

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, December 16, 2021  
Canaan Police Dept EOC, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Nathan Deleault, Cindy Neily, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells. Committee Members Not attending: Dan Collins, Stephen Freese. Town Administrator Mike Samson; Executive Assistant Sharon Duffy; Claude Lemoi. Recorded by Roger Lohr

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Sadie Wells 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 December 2, 2021 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Approved by 3 voting committee members (Neily, Salvail, Riese) with 2 abstaining (Bergeron, Wells).**

3. CIP – Planning Board, Claude Lemoi

A document outlining the 2022-2027 Canaan Capital Improvement Plan was shared with the Budget Committee. The key points included population trends (1990-2000 increase 10%; 2000-2010 increase 17.5% and 2010-2019 flat). There was a suppression of new building in Canaan due to COVID since 2019 and there were 16 new homes built in 2020 and it is anticipated more new homes will be built in 2021.

Twelve million dollars of projects are expected to begin in Canaan and half of the funding is from state and Federal grants (FEMA, NHDOT, EDA). The \$4.9 to be paid from the CIP over six years is about a million dollars higher than last year and this is impacted by a new fire truck, garage construction, town office, added annual road paving, and five bridges to be improved or replaced. Chair Sadie Wells commented that the town has set aside funding very well compared to other towns in the state to avoid the need to borrow.

The Committee discussed particulars regarding the town administrator transition due to happen in January-February 2023. Town Administrator Samson will support his successor in a transition period for about six months.

4. Proposed FY22 Canaan Budget Update

The updated items in the budget were reviewed by Town Administrator Samson. There was an addition to the part time police. The increase to the fire chief salary continues to be addressed using a formula. Emergency management and ambulance are part of that fire chief salary increase. A larger amount for someone to run the town welfare matters was included in the budget. Increases to emergency medical service salary, health insurance, and dispatch were explained.

Samson also commented about the savings on health insurance and the policy for part time employees to get health coverage. It is anticipated that the savings on health insurance will be incorporated into the proposed budget by the time that the Budget Committee votes on the budget.

5. Adjournment and Next Meetings

**Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to adjourn the meeting.**

**Approved by all voting committee members.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2022 at 7:30 PM for the Warrant Article votes and January 13 at 7:30 PM for the public hearing on the budget.