The meeting was brought to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Bob Reagan. Selectman Tim Lewis, Selectman Scott Borthwick and Town Administrator, Michael Capone, were also in attendance. Others present and those who joined the meeting in progress: Ellie Davis, Phil Salvail, Tom Guillette, Al Posnanski, John Dow, Matt Dow and Marcia Wilson. Chairman Reagan led those in attendance in reciting our pledge of allegiance.

Minutes of January 26, 2010 Meeting

Michael noted that there was one spelling correction to the draft minutes. The Board reviewed the revised minutes and voted the following: Selectman Borthwick moved and Selectman Lewis seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2010 meeting as revised. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Groundwater Discharge Study-Discussion with Wright-Pierce and Water System Operators

Neil Cheseldine and Gary Smith of Wright - Pierce were present to discuss their findings with regard to the Groundwater Discharge Study. Joe D’Amours of Water System Operators was also present. Neil provided a brief overview of the findings of the report. Investigation of the site concluded that a portion of the Rapid Infiltration Basins (RIBs) had been constructed over soils that were not conducive to good infiltration thereby limiting the capacity of the RIBs in their present configuration. Neil proposed a modification to the existing basins that would move the discharge out of the area containing the limiting soils and into an area that would provide for additional capacity at the site. Based on their preliminary calculations, it would appear that we could increase the capacity of the modified basins to accept up to 75,000 gallons of discharge per day. To increase capacity beyond that would require additional testing at the wastewater plant to determine in what other areas RIBs could be constructed to further increase capacity.

Neil and Gary then took questions form the Board and those present with regard to the study. There was some discussion with Joe D’Amours of Water System Operators regarding procedures at the plant and how they might be modified to help increase capacity. Neil did not feel that it was a procedural issue, but one of where else you could look on that site or in other areas to build other basins.

Selectman Lewis asked about constructing another basin south of the existing basins. He felt that since we owned all of the land around the plant we would also be able to develop the area around the plant with an eye toward increasing capacity beyond the 75,000 gallons. This would be a necessity since increasing capacity to 75,000 gallons would possibly not even meet pending demand.
The discussion continued with regard to whether the Town would be able to do the work necessary to modify the existing basins. Neil suggested a first step of completing a proposal to submit to NHDES to be certain they would sign off on increasing the discharge capacity to 75,000 gallons if the proposed alterations were made. Once they had the preliminary buy in from NHDES, a plan could be developed to reconfigure the basins. The Board agreed that was a prudent course of action. Chairman Reagan and the other Board members thanked Neil and Gary for their report and for attending the meeting.

March/April Meeting Schedule

Michael and the Board members discussed the dates for the March and April Board meetings. After a brief discussion it was decided that the meetings would be scheduled for March 16, March 30, April 13 and April 27.

Project Updates – River Road Bridge and Water/Sewer

Michael informed the Board that the bids for the River Road Bridge project were opened at the offices of H.E. Bergeron Engineers at 2PM on February 5th, 2010. In all, nine bids were submitted. The bids ranged from $401,762.00 up to $694,210.00. The apparent low bidder was Glen Builders of North Conway, New Hampshire with the aforementioned bid of $401,762.00. H.E. Bergeron was going to review all of the bids for compliance prior to making a recommendation to the Board with regard to the contractor for the bridge construction. Michael noted that the deadline to have the project under contract was March 1, 2010.

Michael provided an update on the well blending project. Replenishing the filter sand was underway. The schedule was to run the system on one filter and replenish the sand in the two other filters first. After one of those filters was put back on line, the third filter would be replenished. Once that was completed, the piping to connect the well to the water plant could be finished and the additional baffle curtains could be installed.

Other Business

Michael informed the Board and those present that the BTLA mandated mediation session with the New Hampshire Electric Coop was scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2010 at 9AM in the New Hampton Town Offices.

Michael mentioned that the Police Benevolent Association is sponsoring a Candidates Night on Saturday, February 27 at 6PM. The event will be held at the Fire Station.
Michael informed the Board that he had an opportunity to follow up with Pat Mercer of Orange regarding the issue of the Canaan/Orange joint recycling project. Pat had found some information going back to 1989 and 1990 that indicated matching funds were to be raised by both communities to start this joint venture. At issue was the recent decision by the Board to switch to dual stream recycling at the Transfer Station. Apparently some residents in Orange were concerned that they were not consulted in the matter. No one present, could recall any such agreement and as of yet, Michael had not been able to find any reference to it in the Town reports from those years. Pat was going to forward the information she had regarding the matter to Michael. Al Posnanski suggested Michael contact Dexter Bucklin to see if he recalls any thing about this issue.

Al Posnanski asked if the Selectmen were continuing to pursue the matter of enacting ordinances in Town that would allow for the Police and Fire Departments to charge for certain services they provide. Selectman Borthwick mentioned that they had received a copy of Hanover’s alarm ordinance from Chief Bellion and were reviewing it.

Selectman Lewis wanted to clarify that the comment he made at the February 3, 2010 Department meeting when asked by the Chief of Police if the Board was going to support the raise he had submitted at the deliberative session was his opinion and that he was not speaking for the entire Board.

Al Posnanski mentioned that the rolloffs being returned to the Transfer Station were not completely empty. It would appear that because of the cold weather some material was frozen inside the rolloffs and would not come out when they were emptied. Selectman Lewis said that he would look into the matter.

Non-Public Session (RSA 91 – A.3-c)

With no further business before the Board, at 8:56 PM Selectman Borthwick moved, Selectman Lewis seconded and the Board voted 3-0 by roll call vote to go into non public session to discuss a personnel matter and advice from legal counsel. At 10:26 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to come out of non-public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 10:26 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to seal the minutes of the non public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 10:27 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lewis and voted 3-0 by the Board.

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Robert Reagan, Chairman

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Scott Borthwick

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Tim Lewis
Canaan Board of Selectmen