

**Town of Canaan
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 10, 2007 at 7:30 P.M.
Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Falls Village, CT 06031**

Present: First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare. Selectmen Peter G. Lawson and Charles H. Lewis
Also Present: G. Tracy Atwood, Directors of the Falls Village Cultural and Community Center George Elling, Denise Cohn, Bob Neimeth and Dale McDonald. Terry Cowgill, *The Lakeville Journal*.

First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare called the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting to order at 7:40 P.M.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Pending Minutes:

C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2007 Regular Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.

C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2007 Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports:

The November 2007 Treasurer's Report and Tax Collector's Report were distributed. **P. Lawson made a motion to receive the Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports through November 31, 2007. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Communications:

Oral

- George Elling spoke on behalf of the Falls Village Cultural and Community Center Directors in regard to applying for a STEAP Grant through the Town to fund renovations for the Main Street Building purchased by the Falls Village Children's Theater Group and also to report on work accomplished to date. He read from a two-page document (attached).

Mechare reported that Senator Andrew Roraback's office has not received the new STEAP Grant application from the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), although it has been reported that the \$500,000 per town STEAP grant maximum has been restored with the State budget vote. FVC&CC Board member Neimeth indicated that the group would like the full \$500,000 for their renovation project. Mechare indicated that she will inform the FVC&CC as soon as word of the new application and deadline is received by the Town, so that they can submit needed materials for this competitive State grant application. However, the Board of Selectmen must submit the final application and at this time two organizations have expressed interest in a portion of the Grant, FFVFD and FVC&CC. Selectman Lewis requested that the BOS ask the Fire Department to make a similar presentation with an update on current project needs for consideration of this Grant. George Elling was thanked for his presentation.

- Tim Downs is using *Magic Salt* on certain roads to see if it is more cost effective and useful on some persistently icy areas. It is used after plowing and will be kept in a separate pile at the town Garage.
- The Revaluation notices went out to residents by mail. The Assessors will contact *Vision Appraisal* to be certain the website listed in the mailing will easily result in the desired “field card” display for residents.
- The previous tenant of 107 Main Street reimbursed the Town for ceiling plate work done by Electrician Ron Carpenter on the former sound system.

Written

- A letter from Woods Sinclair on behalf of the D. M. Hunt Library Board acknowledging the 4-year appointments of Joe Woodard ‘08, Jack Mahoney ‘09, Karen Lindquist ‘10, and Margo Lewis ‘11 as Selectmen’s Representatives to the Board.
- A letter of resignation from Dan Shaw (attached).
- A letter of resignation from E. Frederick Petersen (attached).

Without objection, the following New Business items were added to the agenda:

2008 Schedule of BOS Regular Meeting Dates and Acceptance of Resignations – Dan Shaw, Planning and Zoning Alternate and E. Frederick Petersen, Chairman Canaan Water Company.

Reports:

A. Town Board/Commission Vacancies – An open Alternate position is available for the P&Z Commission. The opening for Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate was filled by the write-in of Patrick Hafner at elections.

B. Swimming Pool – Wood for the pool building is being cut at Falls Village Saw Mill. Mechare sent an update to members of the Recreation Commission

C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council –A Regional Planning Team will distribute DEMHS funds regionally, rather than by towns. John Ulrich has completed an assessment of what our Town has and needs for its Emergency Operations Center; next will be an antenna on the Town Hall. The ZEO and Building Inspector materials will be set-up elsewhere in the Town Hall to make room for the Center equipment.

D. COG Meeting – Met December 6th and welcomed the new First Selectman of Washington, CT. New officers will be elected at the next meeting.

E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Rd. Grant Project – A meeting is planned with paver Cocchiola, Roger Kane, our Project Supervisor, Mechare, and Linda Pregno, DOT, to come to an agreement on the compaction level and close-out the project.

F. STEAP Grant /FVFD and 107 Main St. FVFD –107 Main Street – The contracts have been reviewed by Town Counsel and gone out to the contractors for signature by next week.

G. NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative – Kent and Goshen have voted to be part of the Collaborative grant application. Salisbury, Norfolk, Cornwall, and North Canaan all have meetings to join or have already. P&Z Member Ruth Skovron and Greg Overton of Nature Conservancy were praised by Mechare for their work on this.

Old Business:

A. Cobble Road – The BOS sent letters to the Schrenks and Rev. Gregory Wismar seeking permission for the Town-hired, licensed trapper to trap and remove beavers from their properties to control water problems on Cobble Road and Music Mt. Road respectively. Rev. Wismar has given permission. Word has not been received back from the Shrenks as yet.

- B. Auditor's Report** – The BOF approved the 2007-2008 Town of Canaan Financial Statement presented by the Town Auditor Mike Zemaitis, Meyers and Company, LLC, at tonight's meeting.
- C. Update Transfer Station** – The fence for the propane storage area is complete and next an appropriate door with locks will be installed.
- D. CRRA Settlement** – The Town is due to receive approximately \$30,000 as part of the settlement.

New Business:

A.) Tax Refunds – Upon the request of the Tax Collector, **C. Lewis made a motion to refund a credit balance of \$107.55 to Howard Platt List #2006/301002, created by an Assessors bill adjustment. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Upon another request of the Tax Collector, **C. Lewis made a motion to refund a credit balance of \$115.14 in taxes paid on List#2006/301265 to Volvo Finance NA. Inc. due to an account correction by the Assessors. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.** (Requests attached.)

B.) Acceptance of Resignations – **C. Lewis made a motion to accept with regret the resignation of Dan Shaw as Alternate on the P&Z Commission. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.** Dan was thanked by the Selectmen for the time he served on P&Z and his good work there.

A letter was read, received from Fred Petersen this evening, with his resignation from the Canaan Water Company as of December 31, 2007. **C. Lewis made a motion to accept with regret the resignation of E. Frederick Petersen from the Canaan Water Company. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

C.) CT Coalition to Eradicate Lyme Disease – There will be a presentation at the next COG meeting about this. Awaiting results of those discussions, the item will be tabled until the next meeting when more information is available to help with decision-making.

D.) 2008 Schedule of Regular Meetings – The schedule was distributed (attached). **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the 2008 schedule of Regular Board of Selectmen's Meetings as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Other Business:

Mechare reminded the Selectmen that Greg Marlowe's written plan for Century Aggregates will be presented at the December 19, 2007 Regular Meeting of the P&Z Commission. She encourages attendance at the meeting.

Adjournment:

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary