

Town of North Canaan
Board of Selectmen
November 14, 2023
Special Meeting

Present: Charlie Perotti exiting First Selectman, Second Selectman Craig Whiting, exiting Third Selectman Christian Allyn

Brian Ohler incoming First Selectman, Second Selectman Craig Whiting, Incoming Third Selectman Jesse Bunce

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

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

Public Comment: Tom Zettestrom thanked Christian for his service to the town with a presentation. Mr. Zettestrom would like the new select board to continue invasive treatment on town roadsides. Selectman Allyn spoke about the knotweed invasive treatment project. Also Mr. Allyn has been instrumental with the Arbor Day plantings at the school.

Ron Clavette of Olde School Deli addressed the board in regard to his dumpster being removed from the parking lot on Railroad Street after Selectman Perotti approved it being there. Selectman Perotti acknowledged he gave the approval however, after numerous complaints and issues with the other neighbors there he resolved that it needed to be moved. Selectman Perotti explained it was supposed to be put behind Colonial Court and he did not have anything to do with them putting it in the bank parking area. Selectman Whiting also received numerous calls regarding offensive odor from the dumpster. There was further discussion regarding parking lot issues.

Penny Terry asked about the Façade Grant and who it was awarded to. Selectman Perotti explained that the town had to have an administrator for the grant and a consultant came in to administer it for \$3750. Recipients of the awards were Great Falls, The Railroad Museum, The Accordion Museum, the Colonial Theater, the Considine Group and Bill Hower. It was split evenly among the recipients. The consultant fee came out of the grant money.

At this time in the meeting Selectman Perotti and Selectman Allyn stepped down in order for the newly elected Selectman to take over, First Selectman Brian Ohler and Third Selectman Jesse Bunce sat at the table.

Selectman Ohler thanked Charlie and Christian for everything they have done for the town.

HVAC system Resolutions: Three resolutions were read by Selectman Ohler into record:

Resolution 1. Authorization of the North Canaan Board of Education to apply for a school construction grant for the North Canaan Elementary School HVAC (Ductless Minisplit) project.

RESOLVED, that the North Canaan Board of Selectmen authorizes the North Canaan Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services to accept the HVAC (Ductless Minisplit) project at North Canaan Elementary School.

Resolution 2. Authorization for the establishment of the North Canaan Elementary School HVAC (Ductless Minisplit) Project Building Committee.

RESOLVED, that the North Canaan Elementary School HVAC (Ductless Minisplit) Project Building Committee (Recommended Members: Dr. Alicia Roy – Principal; Doug Pecor – Head of Facilities; Samuel J. Herrick – Business Manager; and Brian Ohler – First Selectman) is hereby assigned to the North Canaan Board of Education’s Building and School Facilities Committee (Members: TBD prior to meeting date)

Resolution 3. Authorization of the preparation of schematic drawings and outlined specifications.

RESOLVED, that the North Canaan Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the HVAC (Ductless Minisplit) Project at North Canaan Elementary School.

Parade of Lights will be held Sunday after Thanksgiving. Lineup for the parade is at 5:30pm behind Stop and Shop. The parade ends at the pavilion with Santa, music, cookies and hot cocoa. Maribeth Marchi stated that it is not necessary to RSVP but would be helpful to them.

Selectman Ohler offered condolences to the Baldwin family and read a letter from the Fire Marshal Tim Baldwin into record recommending Jim O’Neil as a deputy fire marshal to help with the workload
Selectman Whiting made a motion to appoint Jim O’Neil to the role of Deputy Fire Marshal for North Canaan. Selectman Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Selectman Ohler read into the record the Resident Trooper report: For the month of October there were 270 calls in North Canaan. A meeting today clarified that this report encompasses Troop B responding to North Canaan not just the Resident Trooper.

Selectman Ohler read into the record the Building Officials report.

Selectman Ohler read into the record the Zoning Enforcement Officers report.

Selectman Ohler read into the record the Social Services report.

Selectman Whiting report: Selectman Whiting thanked the town crew for putting up decorations in town. He has received several speeding complaints a lot coming from Allyndale Road area. He will give the town trooper a heads up about it. He received an email from Sam Herrick the morning after the election regarding this years’ school budget. Representative Steve Harding is aware and working on the issue we have with the school budget and the Town of North Canaan. Selectman Whiting took this time to thank Christian Allyn and Charlie Perotti for everything over the past 6 years and beyond. He is appreciative of everything that they have done together.

Selectman Bunce report: Selectman Bunce was contacted regarding the storm water on Old Turnpike South and will reach out to DEEP to discuss it.

Selectman Ohler spoke about looking forward to implementing changes within the town hall as well as the town. He wants these meetings to be an ongoing conversation and will open the meetings with a "feel good" story to help keep the meetings in a positive light.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ayrslea A Odell".

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary