

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, October 18, 2018  
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Patty Duszynski, Stephen Freese, Al Posnanski, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail, Philip Smith Jr., Sadie Wells; Public attendees: Canaan Town Administer Mike Samson, Joe Frazier, Cindy Neily, Amy Thurber, Laura McDermott, Kathleen Peters, Denise Reitsma; recorded by Roger Lohr  
Committee member not in attendance Jamie Jukosky.

Approved Minutes

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 Denis Salvail to approve the April 5, 2018 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Approved by all voting committee members.

The Canaan Budget Committee Non Meeting document for the gathering held on September 20, 2018 was reviewed and in the fifth section the wording in the parenthesis about trash and recycling costs was removed.

3. Budget Update

A. Overview

Town Administrator Mike Samson distributed the updated 2018 Budget vs Actual document and he stated that there are some significant changes to programs and staff. These changes are in the police department salaries for part time and full time, dispatch, personnel administration for health insurance, police department for equipment including body cameras and a server, the legal case attorney costs, welfare for rent assistance, and highways for bridge projects that will not be done. About \$200,000 has been moved around but there is no change to the budget bottom line.

B. Trustees of the Trust Funds

Cindy Neily reviewed the trust funds where there are few changes. The committee discussed the donation box and John Bergeron stated that he will look into it.

C. Mechanic

Mike Samson reviewed the mechanic budget and stated that things are going well in the department with \$10,000 savings in supplies and \$25,000 unspent in repair parts to this point.

D. Water/Sewer

Mike Samson reported that there were no significant changes to the Water and Sewer budget. Health benefits were added. He explained the situation with the Capital Reserve

for replacing aspects of the system, which is in a "run until failure" mode. The operating parts of the system such as motors and pumps are being replaced when needed. He explained the septic part of the system which currently only requires a minimal amount of maintenance. More users would be needed to increase regular revenue for the Water/Sewer system.

#### E. Library

Amy Thurber distributed documents of the library budget and library-related statistics and she reviewed highlights of the documents. She noted the Friends of the Library support that is outside of the Canaan budget. She noted offerings, programs, and participation numbers that were in the data. Circulation has been similar for print and digital which is somewhat of a surprise. There is reciprocal usage with residents from Grafton and Enfield. There is a larger inventory of DVD at the library and museum passes are available. The Committee discussed the revenue disparity from Dorchester compared to the other towns. Active library users are being tracked to consider improvements to service.

#### F. Treasurer

Joe Frazier reviewed the treasurer and book keeper budgets, which have minimal increases. He also reviewed the 11 accounts, which include 7 in the Mascoma bank and 4 in the state investment pool.

#### G. Bridges and Transfer Station

Mike Samson commented about the major bridge projects underway including Potato Road and a culvert under Prospect Hill Road. There is a placeholder on this budget account, but when needed funding comes from the Capital Reserve and grants. There is a \$6,000 increase in the Recycling/Hauling budget related to the uncertainty in the materials market. A bulky waste drop off day is scheduled for November 10.

#### H. Canaan Budget Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee decided to schedule the next meeting for November 15 and the November 29 meeting will likely be unnecessary.

#### 3. Adjournment

Steve Freese made a motion which was seconded by Denis Salvail to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.