Town of Canaan
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 6:00 PM Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031
In person and via Zoom

Members Present:

In Person: First Selectman David Barger; Selectman Christopher Kinsella; Selectman Judy Jacobs
Via Zoom: None
Absent: None

1. Call to Order

First Selectman Barger called the Regular Meeting to order at **6:00 PM**.

2. Additions to the Agenda

Added under New Business:

- **10F** – Supplemental Appropriation: Town Hall basement humidifiers
- **10G** – Supplemental Appropriation: Senior Center painting (STEAP supplement)

Motion to add items 10F and 10G: Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

Correction: Item **10C** should read *Falls Village Historic District Study Committee* (not Historical Society). **Motion to correct wording:** Barger; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

3. Public Comment

One question regarding STEAP painting match funds. Clarification provided: the previously set-aside **$125,000** has been partially used for other capital needs (e.g., trash compactor). Additional appropriation is required due to increased material costs.

4. Approval of Minutes

a) September 14, 2026 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Kinsella; Seconded: Jacobs; **Vote: Unanimous**

5. Treasurer and Tax Collector Reports

(Reports attached to Board of Finance minutes of October 13, 2026.)

a) June (final) and August 2026 Treasurer's Reports

b) **Motion to receive:** Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote:** Barger yea; Jacobs yea; Kinsella nay. **Motion passes.**
c) **September 2026 Tax Collector's Report**
Motion to receive: Kinsella; Seconded: Jacobs; **Vote:** Barger yea; Jacobs yea; Kinsella nay. **Motion passes.**

6. Communications

a. Written (read into record)

- LCD / Eversource – Letter thanking Eversource for donating and installing a communications pole at the Firehouse.
- Region One Organizational Study – Notice of upcoming forums; request for two representatives. Martin Deeg volunteered.
- Letter from residents Amy Wynn & Carl Munson – Concern regarding lack of progress on the 35 Railroad Street easement; request for deadlines and exploration of alternatives including demolition quotes and revisiting prior offers. BOS will call a special meeting.

b. Oral: None

7. First Selectman's Report

STEAP Grant

- Electrical work for trash compactor awarded to **Sharon Electric**.
- Senior Center painting bid awarded to **Valley Restoration**.
- Assessor's roof RFP in final preparation.
- Pavilion/pool house design nearing completion.

Blue Ribbon Committee on Economic Development

Amy Wynn expressed interest; will be added under Any Other Business.

NHCOG – Household Hazardous Waste Day

October 24, 2026, at Torrington WPCF. Preregistration required.

Monthly Building Official Report

19 permits issued; construction value **$167,157**; fees **$1,952**.

Recreation Commission

- Autumn at the Town Farm: October 17 (11–4 PM), rain date October 18.
- Trunk or Treat: October 31.

Transfer Station Report

State tire recycling program launched. Tires now collected in dedicated container; no fee due to statewide **$2 tire surcharge**. Oversized tire guidance pending.

Housatonic River Commission "Meet the Commissioners" event held October 4. Notes on Wild & Scenic designation and educational grant opportunities.

8. Selectmen's Reports

- Historic District signs cleaned and relocated as needed.
- State historic sign on the Green will be repaired locally (state no longer maintains them).
- No updates from Cardinal Engineering.

9. Old Business

a. 35 Railroad Street

Attorney requested clarifying language for easement documents. Special BOS meeting to be scheduled.

b. Affordable Housing Plan Task Force

Upcoming presentation on PA 25-1.

c. Cobble Road Culvert & Bridge

Bridge in mid-design phase (24-month process). No update from Cardinal Engineering on culvert.

10. New Business

a. FV Volunteer Fire Department Request

Use of Town Green and road closure for the **26th Annual Ed McGuire Memorial Cannonball Run**, Saturday, November 7, 2026 (8:30 AM–1:30 PM).

Motion to approve: Kinsella; Seconded: Jacobs; **Vote: Unanimous**

b. Board of Assessment Appeals – Appointment

Request to appoint **Susan Kelsey** as Alternate. Item tabled pending clarification of alternate vs. temporary member rules and minority representation.

Motion to table: Barger; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

c. Falls Village Historic District Study Committee

Resignations accepted with regret:

- Frank Hadsell (Alternate)
- Cheryl Aeshliman (Regular)

Motion to accept resignations: Barger; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

Appointment: **Anne Bidou** as Regular Member

Motion to appoint: Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous** Alternate vacancy remains.

d. Town Cemetery Sexton Appointment of **Stephanie Astrow** as Sexton effective October 13, 2026.

Motion to appoint: Barger; Seconded: Jacobs; **Vote: Unanimous**

e. Set Town Meeting Date

Town Meeting scheduled for **Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:00 PM**, Town Hall.

Purpose: release of **$113,000 ambulance appropriation** and additional items. **Motion to schedule:** Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

f. Supplemental Appropriation – Town Hall Basement Humidifiers Up to **$7,000** from 107/108 Main Street Nonrecurring Capital Account. Forwarded to Board of Finance for Town Meeting.

Motion to approve: Barger; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

g. Supplemental Appropriation – Senior Center Painting Up to **$5,000** from Painting Reserve Nonrecurring Capital Account. Forwarded to Board of Finance for Town Meeting.

Motion to approve: Barger; Seconded: Jacobs; **Vote: Unanimous**

11. Any Other Business

Blue Ribbon Committee Appointment

Amy Wynn appointed.

Motion to appoint: Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

Solar Committee

Committee formally disbanded. BOS will consider future solar initiatives after Blue Ribbon Committee recommendations. Opportunities such as school parking lot solar awnings remain open for review.

Motion to dismiss Solar Committee as formed: Barger; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

12. Public Comment

None.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:33 PM: Jacobs; Seconded: Kinsella; **Vote: Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Fife, Recording Secretary

Attachments:

- Communications from Litchfield County Dispatch, Inc.
- Region One Organizational Study notice
- Correspondence from residents Amy Wynn and Carl Munson
- Building Official's Report
- Tire Recycling Program information
- Resignations – Falls Village Historic District Study Committee

Motion/Action

Item	Motion / Action	Made By	Seconded By	Vote	Notes
Add Agenda Items 10F & 10G	Add items	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Correct wording for Item 10C	Change “Historical Society” to “Historic District Study Committee”	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Approve Minutes (9/14/26)	Approve	Kinsella	Jacobs	Unanimous	—
Receive Treasurer’s Reports (June final & Aug 2026)	Receive	Jacobs	Kinsella	2–1 (Kinsella nay)	Motion passes
Receive Tax Collector Report (Sept 2026)	Receive	Kinsella	Jacobs	2–1 (Kinsella nay)	Motion passes
Approve Cannonball Run use of Town Green	Approve	Kinsella	Jacobs	Unanimous	Nov. 7, 2026
Table BAA Alternate Appointment	Table	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	Pending rule clarification
Accept Resignations (FV Historic District Study Committee)	Accept	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Appoint Anne Bidou (Regular Member)	Appoint	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Appoint Stephanie Astrow (Sexton)	Appoint	Barger	Jacobs	Unanimous	Effective 10/13/26
Schedule Town Meeting (10/26/26)	Schedule	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	6:00 PM
Supplemental Appropriation – Humidifiers	Approve	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	Up to $7,000
Supplemental Appropriation – Senior Center Painting	Approve	Barger	Jacobs	Unanimous	Up to $5,000
Appoint Amy Wynn (Blue Ribbon Committee)	Appoint	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	—

Item	Motion / Action	Made By	Seconded By	Vote	Notes
Dismiss Solar Committee	Dismiss	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Adjourn	Adjourn	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	6:33 PM

Tabled

Item	Reason	Motion By	Second	Vote	Notes
Board of Assessment Appeals – Alternate Appointment (Susan Kelsey)	Clarification needed on alternate vs. temporary member rules; minority representation	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	Pending review

Appointments/Resignations

Category	Name	Action	Effective Date	Motion	Second	Vote	Notes
FV Historic District Study Committee	Frank Hadsell	Resignation (Alternate)	—	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	Accepted with regret
FV Historic District Study Committee	Cheryl Aeshliman	Resignation (Regular)	—	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	Accepted with regret
FV Historic District Study Committee	Anne Bidou	Appointment (Regular)	10/13/26	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	Alternate vacancy remains
Town Cemetery	Stephanie Astrow	Appointment (Sexton)	10/13/26	Barger	Jacobs	Unanimous	—
Blue Ribbon Committee	Amy Wynn	Appointment	10/13/26	Jacobs	Kinsella	Unanimous	—
Solar Committee	—	Committee dismissed	10/13/26	Barger	Kinsella	Unanimous	BOS may revisit future solar initiatives

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Time	Event / Meeting	Location	Notes
Oct. 17, 2026	11–4 PM	Autumn at the Town Farm	Town Farm	Rain date Oct. 18
Oct. 24, 2026	—	Household Hazardous Waste Day	Torrington WPCF	Preregistration required
Oct. 26, 2026	6:00 PM	Town Meeting	Town Hall	Ambulance appropriation + additional items
Oct. 31, 2026	—	Trunk or Treat	—	Recreation Commission
Nov. 7, 2026	8:30 AM–1:30 PM	Ed McGuire Memorial Cannonball Run	Town Green / Road Closure	FV Volunteer Fire Department

Gmail First Selectman <firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Donation and Installation at Falls Village Fire House

1 message

Dan Soule <dsoule@lcd911.com> Mon, Oct 5, 2026 at 3:11 PM
To: Cayle.sargent@eversource.com
Cc: "WALDRON, TIMOTHY E" <timothy.waldron@eversource.com>, First Selectman <firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>, Matt Hansen <roper4186@aol.com>, Michelle McGuire <mmcguire21@aol.com>, Eric Epstein <eepstein@lcd911.com>

Cayle Sargent
Electric Operations Manager
Eversource — Torrington Area Work Center

Dear Cayle,

On behalf of Litchfield County Dispatch, Inc., First Selectman David Barger, the Town of Falls Village Emergency Management, and the Falls Village Fire Department, thank you to Eversource for donating and installing the pole for our radio communications project at the Falls Village Fire House. Your contribution will help improve radio coverage for fire and EMS personnel in Falls Village and the surrounding area, supporting reliable communications during emergency responses.

We appreciate Tim Waldron's coordination and your operations team's work to complete the installation. Their willingness to work with us on the pole selection, placement, and installation has been a valuable part of moving this improvement forward.

We value the continued partnership between Eversource, LCD, the Town of Falls Village, and our local first responders. Beyond this generous donation, we sincerely appreciate Eversource's continued support of the men and women who respond to emergencies in our communities. Your team's cooperation and commitment help ensure that our first responders have the communications infrastructure they depend on to perform their duties safely and effectively. Thank you for being a dependable community partner, and please extend our appreciation to everyone involved.

Sincerely,

Daniel Soule
Executive Director
Litchfield County Dispatch, Inc.

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Daniel Soule
Executive Director
Litchfield County Dispatch
111 Water Street, Torrington CT 06790
Direct: (860) 626-7523
Cell: (860) 671-5555

Gmail First Selectman <firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Fwd: Organizational Forum Information

1 message

Melony Brady-Shanley <mbrady-shanley@region1schools.org> Tue, Oct 6, 2026 at 12:27 PM
To: Gordon Ridgeway <cwlselectmen@optonline.net>, selectman@northcanaan.org, selectman@townofkentct.org, "Selectmen .." <selectmen@cornwallct.gov>, Firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org, selectmanchris@canaanfallsvillage.org, selectmanjudy@canaanfallsvillage.org, admin@northcanaan.org, Barbara Herbst <finance@cornwallct.gov>, Eric Epstein <firstselectman@townofkent.gov>, Curtis Rand <crand@salisburyct.us>, bprinz@salisburyct.us, kkiefer@salisburyct.us, Tom Brazee <townhall@salisburyct.us>, Casey Flanagan <1stselectman@sharonct.gov>, selectmankearcher@sharonct.gov, selectmanbrett@sharonct.gov, Tina Pitcher <treasurer@sharonct.gov>
Cc: Sam Herrick <sherrick@region1schools.org>

Hi all,

I hope all is well. I wanted to share this message with you in the hopes that you would share it with your greater community. It is a "social media" friendly post. I am hoping that you would also share it directly with your local Boards of Finance.
If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

Thanks,
Mel

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Melony Brady-Shanley** <mbrady-shanley@region1schools.org>
Date: Tue, Oct 6, 2026 at 11:53 AM
Subject: Organizational Forum Information
To: <mbrady-shanley@region1schools.org>

Dear Region One Community,

As we continue our Region One Organizational Study, we want to remind families and community members about several upcoming opportunities to learn more about the results of the community survey and the work that will follow.

The Organizational Study is intended to help us better understand our current and future needs as a region, including educational programming, enrollment, facilities, operations, fiscal sustainability, and opportunities for our students. No decisions have been made. This process is about gathering information, listening to our communities, and studying potential opportunities for the future.

We are also looking for two respresentatives (one educational and one resident) from each community to serve on this committee. Please feel free to send a letter of interest to mbrady-shanley@region1schools.org.

In-Person Opportunities at October Board of Education Meetings

During each October Board of Education meeting, we will provide an opportunity for community members to hear about the Organizational Study survey results and ask questions in person.

- **Lee H. Kellogg School:** October 6 at 5:00 p.m.
- **Cornwall BOE:** October 7 at 4:30 p.m.

- **Kent BOE:** October 14 at 5:30 p.m.
- **North Canaan Elementary School:** October 13 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Salisbury BOE:** October 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Sharon BOE:** October 19 at 6:00 p.m.

We encourage families and community members to attend any of these meetings that are convenient for you.

Virtual Town-Specific Survey Forums

In addition to the October BOE meetings, we will hold virtual town-specific forums during the week of October 19. These sessions will provide an opportunity to review the survey results specific to each community and ask questions.

Canaan Survey Forum
Tuesday, October 20 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 929-299-3009 | PIN: 321 480 565#

Cornwall Survey Forum
Tuesday, October 20 | 7:15–8:15 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 513-480-5307 | PIN: 305 040 287#

Kent Survey Forum
Wednesday, October 21 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 651-968-1042 | PIN: 801 392 490#

North Canaan Elementary School Survey Forum
Wednesday, October 21 | 7:15–8:15 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 601-869-6219 | PIN: 671 687 463#

Salisbury Organizational Survey Forum
Thursday, October 22 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 281-886-0974 | PIN: 696 714 181#

Sharon Organizational Survey Forum
Thursday, October 22 | 7:15–8:15 p.m.
Google Meet link
Or dial: (US) +1 385-404-0425 | PIN: 984 102 497#

We value the voices of our families, staff, and community members as we move through this process. Your participation and questions will help ensure that the study reflects the needs and perspectives of each of our seven communities.

We will continue to provide updates as the study progresses. A dedicated website with information, resources, survey results, and updates regarding the Organizational Study is available at:

Region One Organizational Study

Thank you for your continued engagement and partnership as we take a thoughtful, transparent, and community-centered approach to planning for the future of Region One.

Sincerely,

Melony Brady-Shanley and Sam Herrick
Superintendent and Business Manager
Regional School District No. 1

Regional School District 01 would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Regional School District 01 directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: Unsubscribe

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

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Melony M. Brady-Shanley
Superintendent
Region One School District
246 Warren Turnpike
Falls Village, CT 06031
Website: https://region1schools.org
Office: 860-824-0855 Ext 1304
Mobile: 860-248-1231

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

October 13, 2026

Dear Board of Selectmen,

It is our understanding that there has been no progress or response to the town's request for an easement for 35 Railroad Street, a town-owned property, from the owner of the Inn. Considering the annual cost of maintaining 35 Railroad Street as well as the legal fees concerning the easement request, we urge you to consider the following:

1. Give reasonable notice to the Inn's owner of a limited time to respond to the easement proposal (ex. 30 days), informing the owner that, should a response from the owner not come within the given time period, alternative actions will be explored.
2. Alternative Actions:
    a. Obtain a quote from 1 or 2 reputable demolition firms after they have assessed the structure, for demolition of the building on the property.
    b. Revisit former as-is offers to purchase the building.
3. If the alternative action is determined to be demolishing the building on the property, immediately explore all options for use of the town property.

Respectfully,

Amy Wynn
160 Johnson Road
Falls Village, CT 06031

and

Karl Munson
199 Canaan Mountain Road
Falls Village, CT 06031

Monthly Building Official Report

Towns of Canaan
Reporting Period: September 2026
Building Official: John J. Papp

General Building Department Activity

September consisted of normal permitting and inspection activity for the Town of Canaan.

A total of 19 permits were issued during the reporting period, representing a combined reported construction value of $167,167 and total permit fees of $1,952.

Jonathan Abbott has also returned from paternity leave on a part-time basis. His return has been a tremendous assistance to the Building Department. With his Assistant Building Official certification and familiarity with the Town's permitting process, he continues to provide valuable support with office operations, permit processing, inspections, and general department coverage.

No new formal enforcement actions were initiated during the month. The Building Department has, however, continued communication regarding an existing matter at 50 River Road.

50 River Road

The Building Department has remained in communication with representatives of 50 River Road regarding previously identified code violations and outstanding permitting issues.

Based upon the information currently available, it appears contractors have performed some corrective work to address several of the code violations previously identified.

At this time, the property owners appear to be considering pursuing the remaining dispute as a civil matter involving the contractor. The Building Department will remain separate from any private contractual dispute and continue to focus on compliance with applicable building codes and permitting requirements.

The contractor has not yet obtained the outstanding permits previously requested by the Building Department. Those permits remain necessary, and the Department will continue to monitor the property.

Areas for Improvement

The primary bottleneck affecting the timely issuance of building permits has been obtaining required approvals from the Torrington Area Health District (TAHD). Because TAHD is a separate agency, its review timelines are outside the direct control of the Building Department. We will continue to identify applications requiring TAHD approval as early as possible and encourage applicants to begin that process promptly.

Respectfully Submitted,

John J Papp

Building Official

Town of Canaan Announces Tire Recycling Program

On March 01, 2026, the State of Connecticut launched the first ever *Extended Producer Responsibility* (EPR) for tires. The Town of Canaan has contracted with the *Connecticut Tire Stewardship* to collect tires at the Falls Village Transfer Station at 100 Rt. 63, Falls Village.

Falls Village residents can bring their car and truck tires to the Transfer Station and place them in the green CWPM container marked ***TIRES***. ***PLEASE*** no oversized tires. ***PLEASE*** be respectful and stack the tires neatly.

As of Tuesday, October 06, 2026, we will no longer accept tires as bulk waste; tires brought to the Transfer Station will be placed in the special container for ***TIRES*** as earlier mentioned. Also, as in the past, ***NO RIMS***. There is ***NO FEE*** connected with disposing of the tires.

The Transfer Station is open Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00AM to 3:00PM.

We are very excited to join this program and remove tires from the waste stream and landfills.

We are committed to working with other communities in Connecticut to reduce waste, reuse and recycle..

For questions, please contact the Falls Village Transfer Station at (860) 824-5819.

Gmail

First Selectman <firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Fwd: Resignation

1 message

Selectman Judy <selectmanjudy@canaanfallsvillage.org> Mon, Oct 12, 2026 at 8:33 AM
To: First Selectman <FirstSelectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>, Selectman Chris <SelectmanChris@canaanfallsvillage.org>, Johanna Mann <townclerk@canaanfallsvillage.org>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Frank Hadsell** <housy1971@myyahoo.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 12, 2026 at 7:52 AM
Subject: Resignation
To: Judy Selectman <selectmanjudy@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Dear Board of Selectmen, It is with regret that I resign from the Historic district board. There are only so many hours in the day, and mine seem to be taken. I wish the board incredible success in all their endeavors!

Thank you, Frank Hadsell

Sent from my iPad

Gmail First Selectman <firstselectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Fwd: Resignation

1 message

Selectman Judy <selectmanjudy@canaanfallsvillage.org> Mon, Oct 12, 2026 at 6:14 PM
To: First Selectman <FirstSelectman@canaanfallsvillage.org>, Selectman Chris <SelectmanChris@canaanfallsvillage.org>, Johanna Mann <townclerk@canaanfallsvillage.org>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **KIT AESCHLIMAN** <kaeschliman@sbcglobal.net>
Date: Mon, Oct 12, 2026 at 1:59 PM
Subject: Resignation
To: Judy Selectman <selectmanjudy@canaanfallsvillage.org>

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Judy,
Due to increasing family obligations, I will be resigning from the Historic Commission Study Committee as of October 1, 2026.
With regards,
Cheryl Aeschliman