The meeting was brought to order at 7:02 PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Tim Lewis and Town Administrator Michael Capone were also in attendance. Others present: Ellie Davis, Al Posnanski and Matt Wilson. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes of the December 2, 2008 Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved and Selectman Lewis seconded the motion to accept the Minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2008 as written. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Review of 2009 Water and Sewer Budget

Michael noted that he and Gloria had reviewed some of the issues raised by the Board with regard to the telephone and electricity expenses in the Water and Sewer Budget at the November 25, 2008 Board meeting and had concluded that the numbers were consistent with actual expenses. Michael had also spoken with Joe Damours of Water System Operators with regard to the proposed budget. Joe felt the numbers were representative of actual and anticipated expenses. Chairman Reagan asked about the $2000 in legal expenses in the Water Budget. There was discussion of some past litigation which was cited as a fair reason to leave some funds in that budget line. The Board concluded that they would not make any changes to the budget submitted by Water System Operators.

Other Business

Michael had prepared a draft of the revised F.A.S.T. Squad contract for the Board to review. Michael mentioned that he had provided a copy of the draft for representatives of the F.A.S.T. Squad to review and they had no concerns with it. The only outstanding item was verification of the “non funding” provision in the contract as an OK to sign a multi-year agreement. Selectman Lewis expressed some concern with the contract fee and suggested that it might be better to have a flat fee instead of a “per capita” fee. He also suggested that since this was the first written contract for ambulance service, it might be better be put it in front of the voters at Town Meeting in March. He also wanted to see copies of the contract with Orange and Dorchester. Michael said that he would contact the F.A.S.T. Squad and see if they would be available to attend the December 16, 2008 meeting to discuss these issues.
Michael presented the Board with a purchase requisition from Fire Chief Bill Bellion for repairs to Engine 3. The requisition was to authorize up to $3,300 for repairs to the pump and transmission for Engine 3. The Board reviewed the requisition to be certain it was consistent with their understanding of what work was to be done by Lakes Region Fire Apparatus before signing it.

Michael mentioned to the Board that he had received a phone call from Kate at the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council with regard to the possibility of obtaining grant funding for money to finish repairs at the Senior Center. There was an upcoming workshop by USDA on how to prepare grants for the funding and Kate thought a representative from the Town could attend. The Board asked Michael to check with Tom and review the list of what was left to be done to the building.

Chairman Reagan mentioned that he had been up at the Water Plant building and noticed there was an issue with heat stratifying in the building. He suggested that we might want to install some sort of fan to circulate air in the building and move the warm air around the building to cut down on heating costs. Chairman Reagan was going to address the matter with Alan Hill of Water System Operators.

Chairman Reagan also reported that he had been told by Alan Hill that there would be a bill for well monitoring coming in from Eastern Analytical. Although there was no option with regard to covering the expense, Chairman Reagan suggested that a requisition for the testing should be processed. The Board agreed. Michael noted that it would be useful to have a requisition on file so we could have a record of this recurring expense for future budgeting purposes.

Michael mentioned that Bob Scott was going to Barker Steel to pick up the steel frame for the No. Lary Road Bridge. He was going to take it back to the Highway Garage and work on the decking. Bob had mentioned to Michael that given the amount of frost in the ground, he was going to have to set the new bridge on top of the old bridge for now and work on a permanent installation in the spring.

Al Posnanski asked if Glenn had given any backup to the Board with regard to the fee for recycling fluorescent bulbs or the increase in recycling fees for the Town of Orange. Michael said he had not received anything from Glenn with regard to either topic.

Al also asked if the Police needed to be advised of the increased enforcement of dump stickers after the first of the year. The Board felt that sufficient notice had been given to everyone. It was also noted that Police involvement entailed citing people for failure to pay any civil fines imposed for illegal dumping at the Transfer Station.

With no other business to come before the Board at 8:10PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and the Board voted 3-0 in favor.
Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen