

Town of North Canaan
Board of Selectman
July 3, 2023

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

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

Selectman Allyn made a motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public comment: Riley from Lakeville Journal requested to speak. He was granted permission to promote/post the Railroad Days flyer. He is looking for information on the new murals at the Baseball Field. He can contact Adam Bunce and the recording secretary will send him information.

1. Update on the Canaan childcare grant: It has been since last September and we are finally moving forward. Papers were signed a few weeks ago.
2. Update on the solar site transfer station – letter form the company read into record – award process delayed. It's been about 4 years. Explanation of what will be done.
3. Update on the EV charging station – filled out permits – moving forward. They were asked not to do anything during railroad days July 11-15. 2 port charging station for electric cars. Costing the town \$5600 and we can charge what we want per kilowatt hour and make some money (on phone app). Town will maintain it. There's room for expansion.
4. Railroad Days – there's a new flyer which is on the website and on Facebook. Thank you to Stephanie Grant who did super job on it.
5. Update on Veteran's Fair on June 24th. There were 50 veterans in attendance.
6. Resident Trooper/Troop B update read into record - 268 calls in June. Basically, every other Monday he has off for admin day. He will be switching his duty times during Railroad Days. Melissa Gandolfo is seeking help with downtown parking issues as tenants are having difficulty getting in/out of parking lot due to illegal parking on Street in front of the driveway. Selectman Perotti will speak with him and will also request a do not block driveway sign from the State.
7. Building Official update: none
8. Social services update read into record. She is doing a great job and is very busy.
9. ZEO update read into record also very busy.
10. Fire Marshall update: none
11. Selectman Whiting report: He has heard from 5 of the 6 region 1 towns trying to set up a meeting to discuss the budget split for region 1 in August. The superintendent and Sam Herrick were asked by the BOE not to attend as they do not want them to have to represent the board. There is no date set yet. Reminder during Railroad Days the Fire Dept. boot drive will tie up traffic. Due to a runaway situation the town was made aware of Adventure Recovery LLC which has been doing business without any permits or permission in town, which is illegal. Selectman Whiting and Selectman Perotti met with the Rec Dept regarding the pool. There is a need to discuss potentially investing in a new pool. Selectman Allyn suggested paying for the town's residents to get a Y membership as opposed to a new pool. There are some reasons against that including being outside vs inside. The Y was going to do a major fundraising project for an

expansion right before covid. Selectman Whiting attended the ribbon cutting at the new solar field at Bunce Property. He explained that this is 2 private solar fields with a pilot program paying \$12,000 each per year to the town. The power is sold to Hartford, but it feeds Canaan's grids. There was a discussion about Adventure Recovery LLC.

12. Selectman Allyn report: The EDC chairman has revisions to the governing ordinance for the Selectmen to review. The blight ordinance with no legislature occurring we will have to pay for the entire word for word edition in the papers. We must make sure someone is assigned to that position, and it will have to be a paid position. The board will need to meet and figure out the details. On June 20th the Friends of Ruggles Landing met and established a Board. They are looking for someone with treasurer experience and they are ready to incorporate. Once they get that status, they will approach the Selectmen. June 27th the Exchange Club had an informative get together. Selectman Allyn would like to create a town YouTube channel. We have the video created recently about the town and all the town meeting videos. A YouTube channel would allow people to good North Canaan. There was a discussion of who would deal with it. Selectman Allyn would create a special Gmail account for it. The Housatonic River Commission is going ahead with reforms of Wild and Scenic they have been working on getting the designation for over 40 years. They receive \$150,000 for stewardship of the river. The commission (with Selectman Allyn abstaining) voted to help with Ruggles Landing's expenses. Selectman Allyn is going to help construct the website for that commission as well. He wants to continue to serve as Selectman on that committee but if he can't, he will find a replacement. Tentatively they would allot \$10,000 a year to the Friends of Ruggles. The history center in town has been repainted. The town hall has had the air conditioning upgraded and painting will occur soon. July 14th The Library will host a Victorian Social and on July 15th the History Center will host a Victorian Social. North Canaan has the largest Victorian Railroad Station in the nation. Selectman Allyn stated although he is not Queen Victoria, he will be assisting her during Railroad days. July 15th will also see a large fly-in at the airport.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary