

**TOWN OF CANAAN
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
December 1, 2011
Canaan Fire Station**

Final Copy

Members present: Chair Eleanor Davis; David McAlister; Dave Barney; Al Posnanski; John Bergeron; Bill Crowther; Karen Wolk; Martha Pusey; Denis Salvail; and Scott Borthwick. Also present was Town Administrator Mike Samson, Cindy Neily, and Amy Thurber.

Eleanor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and took attendance.

Eleanor Davis noted that committee members should have an updated copy of the proposed 2012 budget dated December 1, 2012.

Library Budget: 01-4551.20

There was general consensus that the only changes made to the library budget have been changes in the salaries and benefits line item since the Board of Selectmen are recommending three percent increases for the town employees.

MOTION by Dave Barney and seconded by David McAlister to accept a 2012 department budget of \$121,564 for the library department budget.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

Personnel Administration: 01-4155.10

Mike Samson summarized the bids received from health care providers.

MOTION by David McAlister and seconded by Dave Barney to accept a 2012 department budget of \$378,323 for the personnel administration department budget.

VOTE: 9 YES 1 NO (Eleanor Davis)

page 4 increased \$1,800 cleaning of town buildings including the library
page 5 and 6 moved continuity funds into the emergency management, fire department, highway, transfer station

Mike Samson read through three warrant articles that the Board of Selectmen are considering for the purchase of a police cruiser or allocation towards a capital reserve fund for a police cruiser.

General discussion ensued about how to keep the town's voters informed and the routine updates that are being made to the town's website.

MOTION by David McAlister and seconded by Dave Barney to accept \$2,990,693 as the bottom line figure of the proposed 2012 operating budget.

VOTE: 8 YES 2 NO (Denis Salvail and Eleanor Davis)

Eleanor Davis noted that committee members will vote on the warrant articles at the January 11th meeting. Eleanor Davis later noted that the revenues will also be voted on at the January 11th meeting.

Mike Samson summarized draft copies of the default budget and the MS-7 worksheet. General discussion ensued that there appears to be several addition errors that need correction on the MS-7 worksheet.

Other Business

Committee members reviewed draft minutes dated November 3rd and November 17th, 2011.

MOTION by David McAlister and seconded by Bill Crowther to accept the November 3rd, 2011, as amended

David McAlister suggested that “vehicle” on page four should be defined as a 4X4 crew cab pickup under the fire department budget.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN (Denis Salvail)

MOTION by David McAlister and seconded by Dave Barney to accept the November 17th, 2011, as amended.

Eleanor Davis clarified that there are two separate funds that the Cemetery Trustees will be receiving reimbursement funds from: the Emmeline Davis Fund for the well project and the Professional Care Fund for the mowing.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative

Eleanor Davis asked committee members to let her know if they have any preferences on what budgets that they present at the Public Hearing.

Mike Samson provided corrected figures to the MS-7 worksheet at this time.

MOTION by David McAlister and seconded by Eleanor Davis to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

VOTE: Unanimous in the affirmative