

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, December 2, 2021  
Canaan Police Dept EOC, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: Ellie Davis, Nathan Deleault, Stephen Freese, Cindy Neily, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail. Not attending: Dan Collins, John Bergeron, Sadie Wells. Town Administrator Mike Samson; Executive Assistant Sharon Duffy; Librarian Amy Thurber, Laura McDermott, Susan Nero, Derek Herro. Recorded by Roger Lohr

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Vice Chair Stephen Freese called the Canaan Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

2. Minutes Approval

**Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Cindy Neily to approve the November 4, 2021 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Approved by all voting committee members.**

3. Proposed FY22 Canaan Budget Update

The health insurance prices and coverage have been compared and the town will save \$36,000 by the decision. The insurance for the staff will cost the town \$440,665 and there will be increases for a small co-pay and emergency room care. Another budget adjustment was for the part time officer in the police department. This budget adjustment will overlap in case a second new officer is hired.

The budget is projected to underspend by \$53,000 in FY22 while fully funding the capital reserve. A public auction will be held for properties and if unsold, they will be listed with a realtor to sell. Samson explained how the properties were reasonably priced.

The total budget expense is \$4,825,33,98 and the revenue is \$4,837,331. The budget equates to a 1.3% increase in the tax rate. Samson also explained the NH room and meal tax and the grants associated with the water and sewer projects. The broadband project grants are currently uncertain for Canaan.

4. Library Department – Amy Thurber

Documents from the year's library statistics were distributed to Committee members and highlights were given. The library list of grants was cited. The Friends of the Library organization helps acquire things for the library.

5. Other

Samson announced that the Cash Market litigation has been resolved and he explained the plan to sell the property. There is some interest to develop a commercial endeavor there. The town would put the sale proceeds in an account for a future community center. He also informed the committee that the town is acquiring new Microsoft mail system to update the staff email. He announced that the town's welfare department is now on line.

6. Adjournment and Next Meetings

**Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Mike Riese to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2021 at 7 PM. The following Canaan Budget Committee meetings would be January 12 at 7:30 PM for the Warrant Article votes and January 13 at 7:30 PM for the public hearing on the budget.