TOWN OF CANAAN
BOARD OF FINANCE, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2024, 6:30PM
Town Hall
108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031

Present - In Person:
Members: Amy Wynn, Steve Dean, Thomas Wilson, John Steines, David Wilburn.
Alternate: Ginger Betti

Present Via Zoom:
Member: Carol Staats
Alternate: Karl Munson

Absent: John Haddon

1) Call to Order
Amy Wynn called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2) Seating of Alternates
No action taken

3) Discussion regarding Treasurer/Bookkeeper
Amy Wynn explained the employee had requested the discussion be held in Executive Session. Amy also explained the First Selectman, David Barger, had spoken with Town Counsel who advised the meeting was not inappropriate for the Board of Finance to have this discussion.

Thomas Wilson asked to go on the record that he objected to the meeting discussion. He stated it was a Board of Selectmen’s decision and the Board of Finance had just met a few weeks ago at which this topic was not discussed. Amy Wynn explained that particular meeting was an educational meeting and felt given the concerns of several Board of Finance members, the proper discussion would be with the entire Board of Finance as a whole in order to deliberate as a Board and share ideas.

Steve Dean also wanted it on the record that he objected to the meeting discussion.

At this point, Carol Staats made a comment identifying the employee to be discussed (Treasurer/Bookkeeper) by name. First Selectman David Barger stated the meeting must be adjourned because the employee was named in Public Session, breaking an obligation to that employee that the matter would only be discussed in private during Executive Session. Thomas Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Steve Dean seconded the motion. During discussion John Steines asked First Selectman Barger which procedural process required a meeting to be adjourned if an employee’s name was mentioned publicly. Dave Barger referenced the request for Executive Session by the employee and recommended erring on the side of caution regarding any question about the validity of the meeting by adjourning. Thomas Wilson, Steve Dean, David Wilburn and Amy Wynn voted Yea to adjourn. John Steines and Carol Staats voted Nay. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.

Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary Denise Cohn.