

Town of North Canaan Board of Finance December 10, 2025

Present: Chairman Doug Humes, Bryan Johnson, John Jacquier, Emily Bottum, Chris Sorrell, Christian Allyn

Chairman Humes called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Motion carried

Mr. Sorrell moved to approve the minutes from last meeting. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman read a letter from the Democratic Town Committee into record recommending Christian Allyn be appointed to fill the vacancy on the board. **Ms. Bottum made a motion to appoint Mr. Allyn to fill the vacancy. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Prior to the continuation of the meeting Town Clerk Jeanne Jacquier swore Mr. Allyn in and he joined the board as a voting member.

Audit discussion: Chairman Humes explained that last year 10 letters were sent out searching for auditors and received 1. He would like to suggest that a committee of 3 people from the board be formed to look for an auditor. Mr. Allyn, Mr. Sorrell, and Mr. Johnson volunteered for the committee.

Election of Officers: Mr. Sorrell nominated Doug Humes to continue as chairman. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Humes nominated Bryan Johnson to Vice Chairman. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2026 Meeting Dates: The board reviewed the dates, changed the November date to November 4, and approved the dates.

Tax Collector's report: Becky Mochak presented before the board. There were payments for temporary tax collector staffing which has exceeded the budgeted amount for the tax collector's salary. There was a discussion regarding the overage and how to rectify the budget. She will also be needing an assistant, which will be additional money. There will need to be a town meeting to approve money transfer.

Treasurer's report: Melanie Neely stated there are 5 accounts currently over budget: Tax Collector, Town Counsel, Assistant Town Clerk, Tax refunds (due to blanket refunds being done), hazardous waste which is being investigated. Ms. Mochak stated she believes in order to write off anything under a certain amount of money there must be an ordinance in place.

Town Clerk Request: Chairman Humes explained to Ms. Segalla that she doesn't have to request it as it is in her budget and it can be done as of January 5. Chairman Humes stated for the record he is not related to Jeanne Jacquier or John Jacquier, he is related to Jennifer Humes Jacquier and Theresa Jacquier.

Selectman's Time: First Selectman Bunce stated they will be moving for a town meeting on at Monday's selectman's meeting. They have researching trucks and have found 2 cheaper than the state truck option. They will also put on the overtures and moving money and an ordinance from the tax collector's office. Selectman Bunce spoke with Mike Simmons and they may want to replace another truck in the next year but that is just for the board to keep on their radar.

Board concerns: Mr. Allyn stated that there is a training for newly elected officials that he will send an email out to everyone but Mr. Jacquier and Ms. Bottum may find the course beneficial.

Public Comment: an individual on zoom questioned the necessity of a committee to find an auditor.

Chairman Humes thanked the new town clerk and new tax collector for coming to the meeting as well as everyone else.

Mr. Allyn moved to adjourn. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary