



Town of North Canaan

Board of Finance

April 8, 2026

Present: Chairman Douglas Humes, John Jacquier, Bryan Johnson, Christian Allyn, Chris Sorrell

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

Mr. Allyn moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NCES Budget: Chairman Humes asked Principal Johnson if there was anyway to cut her overall budget by 1%. Principal Johnson explained the only way to do this would be personnel. Mr. Jacquier stated he looked at the numbers and the increase is mainly the insurance. Mr. Allyn stated everything looked good to him. **Mr. Allyn moved to send the budget to the public hearing. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Municipal Budget: Selectman Bunce and Treasurer Melanie Neeley presented a few changes to line items since the last review resulting in a net increase of \$36,893.00. There was a discussion regarding the transfer station salaries. Mr. Johnson requested clarification because when he did the numbers it was coming out as an 8% increase not 4. Ms. Neeley explained how they needed to split out the time off from salary. Mr. Johnson suggested that next year each position be itemized to show the allocated time. He also questioned if the employees are mandated to take their time off annually. Ms. Neeley explained they can only carry over so much and the rest would be use or it lose it. Mr. Johnson asked if there had been any discussions around having staff pay part of their health insurance. Selectman Bunce stated they are looking at a cost sharing for new employees but grandfathering in existing employees. A letter was received dictating that the resident trooper gets a 2.5% increase. There is 1 year left on that contract. **Mr. Allyn moved to send this budget to the public hearing. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Ms. Neeley gave out mil rate sheets with explanations. There was a discussion regarding the mil rate and not carrying a large surplus.

Chairman Humes also stated that the garbage issue is still an unknown. He encouraged people to be contacting there legislators to push them to do something about the garbage and the MIRA situation. Everyone at the State level should be working to solve this with the towns.

Mr. Allyn moved to accept the Tax Collector report. Mr. Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jacquier moved to accept the Treasurer report. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Selectman's Time: Nothing further to add.

Board member concerns: none

Public Comment: none

Mr. Sorrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm

Public hearing will be April 20, 2026. Copies of the budgets will be available online and in person on April 13.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell