

Town of North Canaan
Board of Finance
April 27, 2022
Special Meeting

Present: Chairwoman Nancy O'Connor, Brian Allyn Sr., Bill Minacci, Bryan Johnson, Susie Clayton, Chris Sorrell

Chairwoman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:31pm

Chairwoman O'Connor requested Selectman Whiting go over the revised selectman's budget as the first selectman is not in attendance. Selectman Whiting went thru each section and differences in line item amounts. Emily Minacci created a narrative to go along with the budget items. Insurance had a rate increase. Audit line increase due to Federal audit mandatory this coming year. Social worker salary did go up as discussed. Cut some of the non-recurring funds including roads and paving. The change in percentages went from an increase of 9.66 to 6.27.

The total from regional education budget went down to 745476.00. 15.65% increase. NCES stayed the same. Dr. Roy is still expecting \$300,000 in unexpended funds to go back to town.

Public Comment –

There was a discussion regarding the change in the increase of salaries and that the employees in town make less than other towns in the area. Selectman Whiting would like the effort to be made moving forward to make it more equitable to work for the town. There was a comment made about the 4 day work week vs a 5 day work week. The biggest issue to the town taxes is the high school budget increases.

Chairwoman O'Connor explained the current budget has the equivalent of 3 mils.

Comment was made regarding the full re-eval currently ongoing and that questions regarding that could be done thru the assessors office.

Members of the high crew stated that other towns are starting pay at \$4.00 more than what they currently make after several years. They also have gone from 5 full time employees to 4.

Mr. Johnson asked if a resolution to the regional budget may happen for next year. Selectman Whiting explained what occurred at the meetings that were held and that there was one proposal about splitting the hard costs of the highschool equally among the towns, but proposals first go to the state and if they approve them then the rest of the towns in the region have to approve them. Somehow it has to be made equitable to all of the towns in the region. Discussions have stalled.

Chairwoman O'Connor explained the process of the budget and further discussion of town salaries ensued.

Chairwoman O'Connor closed public comment and called for any further discussion from the board members.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to send both budgets to a public hearing on May 11, 2022 at 7:30pm. Mr. Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary