

TOWN OF CANAAN  
Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Wednesday, December 2, 2009 @ 10 AM  
108 Main Street, Falls Village, Connecticut 06031

The Special Board of Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM by First Selectman Patricia Mechare. Also in attendance were Selectman Charles Lewis and Town Treasurer Linda Paviol. On a motion by Lewis, seconded by Mechare the meeting unanimously recessed until the arrival of Selectman Peter Lawson. On a motion by Mechare, seconded by Lewis the meeting unanimously resumed at 10; 25 AM. Selectman Lawson arrived at approximately 10:45 AM.

In the first item of business the Board reviewed packets of information regarding the use of the first floor at 107 Main Street as directed by Town Meeting and by the terms and conditions of a grant received by the Town through the USDA to assist in renovating the first floor of 107 Main Street. This information was reviewed with Selectman Lewis and the Town Treasurer, Linda Paviol who had been members of the 107 Main Street First Floor Renovation Committee. Discussion ensued regarding the information these documents provided and how the contents would relate to Dominick Caiati's request for the use of that space for what he hoped would be the Recreation Commission's support of the activities he had in mind. The Town Meeting documentation clearly stated that the first floor space was to be rented and in reviewing the contract and other materials from USDA, including the Town's application for the grant it states that the application was being made to provide space for small businesses as defined in USDA terms. In the opinion of the Board of Selectmen in order to change the use of the first floor at 107 Main Street, a Town Meeting would first have to approve such a change and the USDA contract mandates that the Town request a change of use with that agency and provide data that the space has not been able to support a business. Further, it was learned that if the request was not made to USDA and approved then the Town would be responsible for paying back not only the face value of the grant, but some type of interest as well. Given these circumstances the Board will continue to advertise the space for rental once a month in the hope of finding someone to lease the space. These realities, at least at this time, seem to preclude the use of the space by the Recreation Commission for the

purposes Mr. Caiati stated, although he could rent the space himself as a small business and carry out the activities described.

In the second item of business the Board reviewed a letter and attachments forwarded to the Board by Bill and Kay Schrenk regarding the Holabird, Munson and Kellogg Cemetery. The Schrenks expressed concern that this cemetery, a separate piece surrounded by land currently owned by the Hayhursts, was neglected. They indicated that they and the Falls Village Canaan Historical Society had helped to rehabilitate the cemetery about ten years ago. They asked that the Town take care of it through the use of Connecticut State statute, though no statute was actually cited. The Board had questions about ownership of the piece and felt an attempt should be made to determine that before anything was done since this cemetery was not owned by the Town. Mechare will contact the Schrenks and update them.

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion by Lewis, seconded by Lawson the meeting unanimously adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Allyn Mechare  
First Selectman