**CANAAN FIRE DISTRICT #1**

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**JANUARY 9, 2023**

Moderator Morgan Wade called the January 9, 2023, Annual Fire District Meeting to order at 5:47PM. Those present: Jeffery Richards, Alfred Buckley, Jeremy Labrecque, Noreen Labrecque and Odette Crawford.

Moderator Wade read through the Warning and acted on the individual Articles as she read them.

The legal voters of Canaan Fire District #1 are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Canaan Town Office Building in said Town on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 5:30 PM for the annual meeting of the District to transact the following business:

1. To elect the following officers of the Canaan Fire District #1: Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, and One Member of the Prudential Committee to serve until the second Monday of January 2026.

Moderator Wade asked for nominations. Jeffery Richards nominated Noreen Labrecque for Clerk, Treasurer and Collector of Taxes. Nomination was seconded by Jeremy Labrecque. Jeremy Labrecque nominated Alfred Buckley for Prudential Committee Member. This nomination was seconded by Jeffery Richards. No other nominations took place. The nominations were passed in the affirmative.

1. To see if the Canaan Fire District No. 1 will authorize the Prudential Committee to borrow monies for emergency capital expenses and increase usage rates to cover said cost, if need be.

Motion was made by Alfred and seconded by Jeffery to open discussion on Article 2. No discussion. Moderator called for a vote. Article 2 passed in the affirmative.

1. To see if the Canaan Fire District No. 1 will raise and appropriate the sum of no less than $5,000.00 annually for deposit into the Capital Reserve Fund, in accordance with 24V.S.A. §2804(a).

Motion was made by Odette and seconded by Jeffery to open discussion on Article 3. No discussion took place. Moderator called for a vote. Article 3 passed in the affirmative.

1. To see if the Canaan Fire District #1 will vote to accept the proposed budget with revisions, if any for the ensuing year.

Motion was made by Odette and seconded by Al to open discussion on Article 4.

Odette had some concerns with the increased Salaries for Fire District #1. Jeff explained that the Fire Districts are bound to the Selectboard decision with Salaries for the operator and assistant operators since Sewer and Water positions intermingle. Noreen added that the Selectboard have used the COLA as a basis for salary increases in the past. This year that increase is 8%. Noreen did not have a definitive answer as to why the Selectboard decided on the 10% although they did do a study of Statewide salaries for those positions and found our salaries were lagging. Odette stated that the increase from the budgeted amount in 2022 is actually 15%. Noreen explained that the actual amount paid in 2022 was much higher than was budgeted. Jeff Richards explained that some of that was due to the Ethan Allen Park Project which was reimbursed with Capital Reserve funds but not all of it so the extra 5% was anticipated for additional hours needed. Odette did add that she was pleased with the other budgeted items that were either held from 2022 or even some were reduced.

No further discussion.

Moderator Wade called for a vote. Article 4 passed in the affirmative.

1. To transact any other business which legally may come before this meeting.

No other business came before the meeting.

Odette Crawford motioned to adjourn the 2023 Canaan Fire District #1 Annual Meeting. Moderator Wade adjourned the meeting at 6:01PM.

SUBMITTED BY: Noreen Labrecque

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_