

**Town of Canaan
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2008 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: Tracy Atwood and Terry Cowgill, *The Lakeville Journal*.

First Selectman Patricia Allyn Mechare called the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting to order at 7:52 P.M. The late start was due to the need for the Selectmen to be present through the Board of Finance Regular Meeting, which adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

Public Comment: None

Consensus to add to the agenda additional New Business items **E.** - FVVFD and **F.** - Fred Petersen Request and TAHD (Torrington Area Health District)

Approval of Pending Minutes:

1. **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, March 10, 2008 Regular Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**
2. **P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2008 Special Meeting as presented. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
3. **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2008 Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports:

There were no questions. Mechare noted that the Tax Collector's rate is excellent at 98.33%. **C. Lewis made a motion a to receive the March 2008 Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Communications:

Written

- A March 31, 2008 letter from the State of CT Siting Council re: Verizon Wireless application for a telecommunications facility at 188 Rt.7 South (proposed Emergency Services Center).
- A March 28, 2008 letter from Robinson & Cole Atty. Kenneth Baldwin re: the above-mentioned Siting Council Application. C. Lewis recommends notifying P&Z Chair Laser, depending on what the Zoning Regulations indicate, for a possible Special P&Z Meeting to consider the application. Written comments from the town will be accepted by the Siting Council until April 31, 2008
- A letter of thanks from the NWCT Regional Housing Council for our annual contribution (Stephen Koshland is the Town representative).
- An April 2, 2008 letter from State Comptroller Wyman about *Enhanced MEHIP* and potential savings in health insurance for municipalities.
- Communication about NWCCOG Building Fees Survey. Town Bldg. Insp. Ernie Sinclair completed this and returned it to COG for their town-by-town comparison.
- An April 3, 2008 letter from the State OPM re: grants to assist municipalities in developing or updating their POCD (Plan of Conservation and Development), as required by the State every 10 years.

- A letter from Vincent Inconiglios – the ZBA met and asked for more plan information/drawings to be reviewed at a Special ZBA Meeting April 16th.

Oral

- Gina Jasmine reminder re: annual fee to be paid for the Website Hosting Account, approximately \$107.
- The Anthem BC/BS Renewal Package has been received and will be distributed.
- DPW Manager Downs will be on vacation next week; Dave Kelsey will be in charge then.
- Bill Blass has indicated an interest in providing pool maintenance and lawn care at the new pool this summer. Mechare will pass this info. along to the Recreation Commission.

Reports:

A. Town Board/Commission Vacancies – There is one Alternate position on the Board of Finance and an Alternate on P&Z. Anyone interested can come directly to the BOS.

B. Swimming Pool – Jim March and Jerri Wingard with a crew of volunteers have done an enormous amount of work on the pool house and shed. Pat will get a complete listing of volunteers for recognition. Drakely has completed work for the chemical system. Everything is moving along with T. Downs coordinating the various jobs. DPW will do rough grading and parking lot.

C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council – State Area #5 (includes Canaan) has \$900,000 DEMHS funds. Preliminary approval of 29 projects is complete, to be further scrutinized to match available funds. In May the First Selectmen of the 43 towns represented in the district will meet.

D. NWCCOG Meeting – A DEP official came to hear requests from the member towns at the last meeting. Mechare requested that Towns be given advance notice when the State is considering land purchases that will take land off the tax rolls.

E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Grant Project – Cocchiola Paving has yet to sign the warranty document approved by the State; the reserved final payment remains in abeyance.

F. STEAP Grant /FVVFD, 107 Main St, and FVCT – 107 Main Street – The front shingles and gutters are complete. Windows are being replaced. Mechare praised the work of Kent Allyn as project manager. The STEAP Grant extension for the Emergency Services Center project was approved. Mechare received word that the FVCT was awarded a 2007-2008 STEAP Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for their Theater/Community Center building renovations.

G. NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative – They are waiting for the \$125,000 grant award to be released. Dan McGinnis is accepting applications for the Regional Planner position; the job description is on the website (www.nwctplanning.org).

Old Business:

A. DEP Asphalt Paving Regulations – Nothing new to report.

B. Update Transfer Station – The fence is up, awaiting a door and lock.

C. Crosswalk Request Isabella Freedman Retreat Center – They have decided on signs in both directions 300’ – 350’ in advance of the crossing area, but no painted crosswalk.

New Business:

A. Consideration of Fee Schedule Changes Transfer Station – Fred Palmer has worked on the guidelines A new category is *Computer Equipment Disposal*, and the fee for T.V. screens up to 23” will be \$5.00 and 24” and over \$10.00. Further changes in fees are not currently anticipated until bulky waste has to be managed differently. **P. Lawson made a motion for the addition of *Computer Equipment Disposal* to the transfer station fee guidelines and splitting the TV screen fees: \$5.00 and \$10.00, for up to 23” and over 24”, respectively. C Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously**

B. E-Waste Disposal -

C. Hx Preservation Grant/Public Work Station – Once the application is approved, Town Clerk Mary Palmer will be sent a contract and the BOS will have to approve the contract with a resolution. It has

been mandated that each town must provide a public work station by the end of this year. This allows computer accessibility of land records online through the year 2000. The grant is for \$7,000.

D. Energy Savings Program – While this had previously been tabled, there is interest from some townspeople that the BOS pursue it. Jean Bronson has shown interest in this subject and will be asked to coordinate a committee to promote and investigate the program for our town.

E. FVVFD and 2008-2009 STEAP Grant – A letter of request from the FVVFD Building Committee Chairman (attached) requesting endorsement by the BOS with a letter of support in the 2008-2009 STEAP Grant application period. **C. Lewis made a motion to endorse the automatic roll-over of the FVVFD 2007-2008 \$300,000 STEAP Grant request for Phase 2, Part 1 of the Emergency Services Building Project to the 2008-2009 application process and that the BOS write a letter of support at the appropriate time to the State OPM. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

F. Fred Petersen and the TAHD – As Town representative to the TAHD, Fred Petersen requested that the BOS contact him if they have any concerns to be relayed to the Torrington Area Health District.
Added by consensus:

G. Replacement Rear Door at Wm. Surdam Building/Day Care Center – Resulting from water damage (recently addressed by a new roof), the rear exit door and adjacent framework for the older Day Care building needs replacement. Mechare received a quote from Lee Stratman, East Canaan Home Improvement, to remove and replace the door, repair frame, stoop, and deck for \$1520.00 plus a \$1,000.00 “buffer” if more damage is found in the frame/adjacent wall. Because the Building Maintenance budget line for the Wm. Surdam Building is nearly depleted this fiscal year, the work may need to wait until June.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, **C. Lewis made a motion to adjourn. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary