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MINUTES
of
Town Meeting
Deliberative Session

January 30, 2016

and

Day of Voting

MARCH 8, 2016

Town of Canaan, NH

REPORT OF TOWN MEETING DELIBERATIVE SESSION

January 30, 2016

The Deliberative Session of the Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Dale Barney at the Canaan Elementary School, January 30, 2016 at 1:05 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Moderator read the rules: 1) no smoking on the premises; 2) only legally registered voters from Canaan may exercise their voting rights; 3) a person must be recognized by the chair prior to speaking and then should direct all comments through the Moderator; 4) all discussion must be related to the article on the floor; 5) there can only be one amendment at a time on the floor; 6) amendments must be in writing; 7) negative motions will not be accepted; 8) the right to speak as well as the right to be heard will be respected; 9) comments should be limited to three minutes or less; and 10) five or more signatures will be required for a petition for a paper ballot on any article.

The Moderator asked for a moment of silence to honor the men and women in the military.

Article 2

Shall the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, **not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately except as indicated**, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling the sum of Three Million Four Hundred Sixty Three Thousand, One Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars (\$3,463,197.00). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Three Million Three Hundred One Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Five Dollars (\$3,301,755.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustment required by previous action of the Town of Canaan or by law: or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 9 No 1 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 2 for discussion was made by David McAlister, second by Bob Scott. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 2 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$168,415) for Water and Sewer Operations for the Town of Canaan with \$78,403 to be raised and appropriated for Water and \$90,012 to be raised and appropriated for Sewer. **These funds are raised by used fees and are not funded by property taxes.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

No property tax impact. User fees fund these programs. No anticipated increase or decrease in user fees.

A motion to open Article 3 for discussion was made by Philip Smith, second by Jim Rancore. Milton Wilson asked how the water/sewer department is doing financially. Mike Samson, Town Administrator, explained that there is no increase in user fees despite the increase in budget. There is money coming in from other sources such as Lake View Condominiums. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 3 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for the purchase of a 1 ton truck with plow to replace the 2006 GMC 3500 Truck #806; and further, of this total, to authorize the withdrawal of up to Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, **with no additional amount to be raised by taxation.** Any trade in value or proceeds from the sale of the old truck is to be applied to reduce the purchase price to be within the appropriated \$40,000.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 1 **Recommends** this article

No property tax impact.

A motion to open Article 4 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by Philip Salvail. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 4 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Thirty Five Thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) for the purchase of a new 4 wheel drive police vehicle to replace the 2007 Ford Expedition; and further, of this total, to authorize the withdrawal of up to Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, **with no additional amount to be raised by taxation.** Any trade in value or proceeds from the sale of the old cruiser is to be applied to reduce the purchase price to be within the appropriated \$35,000.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 5 for discussion was made by Sam Frank, second by Bill Crowther. Sam Frank spoke in favor of this article. He said that two need to be replaced. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 5 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the previously established Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend. This sum to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance as of December 31, 2015 (surplus) and **will require that no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 6 for discussion was made by Bill Bellion, second by Milton Wilson. Bill Bellion spoke in favor of this article, and said that this is a continuation of the program that has been put in place to prepare for large purchases. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 6 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend. This sum to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance as of December 31, 2015 (surplus) and **will require that no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 7 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by David McAlister. Claude Lemoi asked if there is a written capital improvement plan. Mike Samson said yes and it is available on the website. Claude asked if it changes year to year. Mike said yes, there is a comprehensive plan that goes for many years; non-mobile equipment goes out 20 years. Claude applauded the efforts that the Town has made in this area. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 7 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the position of elected Police Chief and to allow the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Police Chief for the Town of Canaan. The appointive position will have protections as defined in RSA 105:2-a that require that a Police Chief can only be terminated for cause. This vote will remove the requirement of Canaan residency for Police Chief. If this article passes, then under state law (RSA 669:17-b), the existing elective position will remain in effect until Town Meeting of 2017, at which time the Selectmen will appoint a duly qualified Police Chief.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

A motion to open Article 8 for discussion was made by Kimberly Tracey second by Phil Smith. Sam Frank said that he is in full support of this article. Liability wise this a good step for the Town. Mike Samson said that there are historic reasons against this. But the Town will have a certain amount of protection with this and gives us a wider field of candidates to choose from when the position is open in the future. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 8 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 9

To see if the town will vote to establish a Library Private Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a composed of privately donated gifts, legacies, and devises for the operation of the Canaan Library and acquisition of personal property in furtherance of the Canaan Library and for programs sponsored by the Canaan Library. Furthermore, to transfer the total balance in the Canaan Town Library Special Account, which now holds previously donated gifts, legacies and devises, the balance of which was \$72,464.46 on December 16, 2015 from that Special Account to the Library Private Trust Fund; and further to name the Library Trustees as agents to expend from the fund; and further to direct that the fund be managed by the Library Trustees; and further to direct that both principal and interest of the funds transferred may be expended by the Trustees unless there is a contrary directive from the original donor. This is to establish the rules for the management of the Library Account. Recommended by the Selectmen. This Article **will require that no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 9 for discussion was made by Amy Thurber second by Bob Scott. Mike Samson said that there are a couple of house-keeping articles this year to keep the Town of Canaan legal, and this is one of them. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 9 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Landfill Closure CRF previously established on March 9, 1999 with a balance of \$79,719.38 as of January 1st, 2015, to the Economic Development Account for the Town of Canaan and deposit \$5,993.54 being the balance of the Rehabilitation Reimbursement Account of January 19, 2016 together with any additional interest that may accrue, into the Economic Development Account with the Selectmen named as agents to expend. The money for landfills is no longer needed. The one time investment in the account can be best used to help create a larger tax base to support the costs of the Town and School and revitalize the Village of Canaan. No additional money from taxes is requested or needed. **(2/3 vote required).** This Article **will require no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 10 for discussion was made by Bob Scott second by David McAlister. Mike Samson explained that this account has remained unused for a very long time. There are 3 possible uses for the money. If the town used it towards property taxes, the relief would be for a short period of time. We have a good plan in place for Capital Reserves, so we do not really need to put it there. The plan as written seemed the wisest choice to the Selectmen. Ernest Schori asked if the 2/3 vote is in the affirmative?? Mike said yes. Stephen Freeze asked why there are two amounts. Mike said that both amounts will be added together. Milton Wilson asked if the Selectmen will have control of how the money is spent. Mike said yes. And this will be a non-lapsing account. No further discussion, so the Moderator declared that Article 10 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Legislative Body (the Voters) as agents to expend from the Historical Museum Fund previously established March 13, 1984. This is to clarify the agents to expend. (Majority vote required).

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

A motion to open Article 11 for discussion was made by Bob Scott second by Vicky McAlister. Mike Samson explained that this is also a house-keeping article. The Selectmen want to see the voters as agents to expend. No further discussion, so the Moderator declared that Article 11 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to change the existing Library Renovation Trust Account with a balance of \$264.46, to the Library Renovation Capital Reserve Account, raise and appropriate \$264.46 from the balance in Trust Account and deposit that balance in the Library Renovation Capital Reserve Account, and appoint the Legislative Body (the Voters) as agents to expend. This will allow the Town to set aside money over several years for future repairs to the Library. (Majority vote required). This Article **will require no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 12 for discussion was made by Amy Thurber second by David McAlister. Claude Lemoi asked why the town needs a separate account when there is a Capital Improvement Plan? Mike explained that there has to be a separate account for everything, and right now there is no account for the Library and we need to establish one. Once again, this is more of a house keeping article. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 12 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 13 Revitalization Tax Relief

Will the voters vote to adopt the provision of **RSA Chapter 79-E** (Renovation or Replacement of Existing Buildings) that allows the Town to accept for consideration requests for community revitalization tax relief incentives in Canaan Village as determined by the map drawn by the Board of Selectmen on January 19, 2016. Tax incentives means the Town freezes tax assessments on new improvements to a qualifying structure for a limited period of time of one to five years. The revised tax assessment would be no less than the assessment prior to the request but would not increase because of improvements after the request and during the limited time period. A qualifying structure is a functionally, culturally or economically significant building in Canaan Village or a historic building, or important for housing or which is under-utilized or a building totally or partially destroyed by fire or natural event, or other purpose allowed by state law, all of which are determined by the Board of Selectmen. All applications will be reviewed, discussed and approved, rejected or modified at duly warned public hearings. All approvals will be reviewed annually. The request and relief will only be granted to owners who substantially rehabilitate or replace such structure within a year of the application's approval.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

A motion to open Article 13 for discussion was made by George Lazarus second by Alice Schori. Alice Schori asked if this affected the whole town. Mike Samson explained that the map drawn by the Selectmen is the center of Canaan Village at this time. It might be expanded in the future. He said that there is legislation to help towns offer economic development. This is not a zoning ordinance, no regulations to go with it. This will not be a reduction in taxes; the assessment is capped for a period of time. Jonathan Garthwaite said that he is happy to see efforts for revitalization. He was confused by Article 10 that will bring in around \$79,000 for economic development and this article too?? Mike explained that Article 10 is for the TOWN to use, not a specific property owner. This article gives incentives for a private property owner to improve industrial and commercial property in Canaan. The traffic counts indicate that plenty of people are driving through Canaan. We would like to stimulate growth in the core of Canaan and hopefully get people to stop as they go through. Kimberly Tracey asked who will write the guide lines and decide how many years it will apply to individuals. Mike said that the law states that it is between the Board of Selectmen and applicant. There will be an annual review. Kimberly said that it leaves a lot of room for personal opinions. Mike said that the law does have guide lines to follow and the decision making process will be public. The Board has also discussed application guidelines that would require a business plan, adequate capitalization, sufficient competence, and a review every two years to see if the assessment freeze was still necessary and to review the economic health of the business. Milton Wilson said that it is too bad we did not have this before because people such as John Dow would have benefited. Mike said that the Board would like to change that prior policy and move forward. The process will be public, and there will be posted hearings. Kim wanted to know if the town helps a business, then it folds in a year, what happens? Mike said that there are agreements that must be entered into by the parties including covenants that the property must be developed as agreed upon. If it is not, then the full taxes would become due and payable. Failure to meet the conditions of the agreement would have repercussions.

Stephen Freese asked if the property owner has to reapply every year or is it a continuation? Mike said the agreement would go on for 2 to 5 years but be reviewed at least every two years. John Bergeron asked if it would take a vote by the voters to increase the area served by this article? Mike said the key language is the first sentence in the Article, and yes, the voters would have to approve any expansions in the future.

Eleanor Davis made a motion to move the question, second by Shirley Packard. Voted and the ayes have it. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 13 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 14 Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization

Will the voters vote to adopt the provisions of **RSA Chapter 162-K** (New Development) that allows the Town voters the option of establishing one or more economic development districts in Canaan. No zoning, restriction of property rights, restriction of sale of property, or eminent domain would be authorized by this article. The purpose of the districts would be to make improvements like lights, sidewalks, water, sewer and roads in a relatively small, well defined area in the Town such as an industrial park, that would stimulate new commercial and light industrial activity increasing employment and new construction. Current tax revenues would not be used for improvements. Any improvements made by the Town and any operational expense or maintenance shall be paid for by half of the increased taxes on the buildings benefitted when the town improvements are complete. The balance of the new tax revenue would go to the Town General Fund. No action under this program would reduce existing tax revenues to the Town. This vote authorizes the Town to draw up a plan to be presented at public hearings. All final plans and budgets must be approved by the voters in the future.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

A motion to open Article 14 for discussion was made by Shirley Packard and second by David McAlister. Mike Samson explained that this is a vote to look for ways to improve the town. The voters will have to approve any changes that are brought forth. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 14 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 15

To see if the Town will authorize the sale of the following surplus properties:

Land behind Wells Cemetery on Follansbee Road, Tax Map 15C Lot 2, from Nicholas Clark 7/5/2000, Book 2471 Page 98. 1.4 Acres, excepting and reserving to the Town of Canaan and its assigns a right of way over and through this land from Follansbee Road to the Wells Cemetery.

Land on Turnpike Road next to Harold Neily. Tax Map 8 Lot 77, from Monmaney Builders 4/8/1999. Book 2386 Page 827. .05 Acres

Land off of Goose Pond Road bordered by Kondi and Stark, Tax Map 6 Lot 44a, Formerly Elwyn Clark 11/25/98, Book 2357 Page 788. -.23 Acres

Land at south end of Clark Pond Tax Map 1 Lot 38, Formerly Grigg 8/4/09, Book 3634 Page 977. 3 Acres

All to be sold at the direction of the Selectmen, by public sale using either a public auction and /or a commercial realtor at the discretion of the Selectmen to achieve the highest reasonable sales price.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

A motion to open Article 15 for discussion was made by Stephen Freese and second by George Lazarus. Eleanor Davis said that the wording is confusing. Is it 3 or .3 acres for Griggs? Mike Samson made a motion to add dashes after the Book and Page numbers and before acres, second by Stephen Freese. Voted and the ayes have it. Kimberly Tracey asked if the town has other properties and Mike Samson said yes. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 15 be placed on the ballot as amended.

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a total of Ten Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$10,500.00) from the non-lapsing Transfer Station Special Revenue Account for the installation of a bathroom (\$4,000), purchase of a shipping container for storage of hazardous waste (\$4,000) and reimbursement of \$2,500 to the general fund for the purchase of a skid steer in 2015. **This account is funded from recycling revenue and no additional tax revenue is to be used or raised for this Article.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

A motion to open Article 16 for discussion was made by George Lazarus and second by Amy Thurber. Mike Samson said that he has been advised by the NH Department of Revenue that the Town of Canaan is not able to use this Article to reimburse the general fund for the skid steer. The money has to be spent directly for the purchase of the item(s). So the \$2,500 will need to be taken out of the article and drop the total to \$8,000. Stephen Freese made a motion to take out the \$2,500 for the skid steer and make the total \$8,000, second by Claude Lemoi. Voted and the ayes have it. So the article will read:

“To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a total of Eight Thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) from the non-lapsing Transfer Station Special Revenue Account for the installation of a bathroom (\$4,000) and purchase of a shipping container for storage of hazardous waste (\$4,000). **This account is funded from recycling revenue and no additional tax revenue is to be used or raised for this Article.**”

No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 16 be placed on the ballot as amended.

Article 17—Petitioned Article

Will the voters raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two Dollars (\$2,932.00) to support Mascoma Valley Health Initiative services to Canaan residents in

2016. Services include the Indian River Youth 2 Youth after school program, community substance abuse prevention, school based oral health support and Public Health Council of the Upper Valley.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 5 No 5 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.009 per thousand or \$1.82 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 17 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by Caroline Freese. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 17 be placed on the ballot as written.
Article 18—Petitioned Article

Shall the voters raise and appropriate Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. for services to Canaan residents in 2015. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, the town food pantry, transportation, outreach support, Service Link support and more. In 2015, Grafton Senior Citizens Council, Inc. provided services for 218 Canaan residents and Service Link provided services for 117 Residents. The cost of providing these services was \$119,584.85.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 2 No 1 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 4 No 6 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.037 per thousand of \$7.44 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 18 for discussion was made by Caroline Freese, second by Jim Rancore. Milton Wilson was glad to see that the Selectmen recommend this article, and asked that everyone support the Senior Center. Mike Samson said that the town helped to step in and stop the legislature from cutting the funding in half to the Senior Centers. Caroline Freese expressed her displeasure for the votes not recommending this. Mike said that the Selectmen do not feel that it is the role of the local government to tell voters what to do with their money for social services. The Selectmen would like the voters to decide. Eleanor Davis pointed out that the town and the county contributes to the Senior Center and the Town of Canaan repairs the building when needed. Mike asked citizens to pay attention to new legislation that tries to cut funding to entities such as Service Link. Nelson Therriault made a motion to move the question, second by Eleanor Davis. Voted and the ayes have. So the Moderator declared that Article 18 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 19—Petitioned Article

Shall the voters in the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000) to be allocated to Advance Transit, Inc. to help support public transportation services in the Town of Canaan in 2016. In 2015, 10,724 passenger trips boarded Advanced

Transit in Canaan. Advance Transit provided services to the Town of Canaan at a cost of \$111,000.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 6 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.028 per thousand of \$5.58 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 19 for discussion was made by Amy Thurber, second by Nancy Charbono-Ricard. Milton Wilson asked that we please support this. Discussion on how much service Advanced Transit provides in Canaan and surrounding towns. Nelson Therriault made a motion to move the question, second by Caroline Freese. Voted and the ayes have it. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 19 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 20—Petitioned Article

Shall the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$9,700.00) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 1 No 2 **Does Not Recommend** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 7 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.03 per thousand of \$6.01 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 20 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by Dave McAlister. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 20 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 21—Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$2,200.00) for the support of West Central Behavioral Health. In fiscal year 2015—from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015—West Central provided 97 Canaan residents with \$11,636 in charitable mental health care.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article

The Budget Committee Yes 2 No 7 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.007 per thousand or \$1.36 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 21 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by Caroline Freese. Milton Wilson spoke in favor of this article. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 21 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 22—Petitioned Article

Shall the voters raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$2,100.00) to support the mission of WISE (Women’s Information Service), Inc. in providing free crisis, intervention and support services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, training to community members and professionals, and prevention education.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 4 No 6 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.007 per thousand of \$1.30 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 22 for discussion was made by George Lazarus, second by Bob Scott. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 22 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 23—Petitioned Article

Will the voters vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$3,819.00) for the support of Tri-County Community Action Grafton County for the purpose of continuing services of **Fuel Assistance Program** for the residents of **Canaan**.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 6 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.012 per thousand of \$2.37 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 23 for discussion was made by Caroline Freese second by Dave McAlister. Milton Wilson spoke in favor of this article. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 23 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 24—Petitioned Article

Will the voters vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the support of the Headrest, Inc. organization that serves 43 residents in Canaan through its Crisis Hotline, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 7 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.015 per thousand of \$3.10 on a home worth \$200,000.

A motion to open Article 24 for discussion was made by Bob Scott, second by George Lazarus. No discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 24 be placed on the ballot as written.

Article 25—Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution: **WHEREAS:** development of industrial wind turbine projects along the mountain ridges surrounding and visible in the Town of Canaan will negatively impact the Town's rural nature and scenic beauty, as well as its watersheds, wildlife habitat, recreation, health of residents, property values and municipal finances, now be it **RESOLVED** that the Town strongly **OPPOSES** the development of such ridgeline or other industrial scale projects in the Township of Canaan and any such projects located in surrounding towns. Construction of such large-scale wind operations in the Township of Canaan shall not be allowed now nor in perpetuity.

A motion to open Article 25 for discussion was made by George Lazarus, second by Alix Olson. Claude Lemoi spoke on this article. He said that this is a very complex issue with extensive repercussions. He does not believe that the economics are there to proceed with wind turbines. Mike Samson said that this article will give the Selectmen an indication on how the voters feel about Wind Projects. There was much discussion on the pros and cons of wind turbine projects. Alix Olson said that she would like to have meetings held to inform the voters before the vote. Bill Bellion said that the fire department is not equipped to handle fires connected with wind turbines. Phil Salvail said that the last sentence is not legally binding. Discussion concerning the wording of the article. A motion was made to amend Article 25 by Amy Thurber second by John Bergeron as follows:

“To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution: **WHEREAS:** development of industrial wind turbine projects along the mountain ridges surrounding and visible in the Town of Canaan will negatively impact the Town's rural nature and scenic beauty, as well as its watersheds, wildlife habitat, recreation, health of residents, property values and municipal finances, now be it **RESOLVED** that the Town strongly **OPPOSES** the development of such ridgeline or other industrial scale wind projects in the Town of Canaan and any such projects located in surrounding towns. A yes vote indicates opposition to industrial wind turbine projects.”

Voted and ayes have it. No further discussion so the Moderator declared that Article 25 be placed on the ballot as amended.

Patrick Andrew extended a thank you to all elected officials.
Milton Wilson asked for a moment of silence for Lee Hennessy's passing.

No further business, so the Moderator adjourned the meeting at 3:40 PM.

A true copy attest:

Vicky J. McAlister

Canaan Town Clerk

Report of the Day of Voting

March 8, 2016

The Day of Voting was called to order by Moderator Dale Barney at the Canaan Fire Station on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 8:00 am. The polls were declared open for the purpose of voting by ballots for Town Officials (Article 1), Articles 2 through 25. Supervisors of the Checklist Nancy Charbono-Ricard and Freda Washburn took their positions. Ben Yamashita, Carole Cushman and Harry Lang were ballot clerks, and Scott Borthwick was Gatekeeper. The absentee ballots were processed at 1:05 pm by the Moderator. The Moderator declared the polls closed at 7:00 pm. There were 2515 voters on the checklist, with 2 new registrations on March 8, 2016. Votes cast on the day of voting were 608 with 49 absentee ballots for a total cast 657.

Results for Articles 1 through 25 are as follows:

**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
CANAAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016**

BALLOT 1 OF 3
657 BALLOTS

Ricky J. McAlister
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice (s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p align="center">SELECTMEN</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>DAVID E. McALISTER 569 ✓</p> <p align="center">7 (Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">LIBRARY TRUSTEES</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (2) two <input type="radio"/></p> <p>KATHLEEN H. PETERS 493 ✓</p> <p>JONATHAN GARTHWAITE 431 ✓</p> <p align="center">5 (Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">MODERATOR</p> <p>For two years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>DALE BARNEY 572 ✓</p> <p align="center">3 (Write-in)</p>
<p align="center">TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>STELLA J. BUTTERFIELD 552 ✓</p> <p align="center">3 (Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (3) three <input type="radio"/></p> <p>SADIE WELLS 459 ✓</p> <p>PATRICIA DUSZYNSKI 417 ✓</p> <p>PHILIP SMITH, JR. 441 ✓</p> <p align="center">16 (Write-in)</p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p>For two years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>THOMASE SAMSON 12 ✓</p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>
<p align="center">CEMETERY TRUSTEES</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>KENNETH E. LARY 441 ✓</p> <p>ELEANOR J. DAVIS 134</p> <p align="center">2 (Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS</p> <p>For three years <input type="radio"/> more than (2) two <input type="radio"/></p> <p>CHARLES TOWNSEND 486 ✓</p> <p>KATHLEEN MEYERSON 417 ✓</p> <p align="center">11 (Write-in)</p>	<p align="center">SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p>For six years <input type="radio"/> more than (1) one <input type="radio"/></p> <p>BARBARA HAYWARD 18 ✓</p> <p align="center">(Write-in)</p>

ARTICLES

Article 2

Shall the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, **not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately except as indicated**, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling the sum of Three Million Four Hundred Sixty Three Thousand, One Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars (\$3,463,197 00).

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Three Million Three Hundred One Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Five Dollars (\$3,301,755.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Canaan or by law: or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 9 No 1 **Recommends** this article

373
YES
NO
230

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Dollars (\$168,415) for Water and Sewer Operations for the Town of Canaan with \$78,403 to be raised and appropriated for Water and \$90,012 to be raised and appropriated for Sewer. **These funds are raised by user fees and are not funded by property taxes.**

516
YES
NO
117

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

No property tax impact. User fees fund these programs. No anticipated increase or decrease in user fees.

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Forty Thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) for the purchase of a 1 ton truck with plow to replace the 2006 GMC 3500 Truck #806; and further, of this total, to authorize the withdrawal of up to Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, **with no additional amount to be raised by taxation.** Any trade in value or proceeds from the sale of the old truck is to be applied to reduce the purchase price to be within the appropriated \$40,000.

478
YES
NO
159

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 1 **Recommends** this article

No property tax impact.

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of Thirty Five Thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) for the purchase of a new 4 wheel drive police vehicle to replace the 2007 Ford Expedition; and further, of this total, to authorize the withdrawal of up to Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, **with no additional amount to be raised by taxation.** Any trade in value or proceeds from the sale of the old cruiser is to be applied to reduce the purchase price to be within the appropriated \$35,000.

438
YES
NO
197

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

No property tax impact.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the previously established Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend. This sum to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance as of December 31, 2015 (surplus) and **will require that no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

472
YES
NO
163

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment with the Legislative Body (the Voters) as Agents to Expend. This sum to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance as of December 31, 2015 (surplus) and **will require that no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

471
YES
NO
165

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the position of elected Police Chief and to allow the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Police Chief for the Town of Canaan. The appointive position will have protections as defined in RSA 105:2-a that require that a Police Chief can only be terminated for cause. This vote will remove the requirement of Canaan residency for Police Chief. *If this article passes, then under state law (RSA 669:17-b), the existing elective position will remain in effect until Town Meeting of 2017, at which time the Selectmen will appoint a duly qualified Police Chief.*

363
YES
NO
269

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING

ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
CANAAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016

BALLOT 2 OF 3

Vicky J. McAlister
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 9

To see if the town will vote to establish a Library Private Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a composed of privately donated gifts, legacies, and devises for the operation of the Canaan Library and acquisition of personal property in furtherance of the Canaan Library and for programs sponsored by the Canaan Library. Furthermore, to transfer the total balance in the Canaan Town Library Special Account, which now holds previously donated gifts, legacies and devises, the balance of which was \$72,464.46 on December 16, 2015 from that Special Account to the Library Private Trust Fund; and further to name the Library Trustees as agents to expend from the fund; and further to direct that the fund be managed by the Library Trustees; and further to direct that both principal and interest of the funds transferred may be expended by the Trustees unless there is a contrary directive from the original donor. This is to establish the rules for the management of the Library Account. Recommended by the selectmen. This Article **will require no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

551
YES
NO
92

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Landfill Closure CRF previously established on March 9, 1999 with a balance of \$79,719.38 as of January 1st, 2015, to the Economic Development Account for the Town of Canaan and deposit \$5,993.54 being the balance of the Rehabilitation Reimbursement Account of January 19, 2016 together with any additional interest that may accrue, into the Economic Development Account with the Selectmen named as agents to expend. The money for landfills is no longer needed. The one time investment in the account can be best used to help create a larger tax base to support the costs of the Town and School and revitalize the Village of Canaan. No additional money from taxes is requested or needed. (2/3 vote required). This Article **will require no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

521
YES
NO
121

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Legislative Body (the Voters) as agents to expend from the Historical Museum Fund previously established March 13, 1984. This is to clarify the agents to expend. (Majority vote required).

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

527
YES
NO
108

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to change the existing Library Renovation Trust Account with a balance of \$264.46, to the Library Renovation Capital Reserve Account, raise and appropriate \$264.46 from the balance in Trust Account and deposit that balance in the Library Renovation Capital Reserve Account, and appoint the Legislative Body (the Voters) as agents to expend. This will allow the Town to set aside money over several years for future repairs to the Library. (Majority vote required). This Article **will require no additional amount be raised from taxation.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

556
YES
NO
84

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 13 Revitalization Tax Relief

Will the voters vote to adopt the provisions of **RSA Chapter 79-E** (Renovation or Replacement of Existing Buildings) that allows the Town to accept for consideration requests for community revitalization tax relief incentives in Canaan Village as determined by the map drawn by the Board of Selectmen on January 19, 2016. Tax incentives means the Town freezes tax assessments on new improvements to a qualifying structure for a limited period of time of one to five years. The revised tax assessment would be no less than the assessment prior to the request but would not increase because of improvements after the request and during the limited time period. A qualifying structure is a functionally, culturally or economically significant building in Canaan Village or a historic building, or important for housing or which is under-utilized or a building totally or partially destroyed by fire or natural event, or other purpose allowed by state law, all of which are determined by the Board of Selectmen. All applications will be reviewed, discussed and approved, rejected or modified at duly warned public hearings. All approvals will be reviewed annually. The request and relief will only be granted to owners who substantially rehabilitate or replace such structure within a year of the application's approval.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

448
YES
NO
162

Article 14 Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization

Will the voters vote to adopt the provisions of **RSA Chapter 162-K** (New Development) that allows the Town voters the option of establishing one or more economic development districts in Canaan. No zoning, restriction of property rights, restriction of sale of property, or eminent domain would be authorized by this article. The purpose of the districts would be to make improvements like lights, sidewalks, water, sewer and roads in a relatively small, well defined area in the Town such as an industrial park, that would stimulate new commercial and light industrial activity increasing employment and new construction. Current tax revenues would not be used for improvements. Any improvements made by the Town and any operational expense or maintenance shall be paid for by half of the increased taxes on the buildings benefitted when the town improvements are complete. The balance of the new tax revenue would go to the Town General Fund. No action under this program would reduce existing tax revenues to the Town. This vote authorizes the Town to draw up a plan to be presented at public hearings. All final plans and budgets must be approved by the voters in the future.

The Board of Selectmen **Recommends** this article 3-0

426
YES
NO
182

Article 15

To see if the Town will authorize the sale of the following surplus properties:

Land behind Wells Cemetery on Follansbee Road, Tax Map 15C Lot 2, From Nicholas Clark 7/5/2000, Book 2471 Page 98. - 1.4 Acres, excepting and reserving to the Town of Canaan and its assigns a right of way over and through this land from Follansbee Road to the Wells Cemetery.

Land on Turnpike Road next to Harold Neily. Tax Map 8 Lot 77, From Monmaney Builders 4/8/1999. Book 2386 Page 827. - .05 Acres

Land off of Goose Pond Road bordered by Kondi and Stark, Tax Map 6 Lot 44a, Formerly Elwyn Clark 11/25/98, Book 2357 Page 788. - .23 Acres

Land at south end of Clark Pond Tax Map 1 Lot 38, Formerly Grigg 8/4/09, Book 3634 Page 977. - 3 Acres

All to be sold at the direction of the Selectmen, by public sale using either a public auction and/or a commercial realtor at the discretion of the Selectmen to achieve the highest reasonable sales price.

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article

533
YES
NO
80

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a total of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) from the non-lapsing Transfer Station Special Revenue Account for the installation of a bathroom (\$4,000) and purchase of a shipping container for storage of hazardous waste (\$4,000). **This account is funded from recycling revenue and no additional tax revenue is to be used or raised for this Article.**

The Board of Selectmen Yes 3 No 0 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 10 No 0 **Recommends** this article

531
YES
NO
86

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING

ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
CANAAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 8, 2016

BALLOT 3 OF 3

Vicky J. McAlister
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 17 – Petitioned Article

Will the voters raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two Dollars (\$2,932.00) to support Mascoma Valley Health Initiative services to Canaan residents in 2016. Services include the Indian River Youth 2 Youth after school program, community substance abuse prevention, school based oral health support and Public Health Council of the Upper Valley.

346
YES
NO
285

Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
Budget Committee Yes 5 No 5 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.009 per thousand or \$1.82 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 18 – Petitioned Article

Shall the voters raise and appropriate Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000.00) to Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. for services to Canaan residents in 2015. These services include congregate meals, home delivered meals, the town food pantry, transportation, outreach support, Service Link support and more. In 2015, Grafton Senior Citizens Council, Inc. provided services for 218 Canaan residents and Service Link provided services for 117 Residents. The cost of providing these services was \$119,584.85.

415
YES
NO
216

The Board of Selectmen Yes 2 No 1 **Recommends** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 4 No 6 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.037 per thousand or \$7.44 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 19 – Petitioned Article

Shall the voters in the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000.00) to be allocated to Advance Transit, Inc. to help support public transportation services in the Town of Canaan in 2016. In 2015, 10,724 passenger trips boarded Advanced Transit in Canaan. Advance Transit provided services to the Town of Canaan at a cost of \$111,000.

345
YES
NO
282

The Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 6 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.028 per thousand or \$5.58 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 20 – Petitioned Article

Shall the Town of Canaan vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$9,700.00) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH.

353
YES
NO
279

The Board of Selectmen Yes 1 No 2 **Does Not Recommend** this article
The Budget Committee Yes 3 No 7 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.03 per thousand or \$6.01 on a home worth \$200,000.

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 21 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$2,200.00) for the support of West Central Behavioral Health. In fiscal year 2015 – from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 – West Central provided 97 Canaan residents with \$11,636 in charitable mental health care.

285
YES
NO
354

Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
Budget Committee Yes 2 No 7 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.007 per thousand or \$1.36 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 22 – Petitioned Article

Shall the voters raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$2,100.00) to support the mission of WISE (Women’s Information Service), Inc. in providing free crisis, intervention and support services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, training to community members and professionals, and prevention education.

305
YES
NO
331

Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
Budget Committee Yes 4 No 6 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.007 per thousand or \$1.30 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 23 – Petitioned Article

Will the voters vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$3,819.00) for the support of Tri-County Community Action Grafton County for the purpose of continuing services of the **Fuel Assistance Program** for the residents of **Canaan**.

311
YES
NO
326

Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
Budget Committee Yes 3 No 6 Abstention 1 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.012 per thousand or \$2.37 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 24 – Petitioned Article

Will the voters vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for the support of the Headrest, Inc. organization that serves 43 residents in Canaan through its Crisis Hotline, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

277
YES
NO
362

Board of Selectmen Yes 0 No 3 **Does Not Recommend** this article
Budget Committee Yes 3 No 7 **Does Not Recommend** this article

Passage of this article will increase the tax rate \$.015 per thousand or \$3.10 on a home worth \$200,000.

Article 25 – Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution:
WHEREAS: development of industrial wind turbine projects along the mountain ridges surrounding and visible in the Town of Canaan will negatively impact the Town's rural nature and scenic beauty, as well as its watersheds, wildlife habitat, recreation, health of residents, property values and municipal finances, now be it **RESOLVED** that the Town strongly **OPPOSES** the development of such ridgeline or other industrial scale wind projects in the Town of Canaan and any such projects located in surrounding towns. A yes vote indicates opposition to industrial wind turbine projects.

413
YES
NO
225

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING