

Town of Canaan Board of Finance

Regular Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2007

6:30 P.M.

Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT

Present: Chairman Charles Lemmen, Kent Allyn, Denise Cohn, George Elling, and Alternate Scott Macchi

Excused: Tom Christian, E. Frederick Petersen, and Alternates Patrick Hafner and Stephen Koshland.

Also Present: First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare and Selectmen Peter G. Lawson.

Chairman Lemmen called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:36 P.M.

Public Comment: None

Secretary's Report:

A motion was made by **K. Allyn** to approve the **May 14, 2007 Regular Meeting minutes with the following corrections: 1.) Add Tracy Atwood to the list of those in attendance. 2.) Under the motion to receive the Tax Collector's report, delete "One nay vote" and add "unanimously" after the word "Passed". D. Cohn seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer e-mailed the May 2007 report to members in advance of the meeting (attached). **G. Elling made a motion to receive the Treasurer's Report. S. Macchi seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Tax Collector's Report: The May 2007 report was distributed (attached). It included a delinquent taxpayer update, Real Estate Tax Liens placed into the Town Land Records - Vol. 70, Page 0308 on June 4, 2007, and a 2006/2007 Annual Summary AA report indicating 99.47% collection rate. **A motion to receive the May 2007 Tax Collector's Report was made by K. Allyn. G. Elling seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Board of Education Financial Report:

The Year-to-Date Budget vs. Actual Report through May 14, 2007 was distributed (attached). Chairman Lemmen noted that the only surplus funds we expect back from the BOE would be approximately \$10,000 paid in excess of the amount needed for tuition payments to the Regional Board. P. Mechare noted that usually that surplus is not returned to the town, but is credited by the Regional Board towards the next year's tuition bill.

A motion to receive the May 2007 BOE Report was made by G. Elling. D. Cohn seconded. Passed unanimously.

First Selectman's Report:

- Johnson Rd./Feeder Road Grant Project – Work will begin Tuesday, May 12, 2007 and last from 4 – 6 weeks. Cocciola Paving is expected to bill at the beginning and end of the project. The Town is required to pay \$298,000+/- “up-front”, all of which will be reimbursed after the project is complete and required paperwork submitted, excepting the Town's portion - \$107,000. Mechare indicates that Treasurer Paviol believes the current level of the General Fund, along with anticipated July tax payments, would allow payment of the designated amount.
- Pool – Plumbing, electrical, and cement work is active with Tim Downs coordinating contractors. The donated wood for the pool house may be cut soon, but exactly when is not clear.

- 107 Main Street STEAP Grant Façade Renovation Project – Fred Laser and Supervisor Kent Allyn met about the bid package. The package should be ready for bids to go out in two weeks, with a mid-fall start-of-work anticipated.

G. Elling asked Mechare for an update on legislation regarding the STEAP grants for the upcoming year (re: Governor’s proposal to reduce the maximum amount of each grant from \$500,000 to \$250,000). Mechare indicated that the STEAP Grant application process is on hold until the new State budget is in place and the legislature makes a decision about the maximum amount for Town grants. Both the Fire Department and Children’s Theater Group hope to apply through the Town for STEAP funds.

New Business:

Education Budget –

K. Allyn made a motion that the Board of Finance appropriate \$18,761.00 from the General Fund to the Board of Education budget for 2006-2007, thus amending the Board of Education budget to reflect the two grants that were received by the Board of Education and were deposited in the General Fund. S. Macchi seconded. Passed unanimously.

Municipal Budget –

Four Departments for fiscal year 2006-2007 will be overspent. Upon recommendation of the auditor, and after some discussion of the Board, the following actions were taken. Consensus was that these motions should be attached to an amended budget to clarify the lines that were overspent for budget-planning purposes.

1.) G. Elling made a motion that the Board of Finance transfer up to \$8,000.00 to line #1002 (Town Hall Expenses) of the 2006-2007 Municipal Budget, with \$5,000.00 coming from line # 1011 (Planning and Zoning) and \$3,000.00 from line #1027 (General Public Safety). D. Cohn seconded. Passed unanimously.

2.) K. Allyn made a motion that the Board of Finance transfer up to \$12,000.00 to line #1010 (Town Clerk) of the 2006-2007 Municipal Budget, with \$4000.00 coming from line # 1014 (Registrar of Voters), \$5,000.00 from line # 1016 (Wages and Benefits), and \$3,000.00 from line #1018 (Public Health). S. Macchi seconded. Passed unanimously.

3.) D. Cohn made a motion that the Board of Finance transfer up to \$1,000.00 to line #1020 (Wm. Surdam Building) of the 2006-2007 Municipal Budget from line #1018 (Public Health). G. Elling seconded. Passed unanimously.

4.) C. Lemmen made a motion that the Board of Finance transfer up to \$1250.00 to line #1023 (Selectmen’s Fund for Non-Municipal Public Benefit Activities) of the 2006-2007 Municipal Budget, with \$1000.00 coming from line # 1018 (Public Health) and \$250.00 from line # 1014 (Registrar of Voters). K. Allyn seconded. Passed unanimously.

Chairman Lemmen suggested the auditor be asked to explain the rationale again for line-to-line transfers in order to correct over-expended lines, perhaps when he comes before the Board at the end of the year.

Adjournment:

G. Elling made a motion to adjourn, seconded by D. Cohn and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis
Recording Secretary