

Town of North Canaan
Board of Selectman
February 6, 2023

Present: First Selectman Charlie Perotti, Christian Allyn, Craig Whiting

First Selectman Perotti called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Minutes: Selectman Allyn requested his report be amended to reflect changes from his father to Steven Allyn specific. **Selectman Whiting made a motion to approve as amended. Selectman Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Public Comment: February 8 10am -4pm covid clinic at the Falls Village Firehouse. February 17 6-8pm at Great Falls Brewery the EDC will hold a business network night. The selectmen received a proposed ordinance from Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Selectman Perotti read the ordinance to public.

Tom Zettstrom: would like to do enhanced roadside mowing during the dormant season due to lack of snow. There was a discussion of invasive species of plants and plans to get rid of more of them. Selectman Allyn has an updated map on shrub invasion management.

The new gate is open at the transfer station and they are in the new building. The pole barn was started last week.

1. Complaint on Lawrence Avenue with the ordinance received and needing to be reviewed this can be put aside for now. Selectman Whiting has suggested that waste management be part of the ordinance.
2. Complaint on 127/129 Church St. Selectman Perotti read into record correspondence sent by the ZEO to Ms. Adams after a phone conversation he had with her. Susie Boults stated that the container has been on the property over two weeks and Ms. Adams has had a year to comply and hasn't. Selectman Perotti replied that the town is not in a position to take ownership of the house however, the lien and fines remain on the property.
3. Update Opioid Response Fund: Greenwoods Referrals requested thru COG that some of the money we receive be used to support them. Selectman Allyn suggested it would be a good thing to do and questioned if some funds should go to the ambulance in town. The next COG meeting is Thursday and we will see what others are doing.
4. Resignation from Lynn Fowler from the Housatonic River Commission was received and read into record. **Selectman Allyn made a motion to accept the resignation. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Letter to be put onto the Housatonic River Commission from Jack Antine read into record. **Selectman Allyn made a motion to accept Mr. Antine's request. Selectman Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
5. STEAP grant: Selectman Perotti received an email stating that the contract is being drafted. This has been ongoing since September.
6. Resident trooper report read into record: 322 calls in January 2023.
7. Social services report read into record
8. Fire Marshall report: none

9. Zoning Enforcement Officer report read into record
10. Building Official report read into record
11. Selectman Whiting report: requested commission and board dates for 2023 and has not received them yet. It may be necessary to look into who's responsibility it is and if someone should be hired to be in charge of this on the website. Would like to have a trash pick up in April (or sooner if the weather is nice). Discussion regarding the regional sports program in its' second year. Enrollment decreased this year due to some issues last year. We pay 49% of program because of the amount of kids that we send to the highschool. North Canaan picks up the burden. The way the region 1 budget is divided is not equitable to North Canaan and with budget season coming up there's going to be another increase in what we have to pay. There is rumor that state money will decrease. We are locked into how it was originally set up. Further discussion ensued about amount we pay for the region 1 budget. Selectman Allyn suggested this be a regular agenda item and we dive into how to educate other towns as well.
12. Selectman Allyn report: The Arbor Day application has been submitted. He reached out to the town attorney about he blight ordinance and has not heard back. Will reach out again. The EDC paid for a promotional video of North Canaan. Everyone is happy with it and it can probably be posted. Regarding preservation of land in Canaan and the management of smaller properties such as Ruggles landing, the Greenway and others Tim Abbott suggested that a conservation commission be created to handle these matters as an advisory committee to the Selectmen. The members would be appointed by the selectmen. The Northwest Conservation District reached out to Selectman Allyn requesting to get back into the town budget. They need to send in a request letter giving details of what they have done for the town. The Democratic Town Committee is looking into a zoning alternate and Selectman Allyn has removed himself from those discussions. The DTC is reviewing voter list and have questions regarding individuals who are no longer in town. Selectman Allyn would like to start working with the Exchange club on an endowment fund to help support programs in town. This is a long term process but has worked in other towns and could eventually be a help to taxes.

Selectman Whiting made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell
Recording Secretary