

July 11th, 2016 – Canaan Town Board Monthly Meeting

Supervisor Richard Keaveney opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Supervisor Richard Keaveney
Councilperson Alan Miller
Councilperson Brenda Adams
Councilperson Terese Platten

ABSENT: Councilperson David Patzwahl

AUDIENCE: 10

MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Brenda Adams, seconded by Councilperson Richard Keaveney to approve the June 13th, 2016 minutes with a revision.

4-eyes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney – yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller – yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams – yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes;
Motion Carried.

BILLS:

MOTION: Supervisor Richard Keaveney made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Brenda Adams, to approve the payment of the: General Fund: #178- #216 in the \$11,760.09. The Highway Fund: #47-#55 in the amount of \$85,853.96. 4-eyes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney – yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams – yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten – abstained from bill #199 – voted yes on all others;
Councilperson David Patzwahl – absent (signed and approved bills prior to meeting)
Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Town Clerk Revenues | \$ 511.69 |
| Highway Fund | \$ 434,009.64 |
| Highway Fund Capital | \$ 244,137.67 |
| Lighting Districts | \$ 2,,803.32 |
| Ambulance Districts & Fire Districts | \$.59 |
| Building Inspector | \$ 1,713.00 |
| Planning Board | \$ 150.00 |
| Recreation | \$ 7,526.63 |
| General Fund Balance | \$ 358,542.90 |
| Court Revenues | \$ 3,885.00(May-2016) |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | \$ -0- |
| Tax Collector | \$ 10.09 |

Board Discussion:

1. **Broadband:** Councilperson Brenda Adams, chair for said committee, is requesting a coverage map showing the capacity for Charter.
2. **Zoning Laws:** Councilperson Alan Miller said that he has been working with Deputy Town Clerk, Sandy Haakonsen, to update the Zoning Laws by revising the and placing the amendment and Local Laws in apha order.

ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT:

Exemptions -

- STAR- All NEW STAR applications will now be processed at the STATE level. STAR renewals and all other exemptions will still be processed with the assessor.
- The website has been updated to provide information and links to apply.
- Implementation of RPTL 520 which has always been on the books but not followed by many assessors.- in short this law states that when a property sells, any exemptions afforded to the prior owner (such as Aged or Vets) shall be removed and the new owner shall be liable. The process to do this is through omitted taxes.

Grievance Day-

- There was a total of 6 Stipulations/corrections by the assessor and 12 Grievances that went before the BAR.
- Any changes from this have been entered on the roll.
- A Statement of changes has been filed with the Town Clerk.

Final Roll-

- The final Roll will be filed on July 1st.
- A legal notice will be in the paper

Other-

- Back to routine business in the office.
- The scanning project is moving along but does require a lot of time. We are currently able to scan around 5 -7 files per hour. That's about 215 hours of work. This does not include moving previously scanned files. Those files will be moved to each individual folder AFTER the scanning of the physical files is complete
- I will begin to get back out in the field looking at sales and permits. I may do some data verifications if time permits. A new person will be hired at the county level around September and the project will get underway. Canaan will be the first town for this person and I will need to spend some time working with them.
- Preliminary Equalization rate is 100%

- See attached news article regarding how the STATE is issuing some of the TAX FREEZE rebate checks.

SALES- Sales have not been entered due to being in between the tentative roll and the final roll.

HIGHWAY REPORT –

ACTIVITIES:

June 13th & 14th we paved Frisbee Street using a different method than we have historically used. We had a pug mill set up at the highway garage, the material was mixed there and then we hauled it to Frisbee Street where it was put through a paver and applied. I am very satisfied with this process. The cost is very comparable to the moto paving process.

On another note - despite work zone signs the traffic was dangerous. We actually had to call the sheriffs department to help.

Please note that speed has become an issue throughout town. We are NOT enforcement so if you are experiencing a problem please call the proper authorities - New York State Police or the Columbia County Sheriff's Department

With the hot dry weather and the increased traffic due to the County 24 bridge detour dust had become a problem. On Friday July 1st I met the calcium truck and we spent two hours applying dust control throughout town. Bottom line is 4500 gallons of calcium and roughly \$4000 later it rained!

I've been keeping an eye on a large tree on Schoolhouse Road which was starting to lean heavily towards the road. Once it started to interfere with traffic we had it taken down. If left to Mother Nature it would have taken down power lines.

Met with Will Powers regarding the location of the park playground equipment. Highway Department started working on placing the equipment but ran into a snag with water filling the area they were digging to place concrete piers. They need to create a fall safety zone with pea gravel or chipped mulch.

We've been to visit Truck #7 in the "hospital". We were able to descale, prime & paint the frame while the cab was off and the motor was out. I'll be glad when it comes back as I have used my own personal truck for the last three weeks. It just reaffirms the need to have two small truck in our fleet!

Superintendent of Highways, Bernhard Meyer, warned people about the quantity of yellow jackets this year.

Superintendent Meyer will be out of Town Thursday and Friday.

The Highway crew has been working on the park swings replacing chains and fixing the tennis court backboard. Mr. Curt Morris, Building & Park maintenance person, has trimmed branches overhanging the tennis court.

The American Disability Act (ADA) requires a compliance resolution to show the intent of the Highway in order to help obtain CHIPS funds. The Town has 40 miles of dirt roads and 10 miles of paved.

Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that a list of wildlife that would be impacted when the park pond is drained is needed according to the engineer. Supervisor Keaveney said that the Town has had the property cleaned and mowed on State Route 295

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

- 1. **East Chatham Fire Company:** Mr. Richard Newton, from the East Chatham Fire Company, presented the Board with the companies three (3) year contract proposal with a 1% increase.
- 2. **Solar Power:** Ms. Wendy Dwyer asked about Solar panels and what the Town’s intentions are. Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that the Town is working on a Local Law to establish a standard. The Town does not want “solar farms”.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. 4-ayes
 Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney – yes;
 Councilperson Brenda Adams – yes;
 Councilperson Terese Platten – yes; and
 Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charlotte L. Cowan, MMC/RMC
 Canaan Town Clerk*