Town of North Canaan

100 Pease Street, North Canaan CT

Board of Selectmen

Monday, November 9, 2026

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

Selectman Bunce called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Selectman Sorrell moved to enter into executive session to discuss 3 litigation matters. Selectperson Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried. Selectman Bunce invited Assessor Jennifer Dubray and Attorney John Tower to the Executive Session.

Executive Session entered 7:01pm

Selectman Bunce moved to exit executive session. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session exited 7:08pm

Selectperson Pinardi moved to amend the agenda and add 2027 meeting schedule and online dog licensing. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Selectman Bunce called for discussion and vote regarding the resolution and draft stipulation contract for the litigation matters discussed in executive session. **Selectperson Pinardi moved to enter into the contract regarding the resolution. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Selectman Sorrell moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Selectperson Pinardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Dog Park: Ben Wohlfert gifted the town money to move the dog park to another location. Selectman Bunce would like the board approval to bring the plan for moving it to wetlands and zoning. **Selectperson Pinardi moved to allow Selectman Bunce to move forward with plans. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Received For Record
11-9-2026 9:21PM

Town Clerk

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

New Business:

Town received a report on the State bridges. Most passed ok. The Sodom Rd bridge was fair and received some suggestions, including having an engineer look into it. Selectman Bunce will follow up on the suggestions.

Selectman Bunce report: Thank you to Treasurer Melanie Neely for getting $15,000 returned to North Canaan that inadvertently went to New Canaan. We received grant for the Greenway work including spraying of invasive plants, etc. Work on Browns Lane continues and improvements are being made. Trunk or Treat was a good turnout and we are hopeful to continue that tradition. 50 bags of candy were handed out to homes in the trick or treating area. We are happy to welcome Rebecca Harrington as our new social worker. The holiday gift program application deadline has been extended to November 16 to give people more time to apply. Thank you to the Keilty's and all of the poll workers for all of the work that they did with the elections. Thank you to Krysti, Jessie, and Ayrslea for creating a policy regarding the department reports. Reports will be uploaded to the website. Eversource held an energy savings program and left documentation that can give tips to save on energy. They will do an audit of houses and give ideas to try and help save.

Selectperson Pinardi read into record the ZEO report, the Fire Marshal report, the Social Worker report, The building office report.

Selectman Sorrell read into record the Resident Trooper report.

Jennifer Crane, Events Committee: Wrapping up the year with the winter events. Winterfest is the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Vendor market will be held at the school from 11-4 with Santa being there 1-4. Santa is only inside before the parade. He will NOT be at the pavilion after the parade. This is a fundraiser for the school. The Parade of Lights is at 6:00pm and ends by going through Geer. They no longer end at the pavilion. There will be boxes for Letters to Santa at the town hall.

Selectperson Pinardi report: The recreation commission discussed opening up the holiday lights decorating contest for community involvement in judging. Details will be finalized in November. Town was approved for the $500 grant from DOT to buy 2 more bike racks. We will store them until spring and then suggestions of putting one at the library and one at the Bunny McGuire park.

Selectman Sorrell report: Thank you to Ty Ford for the donation of the corn stalks. The scouts got them put on poles in town. Selectman Sorrell helped out with pistol permits. November 11 at 11am will be a short ceremony at the doughboy. The VFW was presented a check from the veteran banners fundraiser for $3300. Tomorrow is the Marine Corps birthday and there will be a short ceremony at the VFW.

Jennifer Crane mentioned that the free Community Thanksgiving dinner will be 12-2 at the Pilgrim House on Thanksgiving day. This month's Bitterman Center community dinner will also be a Thanksgiving meal. There are flyers for both.

Proposed meeting dates for 2027 were read into record by Selectman Bunce. Selectperson Pinardi moved to approve the dates as read. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Online dog licensing system. Cost is $25 per month/$300 a year. Money would be executed to the dog account not general account. Selectman Sorrell asked how many dogs get licensed each year? Town Clerk stated there was 164 this year**. Selectperson Pinardi moved to approve the implementation of the online system. Selectman Sorrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Public comment: Penny Terry thanked the selectmen for fixing the town hall front steps.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary