

**Town of Canaan**  
**Economic Development Round Table**  
**Luncheon, November 3, 2016**  
**Canaan Selectmen Conference Room**

**News Summary**

**Community Market**

The Town has put out a request on the flash email for a community market café operator. There have been five respondents so far with several that have great qualifications. Mike and a committee from the farmers and artisans will interview later in November (interviews are complete). The community market group will be meeting at the EOC on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November to set up a review process. Samson also reviewed with the group a plan by David Delgenio and David Zani to open a Bed & Breakfast at 41 NH Route 118. They would like to incorporate the farmers and artisans in the B&B as well. The farmers and artisans have expressed the desire to do both the B&B and the Community Market. There was also discussion of King Arthur Flour opening a café. The size of the community is too small to justify that plan.

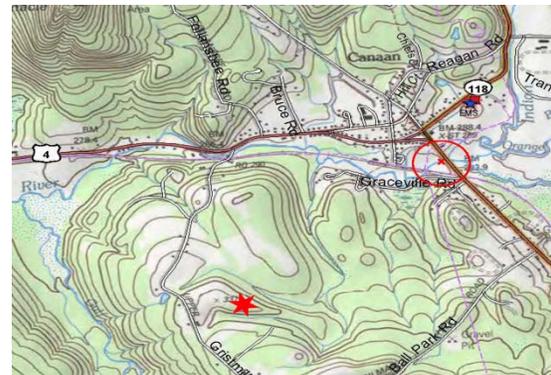


**Cell Tower**

Verizon has picked a site on Fernwood Farms Road on the ridge line for the location of a cell tower. It would be visible from the Canaan Lake Historic District. The proposal by Industrial Communications for a cell tower on Gristmill Hill Road is also a possibility. Hopefully, a decision will be made soon. The good news is that Verizon has decided to do a tower somewhere in Canaan.



**Fernwood Farms Road**



**Grist Mill Hill Ro**

## Tax Rate

Samson indicated that the tax rate will be set this week with tax bills going out the following week. The new rate will be \$31.46. Last year's was \$30.27. The assessed valuations increased 5.2% The assessment process is state mandated and must be done by a certified independent assessor.

The state tax revenue for schools is down 7%. The County tax is up ½%. The Town is down 1% and the School is up 7.4%.

While the rate overall is up about 4%, the school rate is up 7.4% and after increased tax payments due to higher property values, the real cost for school taxes is up at least 12%. Part of the increase is due to spending increases even though the budget was defeated in March and the school is working on a default budget. Part of the increase is because Canaan's relative share of the student population has increased. The school taxes are raised based on Canaan's share of the student population. The share compared between Enfield and Canaan increased by 3%. There was also an increase in taxes to be collected since there was less money left over from the prior year that could be used to reduce the tax rate.



Samson stressed that there were a couple of options. The school could be more frugal and find more effective ways to provide service. The second option was to vote down budget increases. The third option would be to allocate school taxes by student population and assessed valuation (property values). Canaan can't do anything about the school budget. We are obligated to raise taxes even if we disagree. Phil Salvail suggested that the school collect their own taxes. Samson indicated that the Town is planning a multi-town plan to get the tax rate under control. There was a question regarding whether home-school kids are counted. There was a suggestion to avoid an accusatory argument. The Board of Selectmen will be meeting with the School Board on November 22, 2016.

Meeting Next: November 29 at 7 PM at Canaan Hall.