

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 3, 2019
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

for topic
BC website

by Cathy
SJM

Motion Al
Samson

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Nate Deleault, Jamie Jukosky, Al Posnanski, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk; Town staff: Canaan Town Administer Mike Samson, Cindy Neily, Sam Frank; recorded by Roger Lohr

Absent: Mike Riese Stephen Riese Freese

Absent Ellie Davis
Stephen Riese
Mike Riese Freese

~~Draft~~ Minutes accepted 10/17/19

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Sadie Wells called the meeting of the Canaan Budget Committee to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Minutes Approval

Al Posnanski made a motion which was seconded by Nate Deleault to approve the September 19, 2019 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted and amended. Approved by all voting committee members.

3. Budget Update

A. Overview

Town Administrator Mike Samson distributed documents and referenced a list of municipal aid funding that showed Canaan is projected to get about \$141,000. This "block grant" amount would be put into the unassigned fund balance and a Warrant Article would be needed to use it. A different grant from the state for the Canaan School District is also expected.

B. Trustees of the Trust Funds

Cindy Neily reported that there are minimal changes to the Trustees of the Trust Fund budget account. The fee for managing the accounts is sixth tenths of one percent and the funds are kept at Mascoma Savings Bank. Samson commented about the fact that the NH investment pool may have a better rate but does not have the same insurance protection as the Mascoma Savings Bank.

C. Police Department

Police Chief Sam Frank referenced the budget account for the police department which is similar to last year's budget except for salary and benefits. The retirement expenses are based on state decisions. Each officer will have a dedicated cruiser, and a new cruiser will be acquired with the CIP. He discussed switching to Explorer Hybrid vehicles over the next few years which will save expenses on fuel. He also commented that new cameras will be added to the vehicles and the cost of the cameras is covered by a grant.

D. Treasurer

There will be a 2% increase in salaries for the Treasurer budget account.

E. Bridges

There is a placeholder in the Bridges budget account but the town will be using CIP funds and state funding to work on two bridges in the upcoming year including Potato Road and Grist Mill Hill. There will be state funding for the majority of these projects. A third bridge (going to the Transfer Station) suffered flood damage and that project should get FEMA mitigation funding. Samson explained the bridge inspection and replacement process.

F. Transfer Station

Samson discussed the costs associated with recycling and trash on the local, regional and international levels. He also said that the town will conduct a bulky waste drop-off three or four times per year. He commented that he is considering a compost program, which could lower costs for the town's trash program.

G. Water/Sewer

Mike Samson commented that there is no significant change in the water/sewer budget. The revenue includes an amount for the reserve fund as the end-of-year-water budget account balance automatically is transferred to a reserve fund. He reviewed the water/sewer situation in the village including user fees, maintaining the population in the village, investing in system upgrades, and conserving water. Currently there is about 35,000 gallons of water being used daily and 40,000 gallons of sewage produced daily in the village of Canaan.

4. Canaan Budget Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee decided to schedule the next meeting for October 17. Minutes taker Lohr commented that the meeting will need to be recorded as he is unable to attend the October 17 meeting.

5. Adjournment

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Karen Wolk to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.