

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Canaan Police Dept EOC, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Dan Collins, Ellie Davis, Nathan Deleault, Cindy Neily, Mike Riese, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk. Town Administrator Mike Samson; Executive Assistant Sharon Duffy; Patty Duszynski, Dave McAlister, Salvatore Percia; recorded by Roger Lohr

APPROVED MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Sadie Wells called the Canaan Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Minutes Approval

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to approve the January 13, 2022 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Approved by all voting committee members with 2 abstaining (Ellie Davis, Karen Wolk).

3. Appointment of Committee Member to Replace Stephen Freese's Term

There were three Canaan residents who were interested in serving on the Canaan Budget Committee to fill the remaining term for Stephen Freese through March 2023. The interested residents were Patty Duszynski, Dave McAlister, and Salvatore Percia and they each introduced themselves and commented about their perspectives regarding town financial matters.

Uncertainty was expressed among the Committee members regarding the process and appointment to fill the committee member vacancy. There was a discussion about whether there was interest in the committee members using a written ballot or holding nonpublic session to avoid awkwardness or prevent damage to anyone's reputation. It was decided that committee members would raise hands in a vote in public to express support in favor of each of the candidates. The candidate with the most votes would be appointed as committee member.

A statement was made regarding the need for experience in town affairs during the town's coming transitional period and another statement was made about the desire for fresh perspectives. Committee members stated the number of years that they had served on the Canaan Budget Committee. The Committee members then voted on the position appointment with 6 in favor of Dave McAlister (Bergeron, Davis, Deleault, Neily, Riese, Salvail) and 3 in favor of Salvatore Percia (Collins, Wells, Wolk). Dave McAlister accepted the appointment and was sworn in by Town Administrator Mike Samson.

4. Election of Committee Officers

The Committee discussed options for committee officers.

Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by Michael Riese to elect Dave McAlister as Budget Committee chair, Nate Deleault as Budget Committee vice chair and Ellie Davis as Budget Committee secretary. Approved by all voting committee members with one opposed (Dan Collins).

5. Adjournment

Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Dave McAiister to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 2022 and a meeting notice will be sent to the Committee members.