

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 15, 2020
Canaan Fire Station, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Nate Deleault, Jamie Jukosky, Al Posnanski, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk; Town Administrator: Mike Samson. Recorded by Roger Lohr.

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Sadie Wells called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Four Budget documents including the Warrant Articles, MS737, MS-DTB, and the proposed 2020 budget were distributed to the committee members.

A motion was made by John Bergeron and seconded by Al Posnanski to approve the Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes of December 19, 2019 as submitted and amended. The motion passed with 7-0-1 (Davis abstained).

Town Administrator Mike Samson stated that there were changes to the budget on the data processing, health insurance, police, fire department, ambulance, highway salt, emergency management, transfer station, recreation, library, flood settlement, state aid, and capital reserves. The increase in salt is expected to be permanent as there is a need for much more salt for the roads during winter storms. Related to the increase in the use of more salt on the roads, there is anticipation that the roads will need to be paved more often in the future. The police cruiser is \$37,000 which will come from the Capital Reserve. The bottom line for the General Fund amount is \$4,265,543.27.

The default budget was reviewed citing contracted items, land purchased, and anticipated taxes associated with the Fairpoint settlement. Mr. Samson also explained the water/sewer issues in the village along with the need to borrow for the pipeline project and the fee formula for town water.

A motion was made by Al Posnanski and seconded by John Bergeron for the Canaan Budget Committee to conduct a vote on the proposed 2020 Warrant Articles. The motion passed with 8-0-0.

2. Warrant Articles

Town Administrator Mike Samson explained the Warrant Articles. Some typos were highlighted in the some of the items on the warrant document.

The Budget Committee reviewed the Warrant Articles:

Article 02 is the General Fund Appropriation in the amount of \$4,036,477 and the default

budget is \$3,902,604. The Budget Committee recommended the budget: 7 Yes and 1 No (Davis).

Article 03, which is the Canaan water and sewer appropriation (\$194,617 combined) which was \$97,348 for water and \$97,269 for sewer was recommended by the Budget Committee: 7 Yes and 1 No (Davis).

Article 04, which is for the purchase of a dump truck at an amount up to \$180,000 from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and any proceeds from the sale of the old truck will be applied to reduce the purchase price within the appropriated \$180,000 was recommended by the Budget Committee; 7 Yes and 1 No (Davis).

Article 05, which is for the purchase of a police cruiser by withdrawing \$37,000 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and any proceeds from the sale of the old cruiser will be applied to reduce the purchase price within the appropriated \$37,000, was recommended by the Budget Committee: 8 Yes and 0 No.

Article 06, which is to appropriate money for road paving in the amount of \$71,357 which shall be in addition to the money budgeted in the General Fund Road Construction Budget and the amount will be appropriated from the 2019 HB 4 Municipal Aid from the state of New Hampshire budgeted in the 2020 Revenue Budget was recommended by the Budget Committee: 7 Yes and 1 No (Davis).

Article 07, which is to appropriate the amount of \$7,510,000 for flood mitigation improvements in Canaan as described with \$115,000 coming from the Unassigned Fund Balance and the balance from a US Economic Development Administration grant of \$6,008,000 and NH DOT funding in the amount of \$1,387,000 was recommended by the Budget Committee: 7 Yes and 1 No (Davis).

Article 08, which is to appropriate the amount of \$40,000 to be added to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund, was recommended by the Budget Committee 8 Yes and 0 No.

Article 09, which is for adding \$10,000 to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund from the Unassigned Fund Balance was recommended by the Budget Committee: 8 Yes and 0 No.

The Budget Committee decided it was unnecessary to vote on Warrant Articles 10 through 11 since there were no appropriations associated with those articles.

Petitioned Warrant Articles

Article 12 – Tri Country Cap in the amount of \$1,960 for the Homeless Intervention and Prevention Program; the Budget Committee Recommends: 4 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 3 No (Riese, Posnanski and Davis) and 1 Abstention (Delault).

Article 13 - Grafton County Seniors Citizens Council in the amount of \$13,000; the Budget Committee Recommends: 5 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 2 No (Posnanski and Davis) and 1 Abstention (Delault).

Article 14 – Mascoma Community Health Center in the amount of \$10,000; the Budget Committee Recommends: 4 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells) and 2 No (Posnanski and Davis) and 2 Abstentions (Delault and Wolk).

Article 15 - Advance Transit in the amount of \$9,550; the Budget Committee Recommends: 5 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 2 No (Davis, Posnanski) and 1 Abstention (Delault).

Article 16 - Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice in the amount of \$9,700: the Budget Committee Recommends: 4 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 2 No (Davis, Posnanski) and 2 Abstentions (Riese, Delault).

Article 17 - West Central Behavioral Health in the amount of \$2,800: the Budget Committee Does Not Recommend: 3 Yes (Bergeron, Jukosky, Wolk) and 3 No (Davis, Riese, Posnanski) and 2 Abstentions (Delault, Wells).

Article 18 – WISE in the amount of \$2,100; the Budget Committee Recommends: 4 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 3 No (Davis, Posnanski, Riese) and 1 Abstention (Delault).

Article 19 - Public Health Council in the amount of \$2,957; the Budget Committee Recommends: 5 Yes (John Bergeron, Jamie Jukosky, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk) and 2 No (Davis, Posnanski) and 1 Abstention (Delault).

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2020 for a Public Hearing on the Canaan 2020 budget at 7:30 PM. The Town of Canaan Deliberative Session is scheduled for Saturday, February 8 at 9:00 AM at the Canaan Elementary School.

Town Administrator Samson reviewed the process with the DRA. The Canaan Budget Committee members will need to sign the official form for the budget between Friday and Wednesday at the town office.

3. Adjournment

Al Posnanski made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.