Town of North Canaan

Board of Finance

September 9, 2026

Present: Chairman Doug Humes, John Jacquier, Christian Allyn, Emily Bottum, Bryan Johnson via zoom

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

Chairman Humes called for a motion to amend the agenda to include the recommendation from the RTC. **Mr. Jacquier moved to include the RTC to the agenda. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

The RTC informed Chairman Humes they were endorsing Brian Allyn, Sr. to replace Chris Sorrell. Mr. Allyn was on the last ballot. Mr. C. Allyn stated that another person had sent in a letter of interest today. Chairman Humes stated that the last time there was an opening, a committee was created and they determined that Mr. C. Allyn be brought onto the board as he was on the previous ballot. Chairman Humes feels that this is the same circumstances. **Chairman Humes moved to accept the RTC recommendation of Brian Allyn as the replacement on the Board. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion.** A discussion ensued. Mr. Johnson stated that he is in agreement with Chairman Humes that this circumstance falls under the same situation as when Christian came onto the board. **The vote was called. Mr. C. Allyn and Ms. Bottum abstained from the vote. Brian Allyn Sr. was voted in by 3 votes.** Mr. B. Allyn was then sworn in at the meeting by the town clerk and was seated at the meeting.

Mr. C. Allyn moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. C. Allyn moved to accept the monthly financials. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Jacquier moved to accept the monthly tax collector report. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer report: Melanie Neeley presented before the board. In regard to the memo she sent out, Mr. Allyn requested she explain how she discovered the discrepancies. The LOCIP funds were discovered as she was requested by the State to explain how the funds were spent and realized there was a $14000 discrepancy. The money was incorrectly posted to the BOE. The BOE did not spend it. It was an accident and the auditor thinks they will be able to fix it. Chairman Humes stated the state funds have nothing to do with the Board of Finance.

There was a discovery of Union Station money on the books. An account was opened, the money was written off and the account was closed. It was $119,000. As far as the town books go, the issue is done. Ms. Neeley wanted to make sure the Board was aware of this account as she is not sure that it was appropriate the way it was done. Chairman Humes stated to have the accountant look into it.

The name on the AHA account has been changed. Ms. Neeley gave a breakdown for the legal items - The ongoing personnel issue was $25,000 but is now completed. The removal of names from the last ballot was around $20,000. There is $1300 in an account specifically for Lawrence Field playground. Also, smaller accounts for things such as cemeteries. The list of transfers is 6 pages long. Certain items do not need to go to a town meeting**. Mr. C. Allyn moved to accept all transfers except the town attorney one so there is clarification on that. After a discussion Mr. C. Allyn amended him motion to include all transfers. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Selectman's Time: Selectman Bunce reviewed the previous quotes he received for a new backhoe. If we went with a brand new one Selectman Bunce's recommendation is for the John Deere. He spoke with Brian at the Transfer Station and the thought is a used machine would be better. He is looking for the board to allow him up to $50,000 to purchase a used machine. Mr. C. Allyn likes this idea. **Mr. C. Allyn moved to allow the selectmen to go to a town meeting for permission to use up to $50,000 for a used machine. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion carried.** A discussion of using local businesses ensued. **Mr. C. Allyn moved to amend his original motion to $60,000. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Mr. C. Allyn amended his motions to include the money coming from the general fund. Ms. Bottum seconded the motion. Motion carried.** A discussion regarding the payloader needing replacement occurred. Selectman Bunce got quotes from $14,000. There was a discussion regarding tires. **Mr. C. Allyn moved to allow the Selectman to use up to $15,000 from the general fund for the purchase of a loader. Chairman Humes seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board member concerns: Mr. C. Allyn stated he was approached by individuals asking if this board should have alternates. Chairman Humes stated as far as he can remember there were never alternates on the Board of Finance. Mr. C. Allyn will research.

Public Comment: Someone from the public stated that if machinery is starting to fail and town employees could potentially be hurt the equipment should be changed/updated more often or when needed. They should not be running unsafe equipment. Chairman Humes stated that is why there is a capital non-recurring fund.

Chairman Humes mentioned he feels the transfer station should have an arm that would be down when people come into the driveway. They would need to stop and it would ensure everyone has a sticker.

Mr. Jacquier stated that if the loader is not a safety issue currently and we are addressing it now that is fine, but it should be taken out of service if there are safety concerns.

Mr. Jacquier moved to adjourn. Mr. B. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary

Received for Record
9/10/2026 3:53 pm
Krystian Segalla
Town Clerk