

**TOWN OF CANAAN
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
November 1, 2012
Canaan Fire Station
Draft Copy**

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

Selectmen's Budget: Mike Sampson presented the Selectmen's budget for the absent Scott Borthwick. This budget will not be formally accepted until Nov. 15 at which time final rates for health and property/liability insurance should be known. Mike noted some highlights from the budget:

A projected \$10,000 increase in health insurance rate is due to additional hires and not a rate increase.

1.7% increase in salaries (except for Selectmen who request no increase) is tied to the CPI index for northern New England.

The maximum increase in property/liability insurance should not exceed 7% and is likely to be less.

Some increases of approximately \$4000.00 for computer hardware and solid waste hauling.

Savings on library benefits even with salary increases

Estimated costs of non-profit requests to be voted on as warrant articles are included in the bottom line of budget distributed this evening even though not all requests have been received. These articles will have minimal effect to the budget unless an organization significantly increases its request over last year's amount.

The Water and Sewer budget is unchanged from last year. Water rates will go down because we have other sources of revenue.

Of the \$125,000 expense increase for 2013, \$75,000 attributed to road repair.

\$167,000 of surplus revenue from 2012 is applied to revenue for 2013 budget, which allows the town tax rate to remain unchanged even though there is an increase in expenses in the 2013 budget. That is, there is sufficient projected revenue to cover increases in the 2013 budget.

Default Budget

The 2013 default budget is the same as the 2012 budget with any increases required by contractual obligations or other legal reasons. Such an increase is for New Hampshire mandated retirement expense. Interest expense is \$800.00 less because of reduction in debt service.

Minutes of the 9/6/12 meeting

MOTION by Dave McAlister, seconded by Dave Barney, to accept the minutes of the September 6, 2012 meeting with the correction of the spelling of "cemetery."

The motion was unanimously approved in the affirmative.

Minutes of the 9/20/12 meeting

MOTION by Dave McAlister, seconded by Dave Barney, to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2012 minutes as written.

The motion was approved with 8 in the affirmative and one abstention.

Seeing no other business or questions, Eleanor Davis requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

MOTION by Dave Barney, seconded by Dave McAlister to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

The motion was unanimously approved in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted
Karen Wolk