

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 18, 2017**

Scott Borthwick called the open meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Canaan Emergency Operations Center. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister, Al Posnanski, Town Administrator Mike Samson and Administrative Assistant Sharon Duffy. Others: Alan Ricard, Philip Salvail, George Smith, Chuck Townsend, Ellie Davis, Carol Hawks, David McGrath, Arnold Song, Noel & Sharon Everts, Claude Lemoi, Mike Fogarty, Tim Josephson, Denis Salvail, Sean Sweeny (Flood Mitigation Presenter).

Flood Mitigation Hearing

Sean Sweeney from Headwaters Hydrology presented a slide show about the options for mitigating flooding in the Village of Canaan. The Village cannot be flood “proofed,” but the situation can be improved greatly with a combination of drainage culverts and/or spillways, and by clearing of impediments in present waterways. Headwaters Hydrology analyzed and presented 10 options and cost estimates for those options. Also shown were the benefits of changing the course of the west end of Graceville Road to accommodate more water in a flood in the already wet areas there.

In addition, Headwaters analyzed a commonly suggested solution of removing the bedrock outcropping down near the Gristmill Hill Bridge. Using the slide show’s Channel Evolution Model (Schumann, Harvey, Watson: 1984), it was shown why this would not solve the flooding issues in the village, and furthermore it demonstrated that such removal would cause further hazards.

Town Vendor Policy

A finalized draft of the Town Vendor Policy was presented. Dave McAlister moved, and Al Posnanski seconded to approve the draft as written. All in Favor.

Other Business

Chuck Townsend brought an update of the School Funding Meetings to the Board. There have been 4 meetings. They have heard from the DRA, the Department of Education, and other Schools that have looked at Funding Issues. The commission is still divided on the best way to address the issues. A recent straw poll indicated that 2 members favored no change. Two favored a formula based 80% on ADM and 20% on tax base and 3 favored a formula based 90% on ADM and 10% on tax base. The next meeting will be July 31. Chuck hopes that Canaan residents will attend. The Board indicated that anything less than 80-20 would have virtually no impact and taxes would go up again this year using that formula even though the budget was defeated and the school was using a default budget.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption

The recently proposed Hazard Mitigation Plan was presented for approval. Dave McAlister indicated that the Board had attended the preparation of the plan and had no issues with it. There were no comments from the public. Dave McAlister motioned and Al Posnanski seconded approval. All in Favor.

At 8:05 Al Posnanski motioned and David McAlister seconded to go into nonpublic session. All in favor.

The board returned to public session at 8:35.

David McAlister moved to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Al Posnanski seconded. Unanimously approved. Al Posnanski motioned and David McAlister seconded to adjourn the meeting. All in Favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

Al Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen