

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Canaan Police Dept EOC, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Dan Collins (Selectmen liaison), Ellie Davis, Nathan Deleault, Stephen Freese, Cindy Neily, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells. Town Administrator Mike Samson; Public attendee Dave McAlister.
Recorded by Roger Lohr

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Sadie Wells called the Canaan Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Documents were distributed including 2022 Warrant for Canaan, 2022 MS-DTB Default Budget for Canaan, and 2022 MS-737 Proposed Budget for Canaan.

2. Minutes Approval

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Nate Delault to approve the December 16, 2021 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Approved with 6 in favor and 3 abstaining (Bergeron, Davis, Freese).

3. Warrant Articles

On Article 03, the General Fund Appropriation in the amount of \$4,301,197 and the default budget (\$4,147,094) was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved with 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Davis).

On Article 04, for Water & Sewer in the amount of \$225,577 for operations which was \$123,398 for water and \$102,179 for sewer was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Michael Riese and the motion was approved with 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Davis).

The Canaan Revenue Budget for FY2022 in the amount of \$2,099,423 was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved unanimously 9-0.

On Article 05, which is for the purchase of two police cruisers to withdraw from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$76,000 with proceeds from the sale of the old cruiser to be applied to reduce the purchase price was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved 8-1 (Davis opposed).

On Article 06, which is the purchase of a pickup truck to withdraw from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$59,000 with proceeds from the sale of the old pickup to be applied to reduce the purchase price was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved 8-1 (Davis opposed).

On Article 07, which is the purchase of a one-ton plow truck to withdraw from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$130,595 with proceeds from the sale of the old truck to be applied to reduce the purchase price was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved unanimously.

On Article 08, to add the amount of \$10,000 to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved unanimously.

On Article 09, to add \$30,000 to the Government Buildings Capital Reserve Fund to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance was recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Denis Salvail and the motion was approved 8-1 (Davis opposed).

On Article 10, to add \$35,000 to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund from the Unreserved Fund Balance as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Denis Salvail and the motion was approved unanimously.

On Article 11, to add \$35,000 to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund from the Unreserved Fund Balance as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Denis Salvail and the motion was approved unanimously.

On Article 12, to add \$60,000 to the Fire Truck Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund from the Unreserved Fund Balance as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Denis Salvail and the motion was approved unanimously.

On Article 13, to add \$160,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment from the Unreserved Fund Balance as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Denis Salvail and the motion was approved unanimously.

There were no Committee motions on Warrant Articles 14-17.

4. Petitioned Warrant Articles

On Article 18, Grafton County Seniors Citizens Council in the amount of \$13,000 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved with 5 yes (Bergeron, Freese, Neily, Riese, Wells), 2 no (Davis, Salvail) and 2 abstained (Delault, Collins).

On Article 19, Mascoma Community Health Center in the amount of \$10,000 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by John Bergeron was not recommended with 3 yes (Bergeron, Neily, Riese), 3 no (Davis, Collins, Salvail) and 3 abstained (Delault, Freese, Wells).

On Article 20, Visiting Nurse & Hospice for VT and NH in the amount of \$9,700 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese and the motion was approved with 4 yes (Bergeron, Freese, Neily, Wells), 3 no (Davis, Collins, Salvail) and 2 abstained (Delault, Riese).

On Article 21, West Central Behavioral Health in the amount of \$3,920 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese was not recommended with 4 yes (Bergeron, Neily, Freese, Wells), 4 no (Collins, Davis, Riese, Salvail), 1 abstained (Delault).

On Article 22, WISE in the amount of \$2,100 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by Stephen Freese was not recommended with 4 yes (Bergeron, Freese, Neily, Wells), 4 no (Davis, Collins, Riese, Salvail), 1 abstained (Delault).

On Article 23, Public Health Council in the amount of \$2,846 as recommended in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by John Bergeron was not recommended with 3 yes (Bergeron, Neily, Wells), 5 no (Davis, Collins, Freese, Riese, Salvail), 1 abstained (Delault).

On Article 24, Tri-County Community Action Program in the amount of \$7,800 as recommended

in a motion by Sadie Wells, seconded by John Bergeron was not recommended with 3 yes (Bergeron, Neily, Wells), 4 no (Davis, Collins, Freese, Salvail), 2 abstained (Delault, Riese). Before voting on this motion, the Committee discussed how the town works with this program on community welfare assistance programs.

5. Next Canaan Budget Committee Meetings and Other Business

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is the public hearing on the Canaan 2022 budget at 7:30 PM on Thursday, January 13, 2022. Assignments for committee members for the public hearing were sent to committee members via email. The Town of Canaan Deliberative Session is scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 1:00 PM at the Canaan Elementary School. Voting will not be available for Zoom attendees at that meeting.

Town Administrator Mike Samson reviewed the process with the DRA. The Canaan Budget Committee members will need to sign the official form for the budget by January 20 at the town office.

There are three open positions on the Canaan Budget Committee for 2022 (Delault, Wolk, and Wells) and to run for these positions contact the town clerk.

6. Adjournment and Next Meetings

Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

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