

TOWN OF CANTON - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Hybrid Meeting

Wednesday August 27, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: First Selectman Kevin Witkos, Tim LeGeyt, Stephen Sedor, William Volovski
Elizabeth Corkum Winsor

Also Present: CAO Mark Penney, BOE Chairman Lou Daniels, Recording Clerk Maureen Griffin
K. Witkos called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT – The Board of Selectmen took comments from residents.

PUBLIC HEARING - The Board of Selectmen took comments on the naming of the Canton Middle/High School Turf Field, the Canton Middle/High School Stadium and the Canton Middle/High School upper field, and on a permanent Insurance Committee Ordinance.

ACTION ITEMS

Refund of Taxes pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 12-129

Motion: T. LeGeyt moved to approve the refund of taxes pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 12-129.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed unanimously.

Approve the July 23, 2025 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Motion: E. Corkum Winsor moved to Approve the July 23, 2025 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by: T. LeGeyt

The motion passed 3-0-2 (S. Sedor and W. Volovski abstained)

Review and possibly approve a request to name the Canton Middle/High School Turf Field.

Motion: W. Volovski moved to approve the naming of Canton Middle/High School turf field “Legends Field” in honor of all the legendary coaches of Canton school’s athletic program.

Seconded by: E. Corkum Winsor

The motion passed 4-0-1 (S. Sedor abstained)

Review and possibly approve a request to name the Canton Middle/High School Stadium.

Motion: W. Volovski moved to approve the naming of Canton Middle/High School Stadium “Nancy Grace Stadium” in honor of Nancy Grace.

Seconded by: T. LeGeyt

The motion passed 4-0-1 (S. Sedor abstained)

Review and possibly approve a request to name the Canton Middle/High School upper field.

Motion: T. LeGeyt moved to approve the naming of Canton Middle/High School upper field “deSimas Field” in honor of Catherine deSimas.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed 4-0-1 (S. Sedor abstained)

Review and possibly adopt an ordinance entitled “Permanent Insurance Committee”.

S. Sedor commented that he is ready to move forward with the ordinance but suggested having clarification about the issue of the committee’s level of authority, as mentioned during the public hearing. He added that this is only precautionary a measure for that particular issue. K. Witkos

suggested adding an item: “7E – Authority: The authority of the Permanent Insurance Committee will be limited to an advisory role to the BOS and the BOE”. E. Corkum Winsor will add this wording to the ordinance. Selectmen discussed the issue of having BOF members serve as voting members of this committee. M. Penney reviewed the charter and found that BOF members are allowed to participate as voting members on temporary or advisory agencies. E. Corkum Winsor commented that there is a need to work through an RFP process to establish a formal contract with a broker. Currently, there is no contract with One Digital. S. Sedor noted that he will not be involved with discussions about One Digital because he has other professional matters with the company. K. Witkos said that he will request that a notification be sent out as a way to recruit two residents to serve on the committee. The appointments will go through the Appointments Committee. The temporary committee will stay in place until the permanent committee is established.

Motion: E. Corkum Winsor moved to adopt an ordinance entitled “Permanent Insurance Committee”.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed unanimously.

Acceptance a grant to the Alice Collins Fund in the amount of \$14,051.

Motion: S. Sedor moved to accept a grant to the Alice Collins Fund in the amount of \$14,051.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed unanimously.

Accept the unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen Public Safety Subcommittee to appoint Alex Morisano as a regular member of the Board of Selectmen Public Safety Subcommittee.

E. Corkum Winsor said that much work is being done by this subcommittee and that there is a need for individuals with a background in public safety, EMS, etc. Members do not have to go through the Appointments Committee; they are appointed by the BOS. She stated that Mr. Morisano is a good addition to the committee. K. Witkos said that he recommended Mr. Morisano because of his professional and personal background. E. Corkum Winsor explained that member composition will enable the committee to be more effective in dealing with issues related to public concerns, and allow for “real-time” updates. W. Volovski addressed the issue that was raised during public comment. He questioned having the Police/Fire Chiefs on the committee as voting members. K. Witkos said that it is important to know where they stand—this will be shown in their votes on the subcommittee’s recommendations to the BOS.

Motion: E. Corkum Winsor moved to accept the unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen Public Safety Subcommittee to appoint Alex Morisano as a regular member of the Board of Selectmen Public Safety Subcommittee.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed 4-0-1 (S. Sedor abstained)

Review and possibly approve a request from the Tax Collector to waive interest per CGS Section 12-145.

Motion: S. Sedor moved to approve a request from the Tax Collector to waive interest per CGS Section 12-145.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Review and possibly approve Town of Canton Social Media Policy.

S. Sedor confirmed that this policy is not directed towards employees—it is for the general public. He suggested deleting the wording: “limited public forums”. T. LeGeyt commented that it will be a burden on the person/people who must decide whether a post is discriminatory. Also, it may be considered a free speech issue if posts are taken down. S. Sedor suggested that the policy be for

illegal posts but not discriminatory posts. Selectmen agreed to eliminate the proposed policy wording related to discriminatory comments.

Motion: S. Sedor moved to approve the proposed Town of Canton Social Media Policy as modified.

Seconded by: E. Corkum Winsor

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

K. Witkos thanked Richard and Carol Barlow for leading the Memorial Day Parade Committee. Their work resulted in a successful event with increased attendance and participation. T. LeGeyt suggested sending them a letter of recognition and appreciation from the BOS.

K. Witkos stated that the bond issue cannot be put on the November ballot due to timing requirements (especially with early voting). Staff will be providing the BOS with numbers for the potential bonding projects.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

K. Witkos explained that Finance Director Zoe Peak will be providing financial updates to the BOS in the format requested. A sample was included in the meeting packet. M. Penney suggested having a quarterly report along with a presentation from Ms. Peak at the BOS meeting. She will attend the 2nd BOS meeting in September. He added that he has been extremely pleased with her work in the short period of time she has been in the Finance Director position.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CAO, TOWN AGENCIES, OFFICIALS AND/OR OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS

K. Witkos reported that:

- he received a letter from the WPCA. They would like to present an update to the BOS.
- the BOS will be addressing an issue related to the Queens Peak property that the Town owns because there is an opportunity to sell; M. Penney is reviewing this with the Town attorney.
- the bridge project on Lawton Road is well underway; it may be completed in November (or earlier). Many complaints have been received about detoured traffic.
- he has received many emails about trash cans on the trail and in Collinsville. Trash cans will remain in Collinsville and at trail heads, but there is no need for them on the trail.
- he has received many calls and emails about the commercial property across from Dish 'N Dat on Albany Turnpike. The P&Z Department has begun the process by notifying them of zoning regulation violations. The next step would be a cease and desist order which could be followed by a fine of \$100 per day. There is a need for a volunteer Zoning Officer.

E. Corkum provided an update on the Public Safety Subcommittee.

S. Sedor provided an update on the Appointments Committee.

W. Volovski provided an update on the Bonding & CIP Committee.

M. Penney reported that the new Assessor started on August 4th.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: S. Sedor moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Seconded by: W. Volovski

The motion passed unanimously.