

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting & Public Hearing
Thursday, January 14, 2016
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, William Crowther, Ellie Davis, Patty Duszynski, Al Posnanski, Martha Pusey, Denis Salvail, Phillip Smith, Scott Borthwick, Sadie Wells; Town administrator Michael Samson; 1 public attendee: Dave McAlister; recorded by Roger Lohr.

Final
Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order of the Public Hearing

Chair Ellie Davis called the Public Hearing to order at 7:30 PM and took attendance of the members of the Canaan Budget Committee. She announced that the intention of this public hearing meeting was to review the Budget Committee's proposed 2016 budget for the town, the revenue budget, the default budget, and the warrant articles.

2. Proposed 2016 Canaan Budget

Various budget documents were distributed to the members of the public. The Budget Committee members reviewed the line item sections announcing the bottom line amount of each section recommended by the Committee and explaining any significant variances from the previous year's budget.

Borthwick reviewed executive, town administration, town clerk, and election expenses.

Smith reviewed printing, bookkeeping, budget committee, assessments, treasurer, and trustee expenses.

Duszynski reviewed legal, personnel, and government building expenses.

Bergeron reviewed cemetery, insurance, general government, police, ambulance, fire department, building inspector, and emergency management expenses.

Salvail reviewed mechanic, road agent, highway, bridge inspection, and street lighting expense.

Posnanski reviewed transfer station, health, and welfare expenses.

Pusey reviewed recreation, library, cultural, patriotic, and conservation accounts.

Wells reviewed debt service, capital equipment, and improvements.

Crowther reviewed the sewer and water accounts.

The proposed 2016 Canaan operating budget is \$3,463,197 and if it is rejected by voters the default budget is \$3,555,099. Chair Davis reviewed the items that were included in the default budget. Chair Davis reviewed the Warrant Articles and corresponding fund

amounts on the articles and whether the Select Board and Budget Committee recommended voting for the articles. Chair Davis also reviewed the revenue budget with revenues other than taxes, which totaled \$1,795,734 and \$2,151,643 needed to be raised by taxes. The residents at Town Meeting can amend the Warrant Articles but can not go above the Budget Committee recommendations by more than 10% (about \$400,000).

Town Administrator Samson will submit the budget information to the DRA and expects to receive the MS7 for the Budget Committee to sign. He asked the members of the Budget Committee to stop by the town office sign the MS7 document on Wednesday or Thursday.

The public hearing was closed at 7:50 PM.

Dave McAlister expressed appreciation for the work done on the budget by the committee members, the chair and particularly the Town Administrator Samson.

3. Meeting Schedule

The Deliberative Session will be held on January 30th at 1:00 PM at the Canaan Elementary School.

The next Budget Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 7:00 PM for a reorganization meeting, to approve minutes, and share the annual committee schedule of meetings. The committee members who have terms that are up include Patty Duszynski, Philip Smith, and Sadie Wells.

4. Minutes Approval

Scott Borthwick made a motion which was seconded by Philip Smith to accept the Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes of January 13, 2016 as submitted and amended. The motion passed unanimously. The change was to add Dave McAlister to the attendee roster.

5. Adjournment

Scott Borthwick made a motion which was seconded by Philip Smith to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.