

2021 CANAAN TOWN MEETING
INFORMATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 1, 2021

The March 1, 2021 Town of Canaan Informational meeting which followed the Canaan School Informational Meeting was opened by Frank Sawicki, Jr. at 7:47 PM. The following is a summary of questions and answers from that meeting. This meeting was conducted via ZOOM. Frank Sawicki, Jr listed the rules for conducting an informational meeting via Zoom.

Frank Sawicki, Jr. gave the three Selectboard Candidates time to give those present a short summary of why they would like the position of Selectboard.

Frank Sawicki, Jr. read thru the warning in its entirety then proceeded with reciting the increases and decreases in the General and Highway budgets.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Odette Crawford inquired about the housing of the new Police Cruiser.

Frank explained that the Board consulted with Vermont League of Cities and Towns about the liability of having the Police Cruiser located out of town at the Police Chief's new residence in Bloomfield and the result was adopting a policy to address that situation.

Mike Daley had concerns about the parking of vehicles at the apartment building located near the intersection of Christian Hill and Gale Street. He felt the angle parking instead of parallel parking was causing a hazardous situation, especially for the snowmobilers trying to cross the highway.

Judith Masson had concerns of the Police Chief using the cruiser in other towns wanted clarification about Canaan cruiser being in other towns. Wanted transparency. She is just looking for ways to save on the cruiser.

Bob Lee had trouble finding things in the Town Report – Where to find amounts to all items.

Mike Daley asked if perhaps the Board would consider abandoning the Canaan Police Dept and opt for contracting with the Essex County Sheriff's Dept.

Odette Crawford commented that there is a nice decrease in Street Lighting due to the installation of LED fixtures.

Kim Larose had a question about the PFOA's found in water systems in Vermont and questioned whether Canaan had any reported findings in our water system. Noreen answered that the State issues a yearly Consumer Confidence Report with all water test results and she will get that information to Kim.

Odette Crawford inquired about the increases in the Contracted Services, Contracted Materials and Recycling from last year. The board answered that those two items are for the trucking and dumping of our household garbage. It has been reported that with the pandemic, statewide there has been a

significant increase in household trash this past year. Also this increased budgeted price is in anticipation of the tonnage fee increase at Mt Carberry where our trash is taken.

Bob Lee had a question about the composting and how that is going to work. Frank referred him to the report on Page 33. Bob added a shout out to Greg for staving off the State with all their mandates for as long as was possible.

HIGHWAY ACCOUNT

Mike Daley questioned that cost of health insurance – recommended that the employees pay a portion of the health insurance costs. Thought that might be another way to save on budgets.

Bob Lee questioned State Fees.

No questions raised on the Proposed Budget for the Highway.

Frank and Haven asked for volunteers for the various appointed positions that are available.

Odette referred to page 11 summarizing the Tax Rates and the increase of \$.04 an increase of 5% and made all aware of the possible \$.20 in the total rate.

Chairman Frank Sawicki, Jr. adjourned the 2021 Informational meeting at 8:36PM.