

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, April 23rd, 2013**

Chairman, Bob Reagan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance were Selectmen Robert Reagan, Scott Borthwick and Dave McAlister, TA Mike Samson, Road Agent, Bob Scott, Al Posnanski, Phil Salvail, and Ellie Davis.

Acceptance of Minutes for April 9th, 2013

After review of the minutes, Selectman McAlister moved to approve the minutes as amended. Scott Borthwick seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Request to Annex Hanover Property to Canaan

The Board reviewed the Draft of a potential annexation boundary line. The consensus of the Board was that they had no objection to proposing the annexation to the voters of Canaan provided that Peter Glynn pay for all expenses related to a special election and shoulder all responsibility for advocacy in the New Hampshire legislature should both Towns approve the referendum as well as all legal fees incurred by the Town of Canaan that are associated with the effort.

GeoInsight

Samson reviewed application for reimbursement on the UST remediation on the Ware property. Selectman Borthwick moved to authorize the reimbursement application for GeoInsight. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Sexsmith Water/Sewer Abatement

Samson reviewed the application by Louella Sexsmith for an abatement of her water and sewer bill that reflected water that discharged during a episode with broken water pipes this past winter. There was an agreement that the portion of the sewer bill related to the broken pipes as evidenced by a comparison with regular usage should be abated. Selectman Borthwick moved to abate the water and sewer bill by reducing the total to \$234.31. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Retirement and Part time Help

Samson reviewed the requirements of the State Retirement System that we withhold contributions from any employee working 35 hours or more a week. This impacts at least one employee and we will need to address this issue. Additionally, we need to offer every employee the option of getting health care under our health plan if they work at least 30 hours per week. There is no Town contribution to the payment until the employee reaches 35 hours per week, but employees would still be able to obtain coverage at their own expense. There was general discussion about extending coverage to all regular employees at their own expense if they wished to pay for the coverage. Selectman McAlister moved to authorize the option to purchase health insurance at the employees own expense if they work less than 35 hours per week provided that the person receives an annual W2 and is regularly employed by the Town, even if intermittently employed. Scott Borthwick seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Development

Samson reviewed discussions with Dave Zani, Matt Dow and a potential buyer of the Speedway that would have a town impact and how those plans could improve the community.

Telephone System

Samson indicated that the purchase order was delivered for the new phone system to Statewide Communications. It is anticipated that the phone system should be installed by Labor Day.

Metal Auction Notice

Samson reviewed the solicitation for the equipment auction and the scrap metal auction and indicated that two major bidders are planning on attending. The auction is scheduled for June 8, 2013 at the Town gravel pit.

Tax Sale Letters

Samson distributed copies of the tax sale notice letters that would be going out this month. There were no suggestions for changes and Samson was directed to send out the notices. Not included at this time would be properties where estates or other impediments were involved.

Budget vs. Actual

Samson reviewed the budget through the first third of the year. He noted that so far we would over spend about \$20,000 in various accounts but that we would under spend \$28,000 in other accounts. He acknowledged that it was early in the year and major events could alter the picture. He also indicated where we could off-set \$53,000 from budgeted lines to be used as a contribution towards the purchase of a low hour used excavator. The total price would be just over \$90,000 and we would use the \$53,000 in savings together with \$29,000 available in next year's budget plus any surplus available at the end of this year to purchase the excavator. Samson indicated that Chadwick BaRoss was willing to set up the purchase as a lease purchase over 10 months. The Board indicated that we would need to complete the purchase within 12 months and that we have an absolute right to cancel the lease purchase on January 1st of 2014. Selectman Borthwick moved to authorize entering into a lease purchase with a price of approximately \$90,000 with the provision that the lease purchase could be cancelled for lack of money in 2014. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Trash Tractor

There was a discussion about taking money from the solid waste non-lapsing account (currently at \$21,000) to purchase a tractor with a wet kit to haul the live floor trailer used to haul trash to Lebabon. Samson noted that there was currently enough funding in the operating budget to do the hauling locally. The plan would be to take the funding from the operating budget this year and ask the voters to reimburse the general fund from the non-lapsing fund at the next annual meeting. The payback period would be about 4 years. Al Posnanski spoke in favor of using the recycling money to acquire the tractor. Samson noted that there was a tractor currently available in Cazanovia, New York at auction that looked good. Selectman McAlister moved to authorize the bid of up to \$10,000 on the

tractor subject to a review by Bob Scott and any other relevant person indicating that the truck was in satisfactory condition. Scott Borthwick seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Other Business

A discussion was held on whether to revise the personnel policy for foul weather protective gear and boots as prices had increased. Selectman Borthwick moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$150 per person for steel toed boots and up to \$100 each for coveralls and coats per employee per year but only if the items were needed. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 9:00, Selectman Borthwick moved to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed. At 9:36 Borthwick moved to come out of Executive Session. McAlister seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. At 9:37 PM Selectman Borthwick moved to seal the minutes and Selectman McAlister seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

Motion by Borthwick to adjourn with second by McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Dave McAlister
Canaan Board of Selectmen