

**Town of Canton
Special Year End Meeting
Thursday, December 29, 2022
In Person & Video Conference
Minutes**

PRESENT:

Mary Ann Ashley	----	Supervisor
Jim Smith	----	Council Member
John Taillon	----	Council Member
Bob Santamoor (phone)	----	Council Member

Also Present: Town Clerk Heidi L. Smith, Deputy Town Clerk Leanna Moquin (zoom), Code Enforcement Officer Michael McQuade, Angela Gray, Gray & Gray

Public Attendance: Toby Irvén (zoom), North Country This Week Paul Mitchell (zoom), Watertown Daily Times Tom Graser, Richard Grover (zoom)

A. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

Supervisor Ashley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ashley added two new items to the agenda **F. Acknowledgment of Council Member Bob Washo Resignation and G. Discuss Front End Loader.**

B. Approve Year End Bills

"A" General Fund	----	\$28,178.88
"B" Town Outside	----	\$1,891.38
"DA" Town Wide Highway	----	\$49,623.11
"DB" Highway	----	\$10,822.92

A motion was made by Council Member Jim Smith and seconded by Council Member John Taillon to approve the year end expenditures.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ashley asked Angela Gray to give brief comments on the draft financial report. Angela reported this is a preliminary draft so numbers will change before it is finalized. Angela stated that the general fund ends in a deficit. Revenue and expenses are over budget. Angela pointed out that the ARPA funding is showing revenue as over budget. One of the areas that shows a significant shortfall is the fines and forfeitures.

Angela also pointed out the solar planning expenses and the purchase of the land are almost the full responsibility for the expenditure over budget.

Angela reported that the "B" and "DB" funds have ended in a surplus. "DA" has a small deficit that is related to underperforming revenue.

Angela reported that town balances across all the funds will end in surplus that is estimated slightly over \$222,000. A lot of that is coming from town outside funds and part town highway fund.

Supervisor Ashley asked that there be a monthly fund balance added back to the bottom of the page. Ashley will also be putting together a solar project financial analysis to show every project.

C. Discuss Appointment of Planning Board Chair

Supervisor Ashley reported that Ian MacKellar and John Casserly stepped up to become the planning board chair. Ashley contacted the planning board members for their recommendation, those results were sent to the board members. Supervisor Ashley recommends that Ian MacKellar be appointed as the planning board chair.

A motion was made by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley and seconded by Council Member Bob Santamoor to appoint Ian Mackellar as the planning board chair for a 5-year term. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Appointment of Planning Board Alternate

Supervisor Ashley reported that Dakota Casserly sent a letter of interest.

A motion was made by Council Member Jim Smith and seconded by Council Member John Taillon to appoint Dakota Casserly as the planning board alternate for a one-year term.

All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Set Date for Organizational Meeting

The organizational meeting is set for January 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular monthly meeting in the courtroom.

F. Acknowledgement of Council Member Bob Washo Resignation

Supervisor Ashley stated that Bob Washo resigned effective December 22, 2022. Washo submitted his resignation to Clerk Smith. Ashley read a letter out loud from Bob Washo per his request.

A motion was made by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley and seconded by Council Member Bob Santamoor to accept Bob Washo's resignation with sincere appreciation. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ashley stated that if anyone is interested in the position to submit something to the Supervisor or one of the board members.

G. Discuss Front End Loader

Council Member Jim Smith spoke on the highway front end loader. The loader was offered for sale locally and no one bid on it. It was put on Auctions Plus. A reserve was put on it but unfortunately it did not sell. Smith believes the loader is worth what we are asking for it. The highway committee has agreed to hold it until spring. Smith also mentioned the Morristown Highway Barn fire and stated that if Morristown is interested in purchasing the loader, the town board can give the highway superintendent the authority to inform Morristown if they can meet the price and want to purchase it, they can.

Executive Session: Upon a majority vote upon a motion that identifies the subject to be considered, the Council may conduct an executive session to discuss any of the issues identified as proper by Public Officers Law 105(1)

A motion was made by Council Member John Taillon and seconded by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashely to go into executive session for the purpose of [F] matters pertaining to the employment history of a particular person.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member John Taillon and seconded by Council Member Bob Santamoor to come out of executive session at 10:56 AM.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Jim Smith and seconded by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley to adjourn the special meeting at 10:56 AM.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Heidi L. Smith, Town Clerk

