

Town of Canaan Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 12, 6:30 P.M.
Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT

Present: Chairman Charles J. Lemmen, Kent Allyn, Denise Cohn, George Elling, E. Frederick Petersen, and Alternates G. Tracy Atwood and Stephen Koshland.
Absent: Regular Member Scott Macchi.
Also Present: First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare, Selectman Peter G. Lawson and Tax Collector Jean Bronson. Later Selectman Charles H. Lewis.

Chairman Lemmen called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. Alternate Atwood was seated for absent Regular Member Macchi.

Public Comment: None

Reports:

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by K. Allyn to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2008 Regular Meeting with the following correction: New Business, Item 1.) motion regarding Registrars of Voters - change "Passed unanimously." to "Passed. F. Petersen abstained." F. Petersen seconded. Passed unanimously.

The minutes of the April 25, 2008 Public Budget Hearing stand as published.

The minutes of the April 28, 2008 Special Meeting stand as published.

Treasurer's Report

The April 2008 Treasurer's Report, including the Revenue Budget and Special Accounts, was received prior to the meeting by e-mail (attached). **A motion was made to receive the April 2008 Treasurer's Report by K. Allyn. D. Cohn seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Tax Collector's Report

The April 2008 report was distributed showing 98.85% collection on the 2006 Grand List and also included the Suspense List – May 2008 (attached) listing taxpayers the Tax Collector has not been able to locate to collect a total of \$1,483.65.

F. Petersen moved to receive the April 2008 Tax Collector's Report and to approve the May 2008 Suspense List and have the Tax Collector proceed with turning the accounts over to a collection agency. T. Atwood seconded. Passed unanimously.

Board of Education Financial Report

A motion to receive the BOE Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Report dated April 9, 2008 was made by Geo. Elling. T. Atwood seconded. Passed unanimously.

Selectman's Report

- Pool - The pool house windows and siding are scheduled to go up. Electric and plumbing work is ongoing and the town Crew is working on the parking lot.
- 107 Main Street STEAP Grant Project – Window replacement is almost complete, painting preparation has begun and bids for the chimney work will be opened next week. K. Allyn is repairing clapboards where needed and preparing specifications for the front step repairs and railing replacements.
- Falls Village Children's Theater/103 main Street STEAP Grant Renovation Project - Irene Tuttle of the State DSS had been assigned as project liaison. The first packet of information is expected from her. A *Reich & Tang* Account will be established for this project from which the Town Treasurer can disburse

funds for project expenses once established. The First Selectman will work with a group of representatives from the Theater Group and a Project Manager in this collaborative effort.

Communications:

- An April 24, 2008 letter to the Superintendent of Schools for Region One, prepared by the Kent Board of Finance, was distributed (attached). Lemmen noted that they were looking for support in asking for a Regional Board of Education capping of the total allowable increase in preparing its budgets to the rate of general inflation. There was discussion and a consensus that representatives of the member town Boards of Finance ought to organize and the key time to meet is in November when the HVRHS budget is starting to coalesce. G. Elling will prepare a proposal by the next regular Meeting for the BOF to review.
- A March 6, 2008 letter from CT Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz (attached) regarding qualifications for the office of Registrar of Voters to outline the increased training and mandates of HAVA.

New Business:

Making Recommendations to Town Meeting

K. Allyn moved to recommend to Town Meeting the appropriation of \$2,704,664 for education expenditures during fiscal year 2008-2009. G. Elling seconded. Passed. D. Cohn abstained.

T. Atwood moved to approve the purposes of the general municipal spending plan, as submitted by the Board of Selectmen and amended by the Board of Finance, and to recommend to the Town Meeting the appropriation of \$1,545,037 for general municipal expenditures during fiscal year 2008-2009. D. Cohn seconded. Passed unanimously.

G. Elling moved to recommend to Town Meeting to allocate the unexpended balance of the fiscal year 2007-2008 budget series 3001.Road Maintenance and budget series 3002.Town Garage, to be evenly divided and transferred into the Salt Shed Fund, Account No. 5100144 and the Heavy Equipment Reserve, Account No. 1702301209. K. Allyn seconded. Passed unanimously.

K. Allyn made a motion to recommend to Town Meeting that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to expend monies in the Pool Account Reserve, Account No. 1022570, as needed to complete the Town Farm Pool. G. Elling seconded. Passed unanimously.

D. Cohn made a motion to recommend to Town Meeting that the Town of Canaan approve the expenditure of the monies in the Falls Village Fire Department and Ambulance Squad Pension Reserve Account No. 1702184788 for costs related to establishing and maintaining the Service Awards Program with Penflex, Inc. and investing of the remaining funds in said account with UBS Financial Services, Inc. F. Petersen seconded. Passed. K. Allyn abstained.

A request was made that, when the new pool is complete, the Town report on the total cost of the project. Mechare will do this. Also regarding a motion made by the BOF at its March 10, 2008 Regular Meeting recommending to Town Meeting the disposition of the \$27,626 CRRA settlement to the Pool Account Reserve, Mechare was asked to consider in the wording for the Town Meeting call that if any funds remained in the Pool Account after the project was finished, that they be added to the Bulky Waste Building Reserve Account. **The Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 29th 7 P.M. at LHK,** pending a BOS vote.

Adjournment:

G. Elling made a motion to adjourn, F. Petersen seconded, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary