



Town of North Canaan

Board of Selectmen

September 2, 2025

Present: Selectman Craig Whiting, Selectman Jesse Bunce

Selectman Whiting called meeting to order at 7:00pm as Selectman Ohler could not be present.

**Selectman Bunce moved to approve the agenda. Selectman Whiting seconded. Motion carried.**

**Selectman Bunce moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Positive news: Jennifer Crane, chair of the Events Committee. September brings the night market on the second Friday of the month. The rain date is Saturday. It is located in the depot parking lot. October will be another night market and will also be the second road race in the valley. It is brand new route. The third road race will be in December. The other event in October will be fall fest at Bunny McGuire Park. Ms. Crane stated she is very grateful for the support that they have received.

First Selectman Report: Selectman Whiting, per Selectman Ohler, reported no one has called with anything that needed to come before tonight's meeting.

The Resident Trooper is on medical leave. The area is still being covered. Selectman Whiting did not have all of the details.

Fire Marshal report: none.

Building official report: Selectman Whiting read the report into record.

ZEO Report: Selectman Whiting read the report into record.

Social Services report (2 reports): Selectman Whiting highlighted the reports into record as there was duplication in the reports.

Second Selectman Report: Reported at the Finance Board the town has a bid for a town truck. Once everything is finalized there will be a town meeting for a vote on that. Sticker sales are up at the transfer station. At Board of Finance, it was stated that we were over \$70,000 in attorney fees and Selectman Whiting wants to clarify that was for 2023 not 2024 or 2025. All of that was previous year. This year was in the range was about \$10,000 which is under the cap for holding a town meeting. All of the committees and commissions will be instructed that public comment is public comment. It is not a discussion back and forth nor a discussion within the audience.

Third Selectman Report: Selectman Bunce received a call from Shawn Duntz regarding possibly having the town crew come back to Ryan Ave area to do some work due to rain washout. Selectman Whiting will speak with the town crew chief. The playgrounds have all been installed. Selectman Bunce explained what each grad received for the playgrounds. He thanked everyone involved. Ruggles Landing is making headway. They have organized a board, have a certificate of incorporation, have filed the organization and first report with the Secretary of State, have a bank account and have been the recipient of a recurring \$10,000 grant from the Housatonic River Commission. They have been in contact with DEEP and the state is going to pay for the demolition of the lodge, the restructuring of the road, picnic tables, an automatic gate, and a boat launch. They are working on organizing a paddle with the Boy Scouts. The park will be similar to Beckley Furnace. **Selectman Bunce moved to add a discussion regarding this with Selectman Ohler and Tim Abbott to the agenda for the October meeting. He will recuse himself. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Public Comment: The Ruggles Landing grant was procured by a group of individuals, which Selectman Bunce named, not by the selectmen.

Tom Zettstrom spoke about working with Walt Deane to be able to get a paddle/kayak with the Boy scouts and enjoy the river. Walt Deane stated that the boy scouts are very excited about doing this. They will get a history of the river and the Dam, etc.

**Selectman Whiting moved to adjourn. Selectman Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary

*TOWN of NORTH CANAAN*

*Building Department July & August 2025 Report*

Building permits: 34

Permit fee paid: \$6,340.00

Respectfully,

Cheryl



Town of North Canaan  
Planning and Zoning Commission  
Town Hall  
100 Pease Street  
North Canaan, CT 06018  
Zoning Office 860-824-7313 EXT 192

Report to the Selectman  
September 2, 2025

Visits to the office and phone calls have been quite busy.

Many requests for information with regards to setbacks, requirements for dividing property, filing or permit requirements.

Permits under review

New handicap ramp for 117 Main St. – under review by Fire marshal.  
Zoning Application has been signed off by the Fire Marshal with note that a code modification may be needed.

Permits Issued

Storage shed 52 Canaan Valley Rd

Sign for 16 East Main St

New Ramp at 117 Main Street after Fire Marshal review

New pool at 178 Lower Road

New pool at 117 East Canaan Road

New sign for the Hutzler Corp.

File opened and letter sent after complaint received regarding activities in a res/ag zone. Waiting for response.

Respectfully Submitted

George Martin  
Zoning Enforcement Officer

To: First Selectman Brian Ohler  
Town of North Canaan  
From: Sharon Kelly-Levesque  
Director of Social Services  
RE: Monthly Report for July 2025

Services Provided:

- Renters Rebate July - 23 applications completed (Program April 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct)
- Applications for Snap Benefits: 5 (includes Husky Healthcare benefits or Access Health)
- Follow up with people who are waiting on housing lists for Station Place/Wangum Village
- Sage Project - Assisted with referral/resources for single parent with 5 children domestic violence
- Stop and Shop (gift cards) 5 single mothers, 3 elderly/adults
- Food Vouchers- 6 (Ford Farm/Fruends)
- BTCF: Monitor balances/funds for Berkshire Taconic Foundation, Jane Lloyd Fund recipients.
- Submitted receipts for reimbursement for 5 women and 3 men approved for Jane Lloyd funds, while undergoing cancer treatment. Awarded funds \$5,000 grant for each recipient. (Continuous monitoring)
- JANE LLOYD for 8 recipients- Month of July -Mortgage/rental costs paid, medication costs paid, electric bills paid, past due bills and bills in collection paid, Car repairs paid.
  - Assisting Elderly Canaan resident with moving to Wangum Village from his rental home.
- Energy assistance and Eversource programs- Accessing their financial need, seeking relief from past and present bills. Eligibility for New Start Program, Hardship Relief Program. NEW 5-tier Low Income Discount Rate program started in June to assist low-income residents further. Assistance given by Utilizing Eversource portal for agency use. (Continuous multiple people)
- Multiple phone calls asking for guidance and assistance regarding housing issues, programs or legal aid information. (Serious Housing Issues) This is continuous
- Utilizing grant and donation funds for food- Voucher Ford Farm, Fruends Market. Stop and Shop gift cards- to assist low-income residents, after using Fishes and Loaves/food pantries to provide food for entire month. Primarily single mothers and our elderly.
- Received donated furniture- couch and tables from Olde Farms Furniture Store to assist low-income elderly
  - Couple moving to Station Place.
- Neighbor to Neighbor Program-July- Applications on hold awaiting refunding of the program
- Received \$5000 check from the Wellner Family Trust Grant/Berkshire Bank grant application
- Received \$1500 from Northwest Community Foundation grant. Received funds
- Received \$400 donation from resident in our community
- Collecting school supply donations to distribute to children in need for this school year

Respectfully,



To: First Selectman Brian Ohler  
Town of North Canaan  
From: Sharon Kelly-Levesque  
Director of Social Services  
RE: Monthly Report for August 2025

Services Provided:

- Renters Rebate- August - 11 applications completed (Program April 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct )
- Applications for Snap Benefits: 8 (includes Husky Healthcare benefits or Access Health)
- Follow up with people who are waiting on housing lists for Station Place/Wangum Village
- Sage Project - Assisted with referral/resources for single parent with 5 children domestic violence
- Stop and Shop (gift cards) 5 single mothers, 6 elderly/adults
- Food Vouchers- 14 (Ford Farm/Fruends)
- BTCF: Monitor balances/funds for Berkshire Taconic Foundation, Jane Lloyd Fund recipients.
- Submitted receipts for reimbursement for 5 women and 3 men approved for Jane Lloyd funds, while undergoing cancer treatment. Awarded funds \$5,000 grant for each recipient. (Continuous monitoring)
- JANE LLOYD for 10 recipients- Month of August -Mortgage/rental costs paid, medication costs paid, electric bills paid, past due bills and bills in collection paid, Car repairs paid.
- Assisting Elderly Canaan resident with organizing belongings. Support needed since his move into Wangum Village apartment from his home.
- Energy Assistance Program CAAWC starts September 1<sup>st</sup> 2025. (Electric, gas, oil, propane)
- Energy assistance and Eversource programs- Accessing their financial need, seeking relief from past and present bills. Eligibility for New Start Program, Hardship Relief Program. NEW 5-tier Low Income Discount Rate program started in June to assist low-income residents further. Assistance given by Utilizing Eversource portal for agency use. (Continuous multiple people)
- Multiple phone calls asking for guidance and assistance regarding housing issues, programs or legal aid information. (Serious Housing Issues) This is continuous
- Utilizing grant and donation funds for food- Voucher Ford Farm, Fruends Market. Stop and Shop gift cards- to assist low-income residents, after using Fishes and Loaves/food pantries to provide food for entire month. Primarily single mothers and our elderly.
- Provided assistance and resources to disabled single mother being evicted. Legal forms filled out for court, New Opportunities, legal aid and visiting nurses utilized. (Case Manager and Mediator applied for)
- Neighbor to Neighbor Program- August- Applications being processed again due to refunding.
- Provided resources to two homeless young men. Assisted with registering with 211 for shelter/housing.
- Awarded a \$5000 donation from an anonymous donor through Berkshire Taconic. Food voucher Program
- Received \$400 donation from a resident in our community, this donation has been monthly and yearly.
- Distributed school supplies, 102 backpacks, lunch boxes and water bottles for children going back to school.

Respectfully,

