BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2021

Regular Business 6:00 pm

Canton Town Office

*Selectmen present: Chairman Russell Adams, Kristi Carrier, Scotty Kilbreth, Brian Keene, Carole Robbins.*

*Staff present: Town Clerk Carol Buzzell, Deputy Clerk Nicki Girard, CEO Scott Mills, Treasurer Vernice Boyce Others present: Robyn McClintock, Brian Jordan, Ben Jordan, Don Belanger, Martin Tartred, Phyllis & Rene Ouellette, Richard Landry, Matt & Ronnie Horn, Danny & Vicky Waite, John Belanger & Reporter Marianne Hutchinson.*

1. Call meeting to order – *Russell called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.*
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comment – 15 Minutes – *CEO Scott Mills did an evaluation of the house at 3 Golden Ridge Road and found it to be in a state of disrepair and uninhabitable with the visible holes in the roof, etc. Scotty Kilbreth suggested to contact the home owner together with the Health Officer.*

*Rene Ouellette asked if the stumps placed in piles next to the Pine Grove cemetery were going to be removed and how much money was received from the wood that was cut. Carole Robbins stated the money from stumping the property will come out of the wood cut and she hasn’t heard from the logger yet what the costs were.*

*Richard Landry asked if the board has decided what to do about the Transfer Station driveway he spoke about at last selectmen’s meeting. Russell stated the board will discuss it.*

1. Acceptance of Minutes – August 12-*Carole Robbins motioned to accept minutes, Brian Keene second. All in favor.*
2. Old Business
3. Special Town Meeting- Medical Marijuana Petition & Ordinance Referendum-*Scotty motioned to have a Special Town Meeting on September 28, secret ballot with voting polls to be open from 2:00pm to 8:00pm. Kristi second the motion. All in favor. Carol Buzzell reported that absentee ballots will be available August 27th for this Special Town Meeting. Scotty motioned to hold a Public hearing for the Special Town Meeting September 7th at 6:00pm at the Town Office meeting room. Carole Robbins seconded the motion. All in favor.*
4. Old School Building (Scotty)*- Scotty thanked the office staff for researching the deeds and contacting the attorney. Based on the information Jack Conway from the office of Linnell, Choate & Webber, LLP found, it appears the Town of Canton never transferred the property to the Old Canton School House Activities Group because they didn’t own the property. The Town of Canton only reacquired the property when it was conveyed to them by RSU 10 in February of 2017. In conclusion, the Town of Canton is the current owner of this property. Any transfer to the nonprofit group is void because the Town didn’t own the property at the time.*
5. Remote Meeting Policy (Brian)- *Brian will contact MMA for a sample policy and discuss at next meeting.*
6. Haunted Walk & Trunk or Treat (Brian)- *Parks & Trails plan on having a Trunk or Treat event on October 29th. A Haunted Walk date to be determined.*
7. Carry over balances-*Treasurer Vernice Boyce suggested to carry over the following balances. $3,295 from Highway Department for moving the monument, Recreation Dept, Bicentennial, Crosswalks, Lake Association, $3,000 from Transfer Station Building for heat pump, Parks & Trails $2,000, $11,840 from General Govt Admin to restore Book 1, Wood Harvest lapse to Fund Balance. Brian made motion, Carole Robbins seconded. Motion passed.*
8. Discussion of how much funds to transfer from “Undesignated Fund Balance” to offset-

the tax rate increase. – *The board doesn’t have authority to use undesignated funds to reduce taxes. Scotty motioned to have a Special Open Town Meeting September 9th at 6:00pm, Brian second motion. All in favor. The regular scheduled selectmen’s meeting will follow. Town Clerk Carol Buzzell left the meeting room to create a Special Open Town Meeting Warrant for the Board of Selectmen to sign. She and Treasurer Vernice Boyce returned and the meeting continued. The Selectmen signed the warrant for a Special Open Town Meeting on September 9th at 6:00pm.*

1. New Business
2. Uniforms for Highway Department – *Deputy Clerk Nicki Girard and Highway Foreman Paul McKenna & Gerry McKenna met with a representative from Unifirst to get pricing for uniforms. The cost is 2 ½ times more per year than what is approved for the $250/$500 stipend so it’s too expensive.*
3. Revision Energy- roof top solar project (Russell)-*Russell suggested not to go with Revision Energy for a roof top solar. He’d like to hear what the Green Lantern Solar possibly has to offer. They currently have a solar project application into the Planning Board. Scotty attended the last Planning Board meeting and spoke with Green Lantern’s representative. She’ll get back to him with the answers to his questions.*
4. Title 21A- State Elections Workshop- October 13th (Carol Buzzell)- *Carol Buzzell suggested that Deputy Clerk Nicki Girard attend this workshop. However, Carol Buzzell will be on vacation and it’s on a Wednesday which the office is closed and Nicki is not scheduled to work. It was decided to have Nicki attend the workshop with pay.*
5. Vacation Day for Jim (Russell) – *Jim Dyment requested to take October 23rd off. Carol Buzzell stated that Jim has approximately 15 hours of accumulated Earned Leave. Rene Ouellette suggested to have Josh Adley replace Jim during that Saturday. Brian Keene will also reach out to the Highway Department to see if they are interested in working.*
6. Danny & Victoria Waite-Discuss complaint forms filed concerning Hayford Court- *The Waites have 3 complaints of their neighbors. #1 the neighbor’s dumpster on the property line and trash and rodents. #2 The abandoned mobile home across their house has stray cads and is a health hazard. #3 Cars in roadway; emergency vehicles couldn’t get through. Scotty suggested to have the Health Officer, Code Enforcement Officer and sheriff visit the neighbors’ homes.*
7. The ATV club would like to use the field across from the pump house for their toy run on September 11th. – *Brian Jordan reported that area ATV Clubs will be having their 25th Annual ATV Toy Run on September 11th . Meet at McDonald’s in Jay at 7:30am or the end of Whistle Stop Trail at 9:00. Carole Robbins made motion to let the ATV Clubs use the field across from Bixby Road. Brian second the motion. All in favor.*
8. Posting town information (Kristi)
9. Sign at town office (Kristi)- *Kristi will contact NeoKraft to get quotes for a sign which can be placed under the Town Office sign.*
10. Abatements/Supplement-*None*
11. Other business of Office Staff -*Carol Buzzell has been working with Ersula at Expenet and the new town website should be up and running by Monday. Cantonme.com*
12. Committee Reports-*Scotty attended the Hartford Selectboard & Budget committee meeting with Jason Vaughan. Geographically we cover a larger area than Buckfield but we have almost half the households. Canton’s per capita is lower than Buckfield & Turner but we only offer fire protection and not rescue. Scotty thanked the office staff again for their help in getting an answer about the Old School House.*

*Brian reported that parks & trails will have a work day September 12th and a day in November. The highway department has a sander and plow to go out to bid. The sander will have a minimum bid. The Bicentennial committee is coming to a close and they have a few ideas and financial recommendations for any leftover monies.*

*Kristi reported that soccer starts this weekend. There’s not enough 4,5 & 6 year olds for a team so they’ll check with area towns.*

*Carole – nothing to report*

*Russell- Greg Young will give an estimate for a heat pump for the transfer station.*

1. Executive Session -*none*
2. Selectmen Acceptance & Signing of Warrants:

 #10 A/P $ 115,087.34

#11 Payroll $ 5,870.94

#12 A/P $ 109,365.46

#13 Payroll $ 4,880.50

*Scotty motioned to accept, Carole second. All in favor.*

1. Adjournment – *Brian motioned to adjourn, Carole second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Carol Buzzell*