

**Town of Canaan
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 12, 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 7:37 P.M.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Pending Minutes:

1. **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, April 14, 2008 Regular Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**
2. **P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2008 Special Meeting as presented. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports:

Mechare noted that the Tax Collector's collection on the 2006 Grand List is 98.85% and she issued the Suspense List to go out to collection at \$1400+. **C. Lewis made a motion to receive the April 2008 Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Communications:

Written

- A letter of resignation from Charles J. Lemmen as a ZBA Alternate. **P. Lawson made a motion to accept Chuck Lemmen's resignation as ZBA Alternate with regret. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
- A letter of resignation from Regular BOE Member Betsy Howie. It will be the BOE's responsibility to fill the position with a new member. **P. Lawson moved to accept Betsy Howie's resignation from the Board of Education with regret. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
Lewis noted that he found it disturbing that there currently seems to be a negative climate of politics building in the Town such that some volunteer's are not happy and feel they must resign; it then becomes more difficult to fill various volunteer positions for the Town's Boards and Commissions.
- An invitation from the HYSB for a presentation about underage drinking by the McCall Foundation.

Oral

Maggie and Frank Ruotolo will be moving and Margaret's position as Region One BOE Representative will then need to be filled. Mechare needs to check, but believes the BOS may be responsible for appointing the replacement.

Reports:

Town Board/Commission Vacancies – There is one Alternate position on the Board of Finance, an Alternate on ZBA, an Alternate on P&Z, and a Regular member of the BOE. Pat will refer these openings to the Town Party Chairs.

Swimming 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 grading.

C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council – State Area #5 - 43 towns (includes Canaan) Mayors, First Selectmen, and designees voted on the final allocation of the \$900,000 DEMHS funds. Mechare is on the Steering Committee.

D. NWCCOG Meeting – Routine matters.

E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Grant Project – Cocchiola Paving returned the final signed paperwork today. This will be forwarded to Linda Pregno, DOT, completing the project. Lawson noted a damaged area of the new fence from an accident. DPW Manager Downs will make a request for the State Police report to get the name and insurance company responsible and the price of the fence from the project manager. Mechare will follow-up on this.

F. STEAP Grant /FVVFD, 107 Main St, and FVCT -

107 Main Street – 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.

Emergency Services Center Project - The STEAP Grant extension was approved, but the State lost a document – Mechare faxed the packet of information to them again.

Falls Village Theater/Community Center STEAP Grant 103 Main Street Renovation Project - Irene Tuttle of the State DSS has been assigned as project liaison. The first packet of information is expected from her. A Reich & Tang Account is required to be established for the project from which the Town Treasurer can disburse Grant funds for expenses. The First Selectman will work with a group of representatives from the Theater Group and a Project Manager in this collaborative effort.

G. NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative – Interviews for the Regional Planner are taking place. A contract for the State Grant for 2008-2009 has not been received to date.

Old Business:

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

B. Update Transfer Station – The propane area should be complete, as required, by June 1st.

C. Crosswalk Request Isabella Freedman Retreat Center – The DPW will install the signs in both directions, 300’ – 350’ in advance of the crossing area; payment from the Retreat Center has been received for the signs and poles.

D. Route 7/Lime Rock Bridge Project – Mechare will prepare a memo for the BOS. The contract has been awarded by the State and Mechare attended an informational meeting at the DOT in Thomaston. The project is scheduled to begin June 1st and is expected to last about two years. Mechare has made requests regarding detour signage well-in advance of the work area on the major traffic routes, in order to keep traffic on State arteries as much as possible, avoid unnecessary confusion and congestion, and provide for local emergency vehicles. Mechare will make an appointment with the Troop B Commander to discuss safety issues.

E. Water Street Bridge – Mechare has discussed the Amesville end of the bridge repair needed with Salisbury First Selectman Rand.

F. Energy Savings Program – A memo was received from Jean Bronson and Kay Schrenk (attached) with a list of residents interested in the Energy Task Force.

G. Hx Preservation Grant/Public Work Station – Paperwork for the required BOS resolution has not been received as yet.

H. CT Siting Council Hearing – The hearing for the telecommunication application for 188 RT 7 South (future Emergency Services Center) is July 1, 2008 - intervener/evidentiary hearing 3 P.M. – 5 P.M. and public hearing 7 P.M. to 10 P.M.

I. Proposed Budget 2008-2009 - The **Town Meeting** to vote on the Education Budget and Municipal Budget and other appropriate items on the call is set for **Thursday, May 29, 2008, 7 P.M. at Kellogg School.**

J. State Enhanced MEHIP Program – Mechare will gather more information. It is too late for this year.

New Business:

A. Tax Sale – A memo from the Tax Collector on the pending Tax Sale for three delinquent tax properties (attached). **P. Lawson moved to advise the Tax Collector to proceed with the Tax Sale on the Marco Canedo property, Map 11 - Stein Lane, Lot #88, #91, and #94 - \$6,144.99 in total taxes due to the Town at this time, to be sold “as is”. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

B. Report East River Energy – Mechare attended a meeting April 25th with Dan Herzog, East River Energy. New from the oil suppliers - fuel reserved at a set price will have to be used before August 31st or it goes back to the supplier, not to East River Energy.

C. Request from Town Water Operator – Richard Stone, Town of Canaan Certified Water Operator requests that we use the same lab that the Canaan Water Company uses, now that TAHD is no longer doing water quality testing in their lab.

D. Recommendation of Bid for Emergency Services Center Site Work – **P. Lawson made a motion to contract with W.D. Hewins & Sons, low bidder, for the Emergency Services Center site work. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Adjournment:

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary