

TOWN OF CANAAN  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
October 16, 2023 @ 6:30PM OR  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING  
TOWN HALL, 108 MAIN STREET IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM  
FALLS VILLAGE, CT

**Members Present:**

In person: Greg Marlowe, David Barger and Henry Todd

**Call to order** – Henry Todd called the meeting to order at 8:27pm.

**Public comment**

None received in writing to be included in the minutes.

**Communications**

HYSB letter requesting participation in Red Ribbon Week. No attachment received.

**Secretary's Report**

**David Barger made a motion to approve the following minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meetings:**

- a) September 11, 2023, Regular Meeting
- b) September 28, 2023, Special Meeting
- c) September 28, 2023, Special Meeting/Public Hearing
- d) September 30, 2023, Special Meeting

**Seconded by Greg Marlowe; unanimous.**

**Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports**

**Greg Marlowe made a motion to receive the Treasurer's Report and Tax Collector's Report as presented. Seconded by David Barger; unanimous.**

**First Selectman's Report presented by Henry Todd.**

This was presented at the Board of Finance meeting which included Greg Marlowe and David Barger. It was not presented again. Below is a cut and paste from the Board of Finance meeting minutes.

- a) Solar Project: Henry asked the Board of Finance to consider moving the Solar Project forward to Town Meeting, borrowing \$220,000 and taking \$200,000 from the General Fund.
- b) A/C Heat Replacement: The Selectmen received three bids for the replacement of the Heat/AC unit. They recommend the estimate from JCO Plumbing up to \$10,000.
- c) BEED Funding For Fiber: Henry stated now that every household has access to high-speed internet, the Town does not qualify for BEED funding.
- d) Town Meeting: – A Town Meeting will be held on November 7, 2023, to coincide with the Municipal Election, in the Town Hall. The Town Meeting will consist of a vote on four questions, yes or no. 1) Shall the Town Sell 35 RR Street for \$300,000. 2) Shall the Town approve the easement and transfer of land between 35 Railroad Street and 33 Railroad Street. 3) Shall the Town approve up to \$10,000 for the final bill from Cardinal Engineering from the Bridge Reserve Account and 4) Shall the Town approve up to \$10,000 for the A/C Heat replacement from the 107/108 Property Reserve Account. The exact verbiage for the questions will be on the Warning of the meeting.

*First Selectman's Report Continued...*

- e) 250 CT: Henry suggested a committee be formed to participate in the 250 CT celebration.
- f) Red Ribbon Walk: Housatonic Youth Services Bureau has asked the Town of Canaan to participate in Red Ribbon Week to bring awareness to drug problems in the area.
- g) Frontier: The Selectmen are meeting with Frontier on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to finalize the connection/hook up to Frontier for Town buildings.
- h) ARPA: Henry asked the Board of Finance if they agreed with spending \$2000 from the ARPA fund to pay for the application requesting 100% funding for the Cobble Road Bridge.
- i) Construction at First Light: There will be some major construction at the First Light facility.
- j) Public Hearing: A Public Hearing will be held at 7pm on October 27, 2023, at the Senior Center to discuss the transfer of land and easements associated with 35 Railroad Street.
- k) EV Charger: Henry stated the EV Charger has not been working over the past couple of months but has now been fixed and is working properly.
- l) Daycare Water Bill: Henry asked the Board of Finance to consider approving an additional \$6000 for Water Testing to cover the remaining nine months of our fiscal year.
- m) Thank you: Henry thanked the Town employees and the residents for their dedication and assistance during his six-year tenure as First Selectman. Dan Silverman thanked Henry for his service.
- n) Parking Plan: Henry stated he felt the parking plan needed to be reconsidered and did not feel that many parking spaces were needed.
- o) Region One Budget Projection: Henry distributed a report from Sam Herrick of Region One with predictions of enrollment and costs for the next fiscal year. If they have a 1% increase in the Region One budget, the Town cost should go down by \$37,000. If there is a 3% increase the Town Cost should remain unchanged.
- p) Kellogg Unexpended Funds: Henry explained the Kellogg School budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022 fiscal year was actually under spent by \$104,000 but only \$54,000 had been returned to the General Fund by Kellogg Board of Education. It is required that all unexpended funds be returned to the General Fund by all Commissions and Boards. The remaining \$50,000 was put into the Educational Capital Reserve Account in error.
- q) Bridge/Infrastructure Committee: Henry will be requesting a formal Committee be created for the Bridge/Infrastructure group at the Selectmen's meeting.
- r) OSHA: OSHA is requiring all highway department employees have base line hearing tests because some of the equipment runs above 80 decibels. Specific ear guards (muffs) will be required while running equipment.

**Agenda:**

**David Barger made a motion to add the following to the agenda under New Business:**

- c) Participation in Red Ribbon Week as requested by Housatonic Youth Services Bureau**
- d) Set up a committee to participate in 250CT**
- e) Establish Working Committee for Bridge/Infrastructure needs**

**Seconded by Greg Marlowe; unanimous**

**Old Business**

- a) Ordinances and Policies

**Greg Marlowe made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. Seconded by David Barger; unanimous.**

### **New Business**

a) Tax Rebates – none

b) Town Meeting

Greg Marlowe made a motion to set a Town Meeting for November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm, at Town Hall (108 Main Street) and immediately recess for the collection of votes from 6am until 8pm on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The meeting will automatically adjourn upon completion of the formal count of the votes on November 7, 2023. The ballot will consist of the four questions as outlined in the attached. Seconded by David Barger; unanimous.

c) Red Ribbon Week

David Barger made a motion that we participate in the one week campaign as presented by Housatonic Youth Services Bureau. Seconded by Greg Marlowe; unanimous.

d) 250CT

Greg Marlowe made a motion that the discussion of setting up a committee for 250CT be tabled until the next meeting. Seconded by David Barger; unanimous.

e) Working Committee

Greg Marlowe made a motion to establish a Working Committee for Bridge/Infrastructure to include the three Selectmen, Highway Superintendent and three additional qualified individuals from within Town. Seconded by David Barger.

In discussion Greg Marlowe made a motion to amend the motion to: Establish a working committee, The Bridge/Infrastructure Committee, consisting of the three Selectmen, the Highway Superintendent, and three qualified individuals from within Town, with the purpose of studying the bridges and other infrastructure within town, including buildings, for their condition, repair and maintenance plans. The Committee will serve as advisory only, to the Board of Selectmen. David Barger seconded the motion to amend the motion; unanimous. Amended motion carried; unanimous.

### **Adjournment**

Greg Marlowe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. Seconded by David Barger; unanimous. Meeting adjourned.

### **Attachments:**

Town Meeting Questions

HYSB letter – see Henry Todd

Here are the items that will be on the Town Meeting vote:

1. Shall the Town of Canaan approve the sale of the property at 35 Railroad Street for \$300,000.
2. Shall the Town of Canaan approve the exchange of property from Great Falls Property LLC, owner of the abutting land to the former firehouse, to the Town of Canaan, making the property a legal lot as well as giving Great Falls Property two easements being a pedestrian easement along the northern side of the property and a vehicular easement through the existing parking lot.
3. Shall the Town of Canaan approve the appropriation of up to \$10,000 from the Bridge Reserve Account #1702646689 to pay the final bill of Cardinal Engineering for the Cobble Road Culvert Project.
4. Shall the Town of Canaan approve the appropriation of up to \$10,000 for the replacement of the A/C unit at Town Hall with a heat pump from the 107/108 Property Reserve Account #170263056.