



Town of North Canaan

Board of Selectmen

September 14, 2026

Present: First Selectman Jesse Bunce, Selectwoman Melissa Pinardi, Selectman Chris Sorrell

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

Selectwoman Pinardi moved to approve the minutes of last meeting. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Selectman Bunce moved to amend the agenda to schedule an executive session after public comment to discuss the 3 lawsuits for Geer vs the Town of North Canaan. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Selectman Bunce welcomed Chris Sorrell as the new Board of Selectman member.

The Housatonic River Commission is in search of a new member.

The Town clerk has proposed printing and scanning fees for the new machine. The board reviewed the pricing. Selectman Bunce researched other area printers and found the pricing to be comparable. **Selectman Sorrell moved to accept the fee proposal as presented. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Selectman Bunce report: Welcome to Ed Sebranek as a new part-time transfer station employee. He is a certified worker and will work weekends to help Kate out. Happy to have him on board.

There was a request for signage at the Lawrence Field pavilion to let individuals know when it is closed for a private party or event. There was a recent incident there. Selectwoman Pinardi will bring the matter to the next rec meeting.

Selectman Bunce has spoken with DOT regarding the lease at Segalla field and they are willing to talk with the town.

The town was gifted a 1939 photo of the Canaan Baseball team. It will be displayed here for a year.

The town crew has finished chip sealing for the season. Selectman Bunce is getting prices for working on Brown's Lane.

Selectman Bunce met with engineers for the grant for the West Main Street Bridge and West Main Street repaving. He is also looking into additional bridge grant funding. The grant opens up in May. The hope is that engineering will be done during the winter.

On October 14 representatives from Eversource will be at the town hall from 6-8pm to present information regarding electric bills and to help residents bring down their costs.

The Home Town Heroes fundraising efforts collected \$3300 for the VFW.

Selectman Bunce is working on investigating the AARPA funds and will give a full report on that in October.

Selectwoman Pinardi report: She thanked Lindsay Crane for her years of service with the rec commission. She has stepped down from her position. We welcome Justin Ellison as the new chair of the rec commission. Selectwoman Pinardi is looking into grants to obtain some small pieces for the playground area. Selectman Bunce suggested speaking with Dr. Roy as she has a lot of insight into that.

Selectman Sorrell: Nothing to report. He was a member of the Board of Finance for 10 years and is happy to be able to transition to selectman.

Department reports:

Selectwoman Pinardi read into record the Zoning Officer Report, The Fire Marshall reports for July and August, and the Building Clerk Report.

Selectman Bunce stated that with the grants committee they were able to run through an emergency scenario where what would happen if the town got 40 inches of snow all at once. This gave a better look at what is needed for emergency management and how to go about getting grant funding for things and hopefully be better prepared for a townwide emergency. Selectman Bunce read the Resident Trooper Report into record.

Public Comment:

Jennifer Crane, Events Committee Chair stated that this weekend is the car show/vendor market in the town hall parking lot. Parts of Pease Street will be closed for foot traffic. There are other organizations and businesses that will be setting up as well, so it is very community oriented. Sunday is the VFW Fall Fest. October is the Pumpkin Fest.

Chris Jacques made a plea for anyone willing to coach grades 1-3 soccer so that it does not get cancelled. Currently it is set up for Saturday mornings and possibly 1 night a week.

This is drills and skills and some scrimmaging – no games. Suggestion was made to try and get some high school players to help out.

Melanie Neely requested that the reports be attached to the minutes. Selectman Bunce stated that it is part of the Administrative Assistants job and they will be attached.

Selectman Bunce moved to enter Executive Session. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session entered at 7:23pm.

Selectman Sorrell moved to exit Executive Session. Selectwoman Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session exited at 8:02pm

Selectwoman Pinardi moved to adjourn. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary