

**Town of Canaan  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, March 12, 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: Terry Cowgill, *The Lakeville Journal*, and Paul Bartomioli, *Public Access TV Channel 6*

First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare called the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. **There was a motion by C. Lewis to recess the meeting at 7:31 P.M. until the finish of the BOF Regular Meeting. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously. On a motion by C. Lewis, seconded by P. Lawson and passed unanimously, the meeting was reconvened at 8:14 P.M.**

No public comments

**Approval of Pending Minutes:**

**C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2007 Regular Meeting with the following two corrections: 1.) In the heading, change the meeting date from January 8 to February 5 and 2.) Under NB, Item A - change the spelling of Haffner to Hafner. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2007 9:30 A.M. Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2007 3:15 P.M. Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2007 Special Meeting as presented. C. Lewis seconded.**

**C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2007 Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2007 Special Meeting as presented. C. Lewis seconded.**

**C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2007 Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports:**

Mechare noted that both reports seem to be on target.

**P. Lawson moved to receive the Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**Communications:**

**Written:**

- First Light Power Resources, which purchased N.E. Generating - A letter announcing the quarterly meeting date: Wed., March 28<sup>th</sup> in New Milford. Mechare will attend. Others invited.

- DOT/Northwest Conservation District – a copy of a letter to Shawn Hayden regarding the offer, that is about to expire, for a \$39,000 grant he put in for, for the Beebe Hill/Deer Rd Drainage Study.
- A letter from the State DRS announcing the 2007 NAA Tax Credit Program, with application materials, for non-profits soliciting corporate donations for particular projects. Mechare will let various town groups know of this year’s program application.
- A letter from IWC Chairman E. Woods Sinclair recommending inoculations against Dutch Elm Disease for the three American Elm trees in town. Mechare suggests this be addressed at a Special BOS Meeting, with consensus to do so.
- Copy of a letter to North Canaan First Selectman Doug Humes, regarding the use of Frances Cardello as a suitable fill-in for our shared Building Inspector Ernie Sinclair (during vacations/illness). By consensus, the Selectmen will give Mr. Sinclair permission to have the same arrangement for Canaan (Falls Village) also.
- March 5<sup>th</sup> Letter from Public Sector Insight, Blue Cross/Blue Shield CT about HB #70-62 to reduce the Health Insurance Premium Tax for Municipalities, a 1.75% tax built into premiums. The legislative Insurance Committee is reviewing this. **A motion by C. Lewis for the Town of Canaan BOS to write a letter of support for House Bill #70-62 to repeal the Health Insurance Premium Tax for Municipalities. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**
- A letter of thanks for participation - United Way in the “Food for our Neighbors” Campaign.
- FYI – In the latest issue of *CT Magazine*, “Rating Small Towns” (under 3,500 population) - Canaan rates #10 out of 27 towns.
- Letter from Clifton Jaeger (attached) listing the improvements he made to the rental property at 107 Main Street and asking for two months free rent by way of compensation. Consensus to address this at the next Special BOS Meeting.

### Reports:

**A. Town Board/Commission Vacancies** – Two Regular Member positions are open on the Recreation Commission. The Town Political Committees will be notified again for recommendations.

**B. Swimming Pool** – We are waiting for the spring thaw before work resumes. Also still waiting to hear if the pool house lumber is going to be donated, before Chairman Jim March can work up final figures for the project.

**C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council** – Mechare unable to attend last meeting due to a conflict. Currently working on the communication equipment and filling out the application for licensing our frequency. We have enough DEMHS funds to cover the work needed.

**D. COG Meeting** – Town of Canaan will host the Hazardous Waste Day on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Mechare attended the Legislative Committee meeting regarding the Gov. Rell’s proposed budget. There will be a regional planning meeting for *Smart Power* and Dave Seney will attend to represent the Town.

**E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Grant Project** – An additional \$22,800 will be required of the Town. The BOF was apprised at their meeting tonight.

### Old Business:

**A. STEAP Grant/FVVFD/107 Main Street** – The Fire Department will meet Thursday to vote upon the bid recommendation from the Emergency Services Center Building Comm. for “clearing and grubbing” the site. They will submit their recommendation to the BOS for action. A proposal has been submitted by Kent Allyn to act as Clerk of the Works for the 107 Main St. Project. The Building Comm. will meet March 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 to consider it.

**B. Update on State Requirements for Transfer Station** – The completed topographical survey was received today. Ed Fenn, P.E., will work up the new Mylar with required stamps for all surveys now required by CT DEP. These unanticipated costs, totaling about \$4,000, could be covered, in part, by an anticipated surplus from the Transfer Station Line in the current budget, Manager Fred Palmer believes.

**C. The Budget Meeting and Hearing Dates** - The BOS will present their spending plan to the BOF on March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Public Hearing is Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at Kellogg School, and Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> is the Town Meeting to vote on the budget.

**D. Update on Regional Planning Collaborative** – This is a result of the “Bears and Bulldozer” forum. Tom McGowan has been successfully seeking funds for this pilot project from SB&T, BTCF, NIB, TSB, Nature Conservancy, Litchfield Bancorp, and Webster Bank. Mechare testified before the Legislature in support of a house bill for State financial support on these issues last week and will meet with the Co-Chair of the Committee Thursday.

**New Business:**

**C. Lewis made a motion to refund a MV tax credit in the amount of \$115.20 to Robert Johnson List# 2005/300584 for his 2005 Travel Trailer. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**P. Lawson made a motion to refund a credit balance to Wells Fargo Bank for tax escrow overpayment for Alan and Pamela Simon in the amount of \$92.93, List #2005/100634.**

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary