



Town of North Canaan
Board of Selectman Special Meeting
March 23, 2026

Present: First Selectman Jesse Bunce, Selectperson Melissa Pinardi, Treasurer Melanie Neeley

Selectman Bunce called the meeting to order at 3:03pm

Selectperson Pinardi moved to approve the agenda as presented. Selectman Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

This special meeting is to go through the budget as it currently stands and allow the select board to discuss budget considerations.

Election expenses are increased this year \$8900 due to possible primary, early voting and software updates.

Federal audit and audit services are down \$15,000 due to new auditors hired.

Payroll services increased \$4066 due to underbudgeting in previous year.

Building Officials office salaries decreased by \$24800 due to allocating to part time position.

Town counsel is up \$15000 as the town will be negotiating union contracts with the town crew.

Selectman Bunce is going to try to extend the contract period to longer than 2 years.

Highway repairs/maintenance line is moving \$7000 to the Vehicle and equipment repairs line to offset the \$9000 increase.

Sand/salt line increased \$30200. Because the town ran very low this year, Selectman Bunce is going to put 900 tons of salt into the spare salt facility to keep from running out in the future. Plow blades are up \$5000.

Transfer station total increase of all lines is \$32170, although hauling costs are still up in the air due to the MIRA contract issues. There is uncertainty for towns as what will happen. COG is looking at the issues as well as the state. There are a lot of moving parts right now.

Local relief line is up \$6000 to help with increases social services needs in town.

AHA program is being put back into the budget this year at \$7000

Events Committee requested \$5000 from the Board of Finance that they approved.

Fire company increase of \$40000 this year bringing the total to \$165,000. This will continue yearly as the fire department looks to replace the ladder truck due to age in 2030.

The total overall increase to the budget this year is \$102,000. Not reflected in the budget is that the grandlist for this year is up more than \$9million which will offset some of increase. The school is up a lot this year too.

There will no actions taken at this time.

Selectman Bunce moved to adjourn. Selectperson Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:32pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary