



*Town of North Canaan*

*Board of Finance*

*April 20, 2026*

*Public Hearing*

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

Chairman Humes called the public hearing to order at 7:00pm

NCES School budget review: Principal Beth Johnson stated there have been no changes since the last meeting.

There were no questions from the public.

Municipal Town budget review: First Selectman Jesse Bunce stated there have been no changes since the last meeting.

Cheryl Duntz asked several questions:

- Did the healthcare costs go down? Selectman Bunce stated they had a rise in percentage but they were able to keep the line steady with 1 less employee. There were no additional employees added.
- Did payroll taxes increase or decrease? Selectman Bunce stated that it stayed the same with the same number of employees. Treasurer Melanie Neely stated that both of these categories have buffers built in for new employees.
- Is the Zoning Enforcement Officer getting a raise? Selectman Bunce stated that because he is working less hours the line is staying the same. A raise would be about 3 or 4 percent, but they have not discussed it yet.
- Ms. Duntz questioned if this was the final budget if they have not discussed that item. Selectman Bunce stated this is the final budget.

Chairman Humes asked if there were any more questions or comments. Hearing none, he moved to close the public hearing.

Chairman Humes stated that the next Board of Finance meeting is on May 6. The high school budget vote is May 5 and if that passes a town meeting will be set by the Board of Selectman with a tentative date of May 13.

Motion on the floor to close the public hearing. Mr. Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public hearing closed at 7:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary