

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 3, 2019**

Scott Borthwick called the open meeting to order at 7:30 AM at the Canaan EOC. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister and Al Posnanski and TA Samson. Others: John Coffy, Jon Warzocha, Horizons Engineering, Randall Suozzo, NH DES and Erin Holmes, NH DES.

Minutes 11-26-19 and 11-19-19

Motion by Al Posnanski and Second by Dave McAlister to approve the minutes.
Unanimous.

Flooring in Office

Samson indicated that after several iterations of flooring proposals, he was recommending going with a tough commercial vinyl sheet flooring at no more than \$6,000 from Baker Valley Flooring and a mini-split heater from Inov8v for the TA office at no more than \$6,000. The Board asked if there was sufficient funding in the Government Buildings account and Samson indicated that there was a balance of \$18,000 available and he believed it would total about \$11,000. Motion by Al Posnanski and Second by Dave McAlister to approve the plan and vendors. Unanimous.

NH DES Water Facilities Grants and Loans.

Suozzo indicated that a loan would be available from the State Revolving account for about half of the cost of replacing the water main from Canaan Street Lake to the Village. Erin Holmes indicated that the Drinking Water Trust Fund would not fund Canaan with a grant at this time. She stated the following reasons for the denial. Canaan's water rates were too low and the system could absorb more of the cost. Her second reason is that the Trust Fund is a funder of last resort and we had not applied to other funding sources. Both felt that we had not done a formal asset management program and therefore had not taken the steps to prioritize the Town's needs.

Samson responded as follows. Our fees are based on actual usage in gallons and have no minimums. This was required by DES in 2011. The result is many users are conserving water that reduces their quarterly bills to less than \$100. If we raise the rates, the School could be paying over \$30,000 a year. DES could not believe that this requirement was real and said they would check it out. They also said we could use a minimum fee based on 12,000 gallons and set a special lower fee for the school.

Samson indicated that he would look at CDBG, USDA and Northern Border for funding during the next year and then reapply to Drinking Water Trust Fund.

Samson disagreed with the idea that we had not done any asset management program. This program was done through the CIP program. The primary need identified was the replacement of the water mains that were 124 years old. The second issue was the replacement of lead service lines connecting the mains to the homes. We had started capital reserve funding in 2012 and had built up about \$100,000. Part of the problem was the low revenue from users. We had done preliminary engineering to calculate costs and worked extensively with Granite State Rural Water.

Other Business

None

At 8:45 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

Al Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen