax Exemption

Samson indicated that the Health Center filed the necessary paper work prior to April 1st to seek total exemption from property taxes as allowed under state law. It is not discretionary. Non-profit health centers are automatically exempt provided that they file the paper work. The tax on the land last year was \$1,016. The Board indicated that they wanted to discuss a payment in lieu of taxes with the Health Center because it will use fire and police services. Samson indicated that he is not speaking for the Board since his first obligation is to the Town. He noted that Dale Barney had indicated that he would be willing to come to meet with the Board. The consensus of the Board was to meet with Dale about requesting a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes).

Other Business

Samson discussed the need for repairs to the Senior Center roof from the wind storm. Samson indicated that the money would come from the Government Buildings Account. The Board directed him to get a quote and a contractor. Larry Tibbets and Chris Kierstead were suggested.

Samson reported that the Flood Control report should be available in about three weeks. It is planned to hold at least two public meetings to introduce the report and provide a forum for discussion.

Samson asked the Board to consider waiving less than \$200 in interest and penalty for delinquent taxes in a case where the taxpayer was not aware that the taxes were unpaid due to a divorce. The consensus of the Board was to decline the request.

Ritchie Wheeler's request for a junk yard renewal was approved by Board consensus with Scott Borthwick signing the application.

The PD decision to not have the Police Department carry Narcan was discussed. The decision is based on the cost of training officers (very high), the frequency (2 responses last year with both parties deceased at arrival) and the fact that the FAST Squad accompanies the Police on all calls and they are trained and have Narcan available.

At 7:10 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to enter non-public meeting to discuss personnel evaluation and individual tax delinquencies. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 7:39 PM Selectman McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting, seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 7:40 Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 7:40 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

Al Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen