TOWN OF CANAAN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2024 @ 6:00PM
Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT
IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

For a video of the meeting, please go to the following link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUL36Ds2uQ4

Members Present:
In person: Christopher Kinsella, David Barger, and Judy Jacobs

Call to order – David Barger called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Agenda:
Judy Jacobs made a motion to add the following to the agenda:
New Business:
9d) Painting of Town sign at 108 Main Street
9e) Reschedule of Town Meeting Date
9f) Grant working group
Selectmen’s Report:
7o) ARPA Funds for Social Services
7p) Cyber Security Grant
7q) Emergency Services Personnel Grant
Seconded by Chris Kinsella; unanimous.

Public comment
Several individuals made public comments. None were received in writing to be included in the minutes.

Secretary’s Report
Judy Jacobs made a motion to approve the minutes for The Board of Selectmen’s Special meetings held on February 13th, 2024, and February 14th, 2024. Chris Kinsella seconded the motion; unanimous.

Judy Jacobs made a motion to amend the minutes for the Board of Selectmen’s Special Meeting held on February 23rd, 2024, to correct the proper spelling of Peter Jensen’s last name, from Jenkins to Jensen. Chris Kinsella seconded the motion; Unanimous.

Treasurer’s and Tax Collector’s Report
Judy Jacobs made a motion to receive the 2/29/24 Tax Collector’s Report. Chris Kinsella seconded the motion for discussion. During discussion Chris Kinsella stated he would be more comfortable if the Board of Finance reviewed the reports prior to the Board of Selectmen receiving them. Judy Jacobs and Dave Barger voted yea to receive the 2/29/24 Tax Collector’s Report. Chris Kinsella voted nay to receive the report. Motion carried. No action taken on the Treasurer’s Reports.
Communications:

1) Written
   a) Sign repair and repainting request. (attached)
   b) DM Hunt Library – Dave Barger stated he had received more than fifty emails/letters supporting the additional funding request from the DM Hunt Library.

2) Oral: None noted.

First Selectman's Report presented by David Barger - *CT DOT is Connecticut Department of Transportation.

   a) CT Solid Waste Program/MIRA: Rate is estimated to be $130/ton.
   b) Fire Commission: The reappointment of Hazel McGuire and Larry Bulson will be considered (see below).
   c) CT DOT Tree Trimming: Over the next few weeks they will be trimming trees along Route 7 and Route 63.
   d) CT DOT Active Transportation Micro Grant: The questionnaire has been completed.
   e) CT DOT National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Funding: Along Route 7 corridor is being considered.
   f) Local Capital Improvement Program: $27,627.69 was received by the Town.
   g) RESC consortium – heating oil: $2.97/gallon for heating oil is the estimate for 9/1/2024 through 8/31/25.
   h) Center for Housing Opportunities/Litchfield County: Dave attended the 2/16/24 meeting and the next one is scheduled for 3/15/24. Emphasis was on regionalizing the need for, and efforts to create, affordable housing.
   i) Spending Plan Workshops for BOS: The Board of Selectmen will be meeting again on 3/15/24 at noon and expects one more meeting to finalize the budget.
   j) Solar Project Committee: The first meeting will be on March 13th, 2024, at 5pm.
   k) Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy: The Blue Blaze Trail Extension, if approved, would extend, repair, and replace trails from Brookfield to Falls Village.
   l) Town Meeting: The Board of Selectmen will discuss a new date for the Town Meeting.
   m) The Bridge/Infrastructure committee: Met on 3/7/24 and is making progress deciphering the infrastructure and bridge needs of the Town.
   n) Yucatech Meeting: Yucatech is assisting the Town with meeting Cyber Security needs.
   o) ARPA Funds: Additional funding is available for Social Services. The Town intends to apply for it.
   p) Cyber Security Grant: The Town has taken the first step to apply for a Cyber Security Grant.
   q) Emergency Management Personnel Grant: Dave Barger is looking into the requirements to apply.

Old Business:

   a) MIRA update. No action taken.
   b) Early Voting Certification: The plan has been sent to the State of Connecticut. No action taken.
   c) 35 Railroad Street: The process is moving along. No action taken.

New Business

   a) Tax Abatements:
      Judy Jacobs made a motion to approve the tax refund of $640.22 as presented. Seconded by Chris Kinsella; unanimous.
   b) Solar Project Commission:
      Chris Kinsella made a motion to appoint Emily Peterson to the solar committee and to increase the size of the solar committee by adding two alternate positions. Seconded by Judy Jacobs; unanimous.
   c) Fire Commission appointments: Chris Kinsella made a motion to reappoint Hazel McGuire and Larry Bulson to the Fire Commission for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026. Judy Jacobs seconded the motion; unanimous.
   d) Town Sign: Chris Kinsella made a motion to approve the cost of $550 to repair and repaint the Town Sign in front of Town Hall. The work is to be completed by Heather Vansvik. Seconded by Judy Jacobs; unanimous.
   e) Town Meeting: No action taken.
   f) Grant Working Group: No action taken. Judy Jacobs will bring ideas to the next meeting.
Adjournment:
    Judy Jacobs made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm. Chris Kinsella seconded the motion; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary, Denise Cohn.

Attachments:
Letter regarding the repair and repainting of the Town sign.
Tax refund request.
Treasurer’s and Tax Collector’s Reports are attached to the 3.11.24 Board of Finance Minutes