

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, November 17, 2022  
Canaan Police Dept EOC, Canaan, NH

Attendees: Budget Committee members: John Bergeron, Ellie Davis, Nathan Deleault, Stephen Freese, Dave McAlister, Cindy Neily, Denis Salvail, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk. Town Administrator Ned Connell, Assistant Sharon Duffy, Amy Thurber, Librarian; Public: Angie Robinson, Mike Samson; Committee Member Not Attending: Mike Riëse; recorded by Roger Lohr.

APPROVED MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Dave McAlister called the Canaan Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Stephen Freese requested an agenda be sent to him.

**2. Minutes Approval**

**John Bergeron made a motion which was seconded by Sadie Wells to approve the November 3, 2022 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted and amended. Discussion:** Attendee roster changes; Item 6D replace residents with public. **Approved (Davis abstained).**

**3. Library**

Amy Thurber distributed a document with statistics about the Canaan Library. Circulation and library visitation is approaching levels of the activity prior to the pandemic. A \$1,000 grant was received for children's books in a partnership with the elementary school.

**4. Health Insurance**

TA Ned Connell had heard that there would be a 17.9% increase in health insurance rates but Mike Samson heard that the increase would only be 8.4%. Connell will follow up to confirm the insurance rate for the coming year. This rate will be applicable for a half year starting in July. The lower rate should decrease the budget expenses and lower the tax rate.

**Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by Nate Delault to form a committee to begin in March and study health insurance options for Canaan employees and compare other towns' insurance programs. The committee would consist of 3 Budget Committee members, one Select Board member and one person from the general public. The motion was approved.**

**5. Other Business**

Chair McAlister discussed the need for a December 15 meeting to finalize budget deliberations. It was stated that there is no funding for the recreation department because a volunteer is running and any expenses will be covered by other budget line items. It was stated that the Cozy Corner sale closed.

**6. Adjournment**

**Denis Salvail made a motion which was seconded by Sadie Wells to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2022. Topics covered to include mechanic, trustees of trust funds, water and sewer, health insurance.