

**Town of North Canaan
Board of Finance
Special meeting for Budget workshop #2
April 21, 2021 via Zoom Technology**

Present: Chairwoman Nancy O'Connor, Bill Minacci, Brian Allyn, Chris Sorrell, Frank Ghi, Bryan Johnson
Selectman Charlie Perotti, Christian Allyn, Dr. Roy, Emily Minacci

Chairwoman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:34pm

Tonight's meeting is to discuss the 21/22 budget based on the presented education budget and the updated selectman's budget. Last year we approved to take out approximately \$228,000 from the General Fund. Based on some things going on, it is assumed that we will not be using that money. We cannot continue to take money from the general fund which means taxes may need to be raised. Next year the education numbers will likely be about the same as this year. The proposed increase to the municipal budget is about 1/3 of a mill. Discussion ensued regarding raising the mill rate and the outcomes of different scenarios. Question- regarding how much should be kept in the general fund (it is a percentage). The number changes based on the State and the rest of the towns. The auditors speak to it every year. Selectman Perotti stated that meetings should be back to normal next month, but may have to be a hybrid. Town attorney is going to clarify about town meetings and hearings. Chairwoman O'Connor stated the mill rate is not being set tonight, as this cannot happen until later in the budget process, but the board needs to know how they plan on covering the budget when approved. Ms. Minacci explained that several accounts are used as reserves in the general fund and currently the balance is \$4million. However, this number is a rolling number as money comes in and out of the fund. Other accounts are considered reserve and the auditors used them as part of the percentage but the town does not touch those accounts. The information is in the audit report.

Mr. Ghi made a motion to move the budget forward to a hearing. Mr. Minacci seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Ghi made a motion to set a hearing date for May 19, 2021. Mr. Minacci seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Mr. Allyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Minacci seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell
Recording Secretary