

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 15, 2020**

Scott Borthwick called the open meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Conference Room Under Library. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister and Al Posnanski, and TA Samson. Others: Todd Gammell, Bill Bellion, Jordyn Bagalio, Bob Scott.

Minutes 9/1/2020

Motion by Dave McAlister and second by Al Posnanski to approve the minutes of 9/1/20 as amended. Unanimous.

At 5:02 PM Selectman McAlister moved to enter non-public session to interview potential candidate for hire. Posnanski seconded and motion passed unanimously.

At 5:07 PM McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting. Seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 5:08 PM Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Motion by Dave McAlister to offer employment to Todd Gammell as Highway Equipment Operator II/ Laborer at the rate of \$19.30 per hour for 90 day probation period with wage review at the conclusion with a tentative start date of September 28th. Second by Posnanski. Unanimous approval.

Review of proposed water and sewer rates

Samson reviewed five water and sewer rate increases and compared them to 5 other similar size systems. He also noted that we needed to raise another \$60,000 for the debt service and new part time operator. The balancing act is to avoid increasing the lowest users by a dramatic amount like 800% and still not increase the largest users to an unaffordable level. Samson said that it looked like the best approach was to have a base usage of 3,000 gallons a quarter and raise the rest of the rates by 12%. Overall, we need to raise revenues by at least 35%. Samson indicated that he would continue to look at rates over the next two weeks.

At 5:40 PM Selectman McAlister moved to enter non-public session to review training proposal with specific candidate including performance review. Posnanski seconded and motion passed unanimously.

At 5:55 PM McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting. Seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 5:55 PM Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Motion by McAlister and second by Posnanski to approve a proposal for paramedic training for a Canaan EMS employee with financing of the training to come from the Town. Samson is to draw up the contract for review. Unanimous.

Friends of Mascoma Softball Tournament

Motion by Dave McAlister to approve the request for a softball tournament on 10/17-10/18. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimous approval. Samson indicated that he had also approved an event at Elliott Field for the PTA. All events are to require 6 foot distancing or masks for spectators and non-play participants.

Reimbursement for Covid-19 related expenses from GOFERR Municipal Funding Source

Samson indicated that we completed the tally of expenses that were covid-19 related that were extraordinary expenses. The amount was fairly nominal and totaled \$7,760.62. Samson indicated that Paul Hatch told him to put it all under this funding source and that if it were FEMA eligible, it will be sorted out. Motion by Dave McAlister to approve the reimbursement request as drafted and sent. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimous. Samson indicated that since the amount was over \$5,000, they will have to hold a hearing on the receipt of the funds and what it will be used for when they are received. He also indicated that NHMA's newsletter was not clear whether the hearing was necessary or whether the budget committee will do a hearing or whether DRA approves. This is not overexpenditure yet and we consider this a reimbursement of unexpected emergency expenses. This went in on the 14th to meet time requirements.

At 6:00 PM Selectman McAlister moved to enter non-public session to discuss legal issues. Posnanski seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

At 6:10 PM McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting. Seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 6:10 PM Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Dave McAlister moved to support the Town of Grafton's letter to the Mascoma Valley Regional School Board requesting that all surplus money be used to reduce the tax payments from the Towns. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimous approval.

At 6:15 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by Dave McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

Al Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen