

North Canaan
Board of Finance
May 13, 2020

Present; Nancy O'Connor, Chair; Bill Minacci, Bryan Johnson, Chris Sorrell, Brian Allyn, Frank Ghi

Call to order: 7:31pm

1. **Mr. Allyn made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 2020 meeting. Mr. Minacci seconded the motion. Motion was approved.**
2. **Mr. Allyn made a motion to accept the monthly financial reports for March and April. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion was approved.**
3. **Mr. Ghi made a motion to accept the monthly tax collector reports. Mr. Minacci seconded the motion. Motion was approved.**
4. Board of Education budget presentation: Dr. Roy gave the highlights for the education budget. She believes they will be able to give back approximately \$100,000 to the town. Wage increase was for the part time librarian becoming full time. They tried to not make too many increases and do not know what will be needed when school reopens. Mr. Johnson stated that he hopes more Canaan children will do the regional sports program.
5. Municipal government budget presentation: Selectman Perotti stated that the increase this year over last year is \$56,968.00. Public Safety is up because of the building official being hired. Highway department is up with a new employee. Transfer station up because MIRA costs are going up. Legal expenses from the past 2 years, which came out of the general fund, include: planning and zoning \$52,920, assessor \$12,379, transfer station \$1,558, Railroad Station \$3,900, tax concerns \$2,316, general matters \$3,400. These two years budgeted \$22,000 and paid out \$76,473.00. Need \$228,945 to keep taxes flat.
6. Chairwoman O'Connor stated that because of COVID there can be no public meeting so it is up to the selectmen to decide to vote in budget. However, we want to be able to give the public time to ask questions. It was decided to give a 2 week time period for the public to email the selectmen with any questions/concerns regarding the budget. (selectman@northcanaan.org). The Finance Committee would need to meet to discuss everything make recommendations, the selectman would meet to vote yes or no to budget, and the finance committee needs to meet to set the mil rate. Brief discussion regarding dates. The public will need to have their questions/concerns in to the selectman by 3:00pm on May 26th. May 26 at 7:30pm the finance committee will meet, followed by the selectmen, and then followed by the finance committee to set mil rate.
7. Treasurer's time: Emily Minacci has nothing to report
8. Tax Collector's Time: Jenn Jacquier spoke about the annual suspense report and explained that it is mostly people who have moved out of town or died and the town cannot collect the taxes. **Mr. Allyn made a motion to accept the annual tax suspense report. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion approved.**
9. Delinquent tax report follow up from march. Letters have been sent out to everyone on the list. They have until the 22nd to respond in some way or they will be given to Aiden Cohen for collection demand letters and eventually tax sale/foreclosure proceedings at no cost to the town. Jenn Jacquier has heard from a few individuals.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea Odell
Recording Secretary