

**Town of Canaan  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 11, 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: 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.

Without objection, Old Business Item E, Use of CRRA Settlement, was added to the agenda.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Pending Minutes:**

1. **P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, January 14, 2008 Regular Meeting with the following correction: Page 1, bottom paragraph, second sentence – delete \$50,000 and replace with \$250,000. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
2. **C. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, January 30, 2008 Special Meeting as presented. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**
3. **P. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 6, 2008 Special Meeting as presented. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**

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

The January 2008 Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports were distributed. **C. Lewis made a motion to receive The Treasurer's and Tax Collector's Reports through January 31, 2008. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**Communications:**

Written - An FYI communication (attached) from Fred Bruni, Torrington Chapter of UNICO National Committee, concerning *We the People*.

**Reports:**

- A. Town Board/Commission Vacancies** – There is an Alternate position open on the P & Z Commission and a Regular Position on the Water Commission. Fred Petersen, former Canaan Water Commission chairman, was asked to reconsider returning for a short period, during project planning for the storage tank replacement. His letter of response (attached) indicates willingness to serve until May 15, 2008. A secretary for the commission has been found, as Mr. Petersen has requested in his letter. **C. Lewis made a motion to appoint E. Frederick Petersen to the Canaan Water Commission for a term. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**
- B. Swimming Pool** – The pool house frame has been erected by the F.V. Sawmill. The board siding and roof go up next. The Pool Committee meets Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 7 P.M., with Bill Drakely of Drakely Pools.
- C. Public Safety Emergency Planning Council** – The work is complex and many on this council are Emergency Management Directors. Federal funding has diminished for their projects. Frank Ambery and Mechare share duty attending the meetings.

**D. NWCCOG Meeting** – The 2008-2009 budget reflects the same per capita fee as last year. The Executive Director is currently paid less than other Regional Planning Council Director, however.

**E. Johnson Road/Rt. 7 Feeder Grant Project** – A draft *Letter of Warrantee* (attached) is the result of a recent meeting with Mechare, Cocchiola Paving, and the State DOT. After reviewing the wording with Job Supervisor, Roger Kane, Mechare will be forward it to Linda Pregno, DOT. If accepted, the final payment can be made to Cocchiola and the project closed-out.

**F. STEAP Grant /FVVFD and 107 Main St. FVVFD** – Mechare spoke with an attorney from Atty. Gen'l Blumenthal's office regarding the extension of the STEAP Grant for the Emergency Services Center project. She will continue to follow-up on this in person and another MOU may be required now. 107 Main Street – The roof is almost complete. The chimney showed damage and needs replacing. Kent Allyn is getting bids. Mechare believes this work can be done within the project budget. Windows on the third story are being restored and insulation begins next week.

**G. NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative** – Mechare reports use of the website as very active ([www.nwctplanning.org](http://www.nwctplanning.org)) and Ruth Skovron is helping to direct inquiries coming to the site.

#### **Old Business:**

**A. DEP Asphalt Paving Regulations** – The asphalt paving and VOC reductions initiative probably will not happen until July 1, 2009. It will affect all towns and the way they pave in the future.

**B. Update Transfer Station** – No report.

**C. Renewable Energy Resources** – Mechare will speak with Cornwall First Selectman Gordon Ridgeway and Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand concerning their participation and results/benefits in those towns.

**D. Update on Town Bridge Report** – DPW Manager Tim Downs has discussed our bridges with a DOT representative. Downs will add the projected work costs to the bridge line in the 2008-2009 FY Budget.

**E. Use of CRRA Settlement** – After some discussion, **C. Lewis made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance that the \$27,626 CRRA settlement be held in a separate account for upcoming pool expenses, but also that a Non-Recurring Capital Account be set-up to begin saving for a bulky waste storage building at the Transfer Station with \$5,000 in the 2008-2009 BOS budget as a new line. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

#### **New Business:**

**A.) Tax Requests** – The Tax Collector requested three refunds (attached).

- 1. P. Lawson made a motion to refund an overpayment credit on real estate tax to George Pollard List# 2002/100559 of \$162. 14. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
- 2. P. Lawson made a motion to refund \$1,085.60 to David and Cheryl Peccha on a duplicated payment of real estate tax with refinancing, List# 2006/100543. C. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously.**
- 3. C. Lewis made a motion to refund supplemental motor vehicle tax paid in error on List#2006/400093 in the amount of \$673.72 to Honda Lease Trust. P. Lawson seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**B.) Habitat for Humanity** - A letter (attached) was received from John Pogue, President of Habitat for Humanity Northwest CT, seeking a Falls Village resident to represent the Town and serve on their Board of Directors. The Habitat group has completed three, and is building two more affordable homes within the Town of Canaan. Consensus was to contact Carole McGuire for possible names.

**C.) Ordinance for P & Z Fines** - Mechare reported that this proposed ordinance, to establish citation procedures and fines for violation of zoning regulations, has been placed on the call of

the upcoming Annual Town Meeting and is expected to help with compliance of P & Z regulations.

**Other Business:**

1. Discussion of sand and snow removal - T. Downs DPW Manager has reported that there is a lot of sand left over from last year. Some areas that receive straight salt, due to habitually icy conditions, are Undermountain Rd., Johnson Rd., and Dublin Rd.
2. A report from Larry Wagner and Associates, reviewing available federal and state grants in light of the various Town projects coming up, does not currently show appropriate grant opportunities for the Town to pursue.

**Adjournment:**

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo B. Lewis, Recording Secretary