

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, November 7, 2017**

Scott Borthwick called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Canaan Selectmen Conference Room. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister, Al Posnanski and TA Mike Samson. Also in attendance were Bob Scott, Elwin Neily, and Jacob Trombley.

Minutes Oct. 17 & 24

Selectman McAlister moved to approve the minutes for both dates. Seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

Budget vs. Actual

Samson reported on the Budget Committee meeting of November 2. The Budget Committee discussed Bob Scott's compensation at the request of the Board of Selectmen. A motion was made to increase Bob from \$54,849 to \$58,469 or about 6.6%. All of the other proposed changes were also reviewed without opposition. The new budget drops the part time employee for cemeteries and government buildings and adds a full time employee that is split 50% with the highway department in the winter and 25% in government buildings and 25% in cemeteries in the summer season. This also increases expense for payroll and expense for benefits. Part of the new cost is covered by getting rid of the part time employee. Other offsets include dropping DP equipment by \$1,000, mechanic repairs by \$8,700, mechanic petroleum products by \$5,000, removal of the road reconstruction added \$30,000, and \$1,000 from HHW. Other increases include increasing cleaning to \$26,000 a year and increasing workers compensation to \$43,000 a year. It is anticipated that this budget will cause an increase in the tax rate of between 1% and 2% next year.

Storm Damage

Samson reviewed all of the storm damage and indicated that the total cost will likely exceed \$200,000. This also includes doing clean-up of Orange Brook.

Maville Release

Samson reported that there was a bonafide third party sale of the Maville property. The Town had a penalty clause requiring payment of penalties and interest if the property was deeded back to the prior owner or his immediate family. That is not the case here and the agreement is that if the property is sold to an independent buyer, we would remove the penalty clause. Samson asked the Board to sign the release of the penalty clause. The Board executed the release.

Remacle Block Garden

The Board directed the Block manager to remove the garden prior to snowfall in keeping with previous direction voted by the Board.

Computer and Telephone Issue

Samson reported that computer hosting services are switching from Comcast to Microsoft and the process has been very difficult and resulted in lost time and greater consultant services.

Other Business

Samson asked the Board to approve the bill from HEB to seek an emergency streambed alteration permit for Orange Brook. Selectman McAlister moved to approve the bill. Seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:20 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to enter non-public meeting to discuss Personnel issues. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:31 PM Selectman McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting, seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:32 Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:32 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