



Town of North Canaan
Zoning Board of Appeals
September 23, 2026

Present: Chairman Brian Allyn Sr., John Jacquier, Scott Zinke, Sally Green

Chairman Allyn called meeting to order at 7:05pm and established a quorum

Mr. Jacquier moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Ms. Green seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

VFW Couch Pipa Post 6851 – signage. Chairman Allyn stated that application and payment were received. Wendy Eichman presented for the VFW. They have seen significant rise in usage over the past few years. They are struggling to fundraise. Social media has helped some, but after speaking with others digital signage seemed to help. The hope is that the purchase of this 4x6 sign would help to not only promote VFW events, but community events at the VFW and information for veterans. The sign would not be near the road it would be replacing a sign on the front wall.

Mr. Zinke asked what format the sign would use as it was defined in the application as an animated sign but depending on how the sign displays it may actually be considered illuminated instead. As long as it doesn't rotate information or have animated pictures etc. it would not be animated. If it is not moving it is not animated. There was a discussion regarding animation. Ms. Eichman stated she would confirm with the sign company but they had told her that it was completely programmable. Chairman Allyn read a letter from the ZEO into record.

ZEO Martin talked to the sign company and because they told him it could do anything and would be fade in/fade out he took that to be animation and thus denied the application.

There was a discussion regarding the need for a public hearing if they do an illuminated sign instead of animated sign. ZEO said there would be no need for a public hearing if that was the case. ZEO Martin added that the board may want to get a signed affidavit from the sign company that scrolling is disabled.

Ms. Eichman confirmed with the VFW Commander that they would do an illuminated sign in which events would go one by one and not be scrolling or animated.

Mr. Zinke moved to uphold the denial and no variance given for the animated sign. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The VFW can resubmit with the correct signage at no additional cost and Chairman Allyn returned the fee to the VFW as no action was taken on the application.

Other business to come before the board: none

Mr. Jacquier moved to adjourn. Mr. Zinke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary