

Town of North Canaan
Board of Selectman
Regular Meeting (via zoom)
May 4, 2020

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

Call to order: 7:00pm

Selectman Whiting made a motion to add 3 items to the end of the agenda. Selectman Allyn seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Selectman Allyn made a motion to approve the minutes from both the March 2nd meeting and the April 21 meeting. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Public Comment:

- It has been decided that the Memorial Day Parade will be cancelled this year. The VFW is discussing having a rifle salute. There is more information to come.
- The town crew is in the process of picking up brush – please call to have it picked up
- The CT Mobile food pantry sent a letter that they would like to use the municipal parking behind Jim’s garage. Selectman Perotti approved this and it will happen every third Thursday of the month beginning May 21.
- Selectman Perotti thanked, Craig Whiting, Brian Allyn, Bill Minacci, the Fire Police and everyone else that participated in the wave parade this past weekend. Everyone did an awesome job of preparing the route and shutting down the roads, etc.

Business:

1. COVID 19 update. The town has been working with 4 people for the last few weeks and that hasn’t changed. Selectman Perotti stated that we will continue promoting the use of masks, less than 5 people in a gathering and at least 6 ft apart.
2. The Fishes and Loaves group sent a letter looking for financial help during this time and we were able to find \$5000 to send to them for a donation. They were very appreciative. Dinny will also be getting them new masks that he was able to get.
3. Metcalf case – The town lost the case so Ben will be moving forward with his site changes.
4. The Budget will be presented to the Finance Department at their zoom meeting on May 13. Nancy O’Connor is speaking with the Board of Education for their proposal as well. The Selectmen will be the voting to accept or deny ultimately. The Board of Finance will set the mil rate.
5. Taxes and due dates – at the April special meeting the Deferment Program was approved and will go into effect for July.

6. Railroad Days is still in a holding pattern until we see what happens with the virus. Some fairs have already been cancelled. There have been questions regarding the town pool, summer camps etc, but this is all on hold until more information is known.
7. Transfer fees went up about \$15.00 across the board. Residents \$75, Seniors \$40, Out of State \$90 and Commercial \$115. Selectman Whiting stated this is approximately \$1.50 a week to get rid of the garbage which is good. Selectman Allyn agreed. Stickers will begin being sold July. Typically they are printed by Adcom, but they are not currently opened so this needs to be worked out.
8. New town truck was delivered last Friday to the town garage. We will be looking to sell the old one, possibly online.
9. We are looking to raise the parking ordinance fees from \$5 to \$25-\$100. This needs to go to a town meeting (along with the food truck and blight ordinances). Selectman Whiting stated he agrees with raising them. Selectman Allyn ensured they are matching prices with statutes.
10. Resident trooper update 156 calls for the month April. Not doing as many physical stops.
11. Building officials office update – Both March and April were busy with online applications and phone calls. CO's and regular inspections are still being done. There have been a lot of zoning inquiries without a ZEO. We are still looking for one.
12. Selectman Whiting report: He also thanked Brian Allyn and the fire police for their efforts with the wave parade. Received a call from a local restaurant owner inquiring about the outside open seating restaurants being approved on the 20th worried that food trucks will take business away from already struggling restaurants. The food truck ordinance has to wait for the town meeting. Dr. Roy emailed Selectman Whiting that she has a backup plan for graduation on June 10 to close Pease Street and have diplomas handed out to students in vehicles. Selectman Whiting suggested using the town crew and resident trooper for street closure as opposed to Fire police. There are private wave parades happening all over, please be patient on the side streets. Selectman Whiting stated that the Selectmen are still not able to post items to Facebook without permission. John Lannen is the admin for the group and stated that Selectman Allyn has access to the group. Selectman Allyn said he does have access, but still can't do things without permission as well. The selectmen need to be given the admin rights to the Facebook Page. Selectman Perotti will clear this up tomorrow. Selectman Whiting has received calls regarding speeding so he spoke to the Resident trooper who stated he will get out again. Make sure to get burn permits and permission to burn.
13. Selectman Allyn report: Thank you for inviting him to join the wave parade it was great. The Tesla charging station is now complete and has been used. The HUB is currently on hold. Grants have been written to keep it going, but everything is on hold. Selectman Allyn is prepared to discuss the blight ordinance further if necessary. Selectman Whiting stated right now enforcing the blight might be difficult as the transfer station is filling up because people are cleaning out their properties. Bulky Waste and recyclables are growing. Selectman Allyn stated if it goes to a town meeting within the year the effective date could be pushed out a year. Dinny is recommending dumpsters for contractors. Selectman Perotti stated that things are going to have to wait until we are giving the word it is ok to go back to normal. Election discussions are

starting regarding absentee ballots and how elections will work. The decision on the ending of the school year from the governor is supposed to be done tomorrow.

14. Selectman Perotti received a complaint from a concerned family regarding the disc golf on the Greenway. He spoke with Jeffrey who will look into all of it including insurances and the fact that it was a recreational sport which is now a business on property the town leases. Selectman Whiting stated he has some information on it and will drop it off to the selectman's office.
15. **Selectman Allyn made a motion to accept the resignation letter for Francis W Perotti from the Economic Development Committee. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Selectman Whiting made a motion to accept the application to be on the committee for Will Perotti. Selectman Allyn seconded the motion. Motion approved.**
16. This Thursday, May 7, on zoom at 5:30 pm National Day of Prayer. Cheryl will put on website.

Leila Hawken – Board of Finance meeting is May 13th at 7:30. Public can zoom in for it? Yes, and then will be posted online. Links/passwords can be on agendas.

There was a discussion regarding meetings in person (6ft apart) vs being able to do them on zoom.

Selectman Whiting reminded that we should try to support local businesses – restaurants, local contractors, hardware, etc.

Selectman Allyn made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Whiting seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Adjourned at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell
Recording Secretary