

Canaan Budget Committee Meeting  
Thursday, December 15, 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, Mike Riese, Sadie Wells, Karen Wolk. Town Administrator Ned Connell, residents Claude Lemoi, Sal Percia, Cheryl Burdett (via Zoom); recorded by Roger Lohr

APPROVED MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Dave McAlister called the Canaan Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**2. Minutes Approval**

**John Bergeron made a motion which was seconded by Sadie Wells to approve the November 17, 2022 Canaan Budget Committee meeting minutes as submitted and amended.**

Discussion: Angie Robinson was added to the attendees at the meeting and a motion was made to approve the change to the minutes. **Approved 7-0-1 (abstention Riese).**

**3. CIP Report and Discussion**

Claude Lemoi reviewed the CIP Committee report. The CIP includes six areas: fire mobile, police mobile, highway, ambulance, bridges, and buildings. The projected costs for vehicles in the CIP have increased dramatically for the upcoming six year period. There are nine vehicles/equipment to be replaced within that time period. It was added that the equipment replacement schedule was accelerated due to a variety of reasons. The maintenance for town vehicles will be improved to improve vehicles longevity and the town garage was expanded to regularly service the town equipment.

Lemoi explained the decision to get a bank loan for a grader. The CIP activity will have to go before the voters in Warrant Articles. The CIP will need an additional \$56,000 per year to cover the capital reserve plan plus \$42,000 for the annual loan payments for the grader.

The police and fire equipment inflated annual costs are 5.27% higher and the highway equipment will cost 4.4% more. These rates may change with time as inflation rises or falls. The town office future is uncertain but it is a lower priority for the town. There is a need to explore options for the town buildings and a committee will be established to look into it. The library third floor opportunity was discussed and it had previously been rejected for town office use.

The committee expressed appreciation for help provided by Canaan resident Sal Percia in the CIP report and planning.

**4. 2023 Canaan Budget Expense Review and Approval**

The committee commented about a few of the budget expense areas and changed the equipment capital outlay amount to \$40,000. It was agreed to the budget expense amount of \$4,636,050.79.

**Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to approve the increase in the Capital Outlay Equipment to \$40,000 The motion was approved with one opposed (Davis)**

**Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to approve the 2023**

**Canaan Budget expense in the amount of \$4,636,050.79. The motion was approved with two opposed (Davis, Salvail).**

#### **5. 2023 Canaan Budget Revenue Review and Approval**

TA Ned Connell explained three changes on the revenue document as placeholders. The committee discussed how gifts to the town are handled and there was a request to track the gifts and donations. There was a discussion about department areas that are off the budget such as recycling and recreation.

It was suggested that the revenue document replace “YTD” with “Actual.”

**Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by John Bergeron to approve the 2023 Canaan Budget revenue in the amount of \$5,053,988.13. The motion was approved with one opposed (Davis).**

#### **6. Assignments for Public Hearing and Next Meetings**

It was decided that Sadie Wells would forward the list of assignments for the public hearing to the committee secretary to distribute to the committee members. TA Ned Connell expressed appreciation to the committee for its work on the budget.

The next meetings will be Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 7:30 PM to review and vote on the Warrant Articles and Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 7:30 PM for the public hearing of the 2023 Canaan Budget, Warrant Articles, and the default budget.

#### **7. Adjournment**

**Sadie Wells made a motion which was seconded by Cindy Neily to adjourn the meeting. Approved by all voting committee members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.**

The next Canaan Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2023 and January 12, 2023. Topics covered to include the Warrant Articles and the Public Hearing respectively.