

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting & Public Hearing
Thursday, January 12, 2017
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Patty Duszynski, Al Posnanski, Martha Pusey, Denis Salvail, Philip Smith, Sadie Wells; Not in attendance: William Crowther. Town administrator Michael Samson; 3 public attendees: Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister, Alan Ricard; recorded by Roger Lohr.

Final 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 2017 budget for the town, the revenue budget, the default budget, and the warrant articles. The Committee had to vote on Warrant Articles 5, 8, 9, and 10.

2. Proposed 2017 Canaan Budget

Various updated budget documents were distributed to the members of the committee and public. The Budget Committee members reviewed the line item sections announcing the bottom line amount of each section recommended by the Committee and stating the previous year's budget.

Al Posnanski, the Select Board representative reviewed town administration, town moderator, tax collection, and election expenses.

Phil Smith reviewed financial administration, budget committee, treasurer, data processing, and trustee of the Trust Funds expenses.

Patty Duszynski reviewed legal, personnel administration, planning board, and government building expenses.

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

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

Al Posnanski reviewed transfer station, health, and welfare expenses.

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

Sadie Wells reviewed debt service, capital outlay for equipment, and improvements other than buildings.

Mike Samson reviewed the sewer and water accounts.

Town Administrator Samson reviewed the recommendation from the DRA regarding semantics to put funds into the reserves using the Warrant Articles and the operating budget. He also commented that a meeting will be held in April to adjust the water and sewer rates.

The proposed 2017 Canaan operating budget is \$3,569,830 and if it is rejected by voters the default budget is \$3,463,197 (a difference of \$106,000). 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.

With regard to the Warrant Articles that were not yet approved the Budget Committee voted on reserve transactions:

- 8-0 on Article 5 for the police cruiser
- 8-0 on Article 8 for the bridge
- 8-0 on Article 9 for revaluation
- 8-0 on Article 10 for government buildings

Chair Davis also reviewed the revenue budget with revenues other than taxes, which totaled \$1,329,676 and \$2,240,432 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 the 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 8:12 PM.

3. Meeting Schedule

The Deliberative Session will be held on February 11th at 9:00 AM at the Canaan Hall.

The next Budget Committee meeting will be tentatively held on Thursday, March 30, 2017 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 Bill Crowther, Al Posnanski, and Martha Posey.

4. Minutes Approval

Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by Philip Smith to approve the Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes of January 11, 2017 as submitted and amended. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment

Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by Philip Smith to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.