

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Stephen Freese via Internet, Jamie Jukosky, Al Posnanski, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail, Philip Smith Jr., Sadie Wells; Town Administrator: Mike Samson. Public attendees: Alan Rickard, Russell Wester
Committee member not attending: Patty Duszynski.
Recorded by Roger Lohr

Final Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Ellie Davis called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Four Budget documents including the Warrant Articles and revenues were distributed to the committee members.

Town Administrator Mike Samson stated that revenue number should be \$2,062,633. Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to accept \$2,062,633 as anticipated revenue in the town of Canaan for 2018. The motion passed 9-0-0.

The committee decided to review amendments to the previous meeting minutes documents later in the meeting.

2. Warrant Articles

Town Administrator Mike Samson explained the Warrant Articles. A typo was highlighted in the warrant document. Samson informed the Committee about a change in the Orange recycling contract due to an increase in recycling costs.

The Budget Committee reviewed the Warrant Articles:

Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to accept the Warrant Article 02 regarding appropriations in the amount of \$3,668,506 in the town of Canaan for 2018. The motion passed 8-1-0 (Davis opposed).

Article 03, which is the Canaan water and sewer appropriation (\$182,485 combined) was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 no.

Article 04, which is for the purchase of a truck from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was recommended by the Budget Committee; 8 Yes and 1 No (Davis). The words "Sterling Truck" will be removed from the article and the word "eighty" thousand will be corrected.

Article 05, which is for adding \$30,000 to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

Article 06, which is for adding \$55,000 to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

It was suggested to add the word "estimated" related to taxes to the article.

Article 07, which is for adding \$130,000 to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to be taken from funds that are available from the Unreserved Fund Balance was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

Article 08, which is for adding \$35,000 to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

Article 09, which is for \$10,000 to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund to be raised by taxation was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

Article 10, which is for adding \$30,000 to the Government Buildings Capital Reserve Fund from the Unreserved Fund Balance was recommended by the Budget Committee: 9 Yes and 0 No.

Article 11, which is for spending \$55,000 to purchase the chipper and authorize withdrawal of \$55,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund with payments being made during 2018 and 2019. This appropriation shall be non-lapsing through 2019. This article was recommended by the Budget Committee: 7 Yes and 2 No (Davis and Freese).

Petitioned Warrant Articles

Members of the Committee espoused their views about approving public funds for the various community agencies that are requested in many of the petitioned warrant articles. Opposing views included that the agencies should be supported by individuals who choose to support them, and that the agencies need public support because they are seriously underfunded while they provide important services to members of the community. The Committee's split votes on the petitioned warrant articles reflect these views.

Articles 14 - Public Health Council formerly the Mascoma Valley Health Initiative services: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 4 Yes (Bergeron, Freese, Jukosky, Wells) and 4 No and 1 abstention (Reise).

Article 15 - Grafton County Senior Citizens Council: the Budget Committee Recommends: 5 Yes (Bergeron, Freese, Jukosky, Reise, Wells) and 4 No.

Article 16 - Advance Transit: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 4 Yes (Bergeron, Freese, Jukosky, Wells) and 5 No.

Article 17 - Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 4 Yes (Bergeron, Freese, Jukosky, Wells) and 5 No.

Article 18 - West Central Behavioral Health: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 3 Yes (Bergeron, Jukosky, Wells) and 5 No and 1 Abstention (Freese).

Article 19 - WISE: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 4 Yes (Bergeron, Freese, Jukosky, Wells) and 5 No.

3. Minutes Approval and Other Business

A motion was made by Al Posnanski and seconded by Sadie Wells to approve amending the Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes of December 7, 2017. The motion passed with 8-0-1 (Davis). The amendment was to add Roger Lohr as the minutes taker to the document.

A motion was made by Al Posnanski and seconded by Sadie Wells to approve the Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes of December 21, 2017 as submitted and amended. The motion passed with 7-0-2 (Freese, Wells). The change was to add Roger Lohr as the minutes taker to the document.

A motion was made by Phil Smith and seconded by John Bergeron to accept the Select Board approved budget. The motion passed with 8-1-0 (Davis opposed).

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2018 for a Public Hearing on the Canaan 2018 budget.

Town Administrator Samson reviewed the process with the DRA. The Canaan Budget Committee members will need to sign the official form for the budget next Monday at the town office.

4. Adjournment

Phil Smith made a motion which was seconded by Sadie Wells to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.