



Town of North Canaan

Board of Selectmen

July 6, 2026

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
NORTH CANAAN, CT
ON 7/7/26 AT 10:00AM
ATTEST: *[Signature]* TOWN CLERK

Present: First Selectman Jesse Bunce, Selectwoman Melissa Pinardi

Selectman Bunce called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Selectwoman Pinardi moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Selectman Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

No Executive Session needing to be scheduled

CampBrook Greenway has been in the town's possession for about a month. There has been some cleanup happening. The town is applying for a grant for \$2500 through Eversource and hoping to use that for treating some invasives. It will remain closed for another month and it will be assessed again at that time.

Employee handbook has been proofed by several people. **Selectman Bunce moved to approve the handbook. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business:

NRRA: The town is officially hauling garbage from here to Torrington. The group received over \$1million in grant money from the State to get this all up and running. There have been a lot of people who have worked hard to get this accomplished.

Town Meeting: **Selectman Bunce moved to schedule a town meeting for Thursday July 30 to review budget lines at 7:00pm. Selectwoman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Northwest CT Land Conservancy: Property on Honey Hill is geared to become a nature reserve to allow people to enjoy nature through trails and boardwalks, etc. Through Maria Horn and Stephen Harding there is \$1.4 million in grant money which is going towards this property. Tom Zettestrom gave information on 3 points of interest on the river there as well.

The Liberty Pole Event was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.

July 4th reading of the Declaration of Independence was a great community event.

Hometown Hero banners is at 125 banners and raised \$2000 for the donation to the VFW. Thank you to Joan Baker and the Town Crew for getting these banners up prior to the 4th of July.

Nascar Parade will be July 9 starting at 4:00pm at Lawrence Field. Parade will travel west on Route 44.

Summer Events: There are a lot of exciting events coming up. Selectman Bunce thanked the Events Committee and Chairperson Jennifer Crane for all of their hard work, meetings, etc. Please make sure to sign up for the Fire Department Parade. This year will be a special parade as a 250th theme.

The Town of North Canaan is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Social Services Report: Selectwoman Pinardi read report into record.

Zoning Enforcement Officer Report: Selectwoman Pinardi read report into record.

Fire Marshal Report: Selectwoman Pinardi read report into record.

Building Report: Selectwoman Pinardi read report into record.

Selectwoman Pinardi thanked Jesse Lawrence for taking on the extra work with offices short staffed.

Resident Trooper Report: Selectman Bunce read the report into record. There has been an issue with the smoke shop advertising Pokémon in windows, which has the potential to attract young people.

Selectman Bunce would like to work on creating an ordinance related to this. Tom Zettstrom discussed smoking campaigns in the 1990's and the current vaping situation.

Grants Committee: No news on outstanding grants and currently working on the Eversource grant for the Greenway cleanup.

Events Committee: Jennifer Crane Chairperson gave updates. June was the town wide tag sale. They have been approached about collaborating with Loan Oaks for next year and holding the sale the same day as them. July has the summer nights of Caanan. There are a lot of opportunities to volunteer. There are programs out and about and also available on the website. July 15 starts events. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be the carnival, bingo and fire truck rides. Saturday the carnival opens 3-10pm. In the morning the 4th annual Fly In will be 8-3. The train and accordion museums will have extended hours. Chicken BBQ starts at 5pm. 250th themed Firemen's Parade starts at 6pm. Immediately following the parade end will be the bed race on the road in front of Lawrence Field. Fireworks at dusk. Sunday the ambulance will host their annual buffet breakfast 8-11am. August will see Railroad Days and programs will be created for that as well.

250th US Anniversary: Kathy Keene thanked everyone who helped with the events. Thank you to Tom Zettstrom, Jesse Bunce and Christian Allyn for getting the Liberty Pole up. It will stay up through the end of the year. The kids did a great job. Reenactors from New Jersey were fantastic. Freund's did an amazing job with the food. Music was great. Big hit was bobbing for apples with the kids. July 4th saw the reading of the Declaration of Independence and was a beautiful event thank you to all who helped and came out to support the event and thank you to the churches who rang their bells at 2:00pm. The Community Dinner will be held July 8 from 4:30-6:00pm at the Bitterman Center. Please bring a non-perishable item. The history center is trying to schedule one more talk with Charles Goodyear later this summer or early fall.

Selectman Pinardi report: There will be a 10 bike rack coming Wednesday and will be installed on Main Street near the fence so that people can use it. The on-going bear problem is a large concern.

Selectperson Pinardi suggests getting together with the other towns and with a show of unity attempt to get the State to step in and do something (perhaps a bear season). A petition could help as well.

Selectman Bunce spoke regarding the devastation in surrounding towns after storms this past weekend. The town is helping out in whatever ways they can. Several towns have declared the States of Emergency.

The town hall will be opened for people to charge phones, etc. There was a discussion on whether there was a tornado or not.

In addition to breakfast and lunch at the Fly-In there will also be a raffle to win a ride with Billy Segalla in his 1942 Boeing Stearman to be scheduled at a later date. Tickets are \$10 a piece. The drawing will be at 1:00pm. Tickets are sold at the event or online. If you cannot attend, please contact Krysti Segalla at bsegalla@aol.com or on Facebook Messenger to purchase tickets via Venmo or PayPal.

Kathy Keene questioned if there was any legislation in regard to data centers popping up— in towns. Selectman Bunce stated a good place to start would be conversations with Zoning and Maria Horn.

Selectman Bunce stated that Falls Village has indicated that cell towners currently running on generators will be shut off tomorrow to reestablish their correct connection, so there will be service outages there for a while.

Hearing no further business Selectman Bunce moved to adjourn. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary