

**Town of Canaan
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Monday, August 13, 2007 at 7:30 P.M.
Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031**

Present: First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare and Selectmen Charles H. Lewis
Absent: Selectman Peter G. Lawson
Also Present: Registrars of Voters, Mary Petersen and Karen Gerstel, Dan Shaw, and Terry Cowgill, *The Lakeville Journal*.

First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare called the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. She noted that Selectman Lawson was excused due to vacation.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Pending Minutes:

C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, July 17, 2007 Special Meeting (replacing the Regular Meeting) as presented. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports:

The June and July 2007 Treasurer's Reports and the July 2007 Tax Collector's reports were distributed. The Tax Collector's report indicates 53% collection on the 2006 Grand List to date.

C. Lewis made a motion to receive The Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports through July 31, 2007. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.

Communications:

Written

A letter from the Registrars of Voters was distributed (attached) and additional information on CT State Statute relating to voting. Because of the new voting system equipment and the larger voting space needed to use it, the Registrars will need a bigger area for the primaries on February 5, 2008. A secure, dedicated phone line will have to be installed, accessible to the voting area. As the first floor of 107 Main Street has been rented with a 2-yr. lease, Mechare notes that the most likely suitable area for use would be the 2nd Floor 107 Main Street Senior Center, provided the Seniors give permission to use it as a voting area on the needed day(s). The Selectmen's consensus was to approach the Seniors right away for this request, as the Registrars need to list the primary location soon with the Secretary of State's Office for compliance.

Oral

Mechare reported on a meeting she attended recently in Cornwall with CT U.S. Congressman Chris Murphy addressing the Northwest CT Selectmen and Mayors. He spoke about environmental issues, farmland, and "earmarks". The Town has applied for a \$500,000 "earmark" for the FVVFD Emergency Center.

Reports:

A. Town Board/Commission Vacancies – Rick Kubarek has resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mechare will inform the Republican and Democratic Town Committees.

B. Swimming Pool – Vernali will pour the concrete pool house floor, then the Falls Village Saw Mill will be notified to cut the pool house frame.

C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council – DEMHS has changed their rules, so that money for the towns will now go through the Councils of Government.

D. COG Meeting – No August meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for September 6th.

E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Grant Project – The project is finished and guardrails up. Mechare commended Roger Kane, Project Coordinator, for his excellent work. The project seems to be coming in \$6,000 to \$8,000 under budget and the Town Treasurer has applied to the State for the funds the Town is due to be reimbursed.

F. STEAP Grant /FVVFD and 107 Main St. FVVFD – The application for an extension of the contract was completed. 107 Main – There were no bids received by Wednesday, August 8th at 2 p.m. The bid specifications have been re-advertised with a bid opening set for August 22nd at 1 p.m. The State requires a minimum of three bids.

The bids received for the Town truck plow and dump body are being reviewed by DPW Tim Downs and David Kelsey. The bids for the Town Fire Truck will be due and opened tomorrow, August 15th at 1 P.M.

Old Business:

A. FVVFD Pension Fund – The Fire Department meets tomorrow night for presentation of the Pension Plan. The Plan will be considered at the next BOS Regular Meeting, September 11th, with hopes that many of the Fire Department members can be present.

B. Rental 107 Main Street – A two-year lease with an option to renew has been negotiated with Michael Klemens, LLC, intended as office space for his environmental consulting business and a possible antiques business in the front. **C. Lewis made a motion to rent the 107 Main Street downstairs space to Michael Klemens, LLC for office space as per the terms of the lease to be signed. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.**

C. Cobble Road – Town DPW has pulled back and graded the road material, so that nothing is going in the swamp for present. The expandable holding system presented by Jody Bronson may still be considered next year. Beavers continue to be a problem.

D. Update Transfer Station – The DPW has created the forms for a 10' X 10' concrete platform, part of the secure propane tank storage area required by the State. The concrete should be poured soon.

E. Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society Insurance Request – Selectman Lewis has reviewed the deed in the Town Records for the Historic Depot. It does not make mention of the property reverting to the Town in the event of default or dissolution. CIRMA requires such language for the property to be insured under the “umbrella” of the Town policy. He will next research the Society’s Articles of Incorporation.

F. Update on Ordinance Request from Falls Village Children’s Theater Group – The last draft of the proposed ordinance went to Counsel Donna Brooks for review. This regards the non-profit status received last year and exemption from Town taxes due after that time. This will be taken up at the next Special or Regular Meeting of the BOS.

New Business:

1. Candidate for Regular Membership Recreation Commission - Mechare received a letter from the RTC for consideration of Vinnie Viscariello. The DTC has verbally recommended Scott Mullin for the position. Mechare notes that a resident does not have to be a registered voter to be considered. The consensus was to defer this vote until the full board is present and a written recommendation is received from the DTC.

2. D.M. Hunt Library Board of Directors Selectmen’s Appointees - **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the following residents as BOS Appointees to the D. M. Hunt Library and School Association Board of Directors: Joseph M. Woodard until 2008 (filling out Pat Mechare’s term), Ashley DeMazza until 2010 (filling out John Pozzi’s term), Margo Lewis for a new four-yr. term until 2011. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.**

3. Resolution Regarding a Contract with CT State Library-Historic Documents Preservation Grant – **C. Lewis made a motion authorizing the First Selectman to sign a Certified**

Resolution for the Town of Canaan for the contract with the CT State Library - Historic Documents Preservation Grant. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. Ordinance Requests - The Planning & Zoning Commission has requested a new ordinance regarding fines and a new ordinance for the Assistant Treasurer to sign checks has to be considered also. Mechare will forward these items to Town Meeting for vote at the same time that the revised Town Ordinances are considered.

5. Resolution: Leukemia and Lymphoma Society – **C. Lewis made a motion to approve a Resolution to designate September 2007 as Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma Awareness Month (see attached Resolution). P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Other Business: None

Adjournment:

C. Lewis made a motion to adjourn. P. Mechare seconded. Passed unanimously.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary