

**Minutes**  
**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, December 18, 2007**

The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by Chairman Reagan at the Canaan Fire Station. Selectmen Burnett and Hudgens and acting Interim Administrator Dexter Bucklin were also in attendance. Others present: Al Posnanski, Chief Franks, David Heath, Maryann Heath, Ellie Davis, Charles Townsend, Erin Darrow, Charles Adams, Don Koury and Matt Wilson.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF December 11, 2007**

Having reviewed the minutes the Board voted the following: Selectman Burnett moved, Selectman Hudgens seconded, and the Board voted 3-0 to accept the Minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting as amended.

**Police Chief Re: Vacation Policy**

Chief Franks appeared before the Board to ask the Selectmen to reconsider the new personnel policy that eliminated the option of town employees to be paid for unused vacation time. Sam believed it was an ill advised decision and would impact employee morale. He also stated that the last minute notice of the policy change made it impossible for vacation to be scheduled at the last minute. Selectman Burnett stated that the vacation benefit was intended to be used by the employee and not intended to be considered as an additional pay period. The Board had earlier voted to waive the 5 day carry forward provision of the personnel policy and allowed employees to carry over all unused vacation time accrued in 2007 into 2008. Also, the Board voted that for 2007 only, employees would be paid for half of their unused 2007 vacation time.

**7:00 Public Hearing for a Building Permit on a Non Maintained Road**

Erin Darrow appeared before the Selectmen, as required by Statute, to request the Board consider the issuance of a building permit on the non maintained section of May Street. The Planning Board had held a required public hearing on the request on December 13, 2007 and had forwarded a letter to the Board of Selectmen indicating that the Planning Board had voted that it had "no objection to the application so long as the application is not in conflict with all applicable regulations and statutes including those regarding road construction and property access generally referred to in the NFPA regulations (National Fire Prevention Association)

Charles Townsend, speaking as a citizen and not as a member of the Planning Board, reviewed in some detail the provision of RSA 674:41 **Erection of Buildings on Streets; Appeals.** After a lengthy discussion concerning the road upgrade that would be required to meet Fire Chief Bellion's understanding of the NFPA specifications for road compliance, the Board requested that the planning Board respond to issues raised and that the Selectmen would contact Enfield to review concerns relative to an emergency response. The first section of May Street is maintained by Enfield. Selectman Burnett moved, Selectman Hudgens seconded and the Board voted 3-0 to continue the Public Hearing commencing at 7:30 January 15, 2008.

## **2008 Budget Update**

### **Anticipated Revenues 2008**

Mr. Bucklin distributed copies of the MS-4 (2008 Estimated Revenues) that had been given to the Budget Committee on Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup>. Total projected revenues are \$1,204,724. Final revenues for setting the 2007 Tax Rate were \$1,267,116. These estimated revenues will be revised in September or October 2008.

### **Projected Tax Impact**

The projected tax impact, assuming an assessed value of \$343,631,271, of the Budget Committee's proposed appropriation of \$3,702,845 would be \$7.27; a default budget in the amount of \$2,313,399 is projected to be \$6.73. Special Warrant articles are not included in these projections. The Budget Committee will review warrant articles on Wednesday, January 9, 2008.

## **Future Meetings**

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 2, 2008. The second meeting in January will be on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at the Senior Center starting at 7:15 PM.

## **Other Business**

Al Posnanski stated that the next Transfer Station Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008. Al asked if the Board was planning to place an Article in the Town Meeting relative to the proceeds of the Timber cut that had been discussed at Friday's meeting reviewing the options for the Town owned land at the Transfer Station. At present there are no plans for such an Article.

**Non Public Session (RSA 91-A.3 ©)**

At 9:10 Selectman Burnett moved, Selectman Hudgens seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to go into non public session under RSA 91-A.3© to discuss a personnel issue.

The Board came back into public session at 10:12 PM and the Meeting was adjourned.

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Robert Reagan

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Kristina Burnett

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Thomas Hudgens  
Canaan Board of Selectmen