

**TOWN OF DEEP RIVER**  
**Board of Finance**  
**Regular Meeting April 28, 2009**

The Board of Finance convened its Regular Meeting at the Deep River Town Hall on April 28, 2009. Meeting called to order by J. Bauer at 7:55 PM. Members present: R. Balducci, N. Couchant, G. Eckenroth, L. Guerette, D. Routh. Also present R. Smith, R. Marth, T. Lindner.

**Approval of Minutes:** on MOTION made by R. Balducci, seconded by D. Routh, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of March 2009. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** T. Lindner presented Town Deposits Report for review.

**Audience of Citizens:** Schools Superintendent Kim Caron, Business Manager Garth Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent Ruth Levy, Chairman DRES Board of Ed Gayle Dilger, DRES Principal Jack Pietrick presented information concerning DRES proposed budget.

\*estimate \$4,873,738 for DRES budget, a 3.47% increase over current budget, grades 7-12 \$6,000 over current 0.04%, town share decrease (-\$364,430) (-6.66%) based on ADM, reduction of \$200,000 to Region 4.

\*Some reductions which could be considered would be some after school activities ½ funding cut, or 1 custodian, or 1 secretary, or 2.5 para-professional positions, all four options would reduce the budget by approximately \$96,000.

\*Anticipate return at end of 08-09 to be \$38,364, excess cost share will be funded 100% by the State which is made after town pays 4 1/2x (approx \$60,000) for special ed costs – this is where return is anticipated to come from. Current budget anticipate excess cost share at 75% next year.

\*Discussion of class sizes and generalized reasons why class sizes should remain as proposed. Intent to leave all class-room sizes as previously proposed. Guidelines are 16-18 in grades 4 & 5. Noted reduction of teacher in either grade would bring class size over recommendation guidelines.

\*Noted that there were no concessions made by teachers with regards to salaries – that none were taken in order to save a job of a fellow worker. Contract negotiations for teachers union will begin September 2010.

**Recommendation of Selectmen:** none

**Correspondence:** memo of Selectmen 4/28/09 with monthly updates.

Discussion of VNA, memo has been sent by Board of Finance to Selectmen to request committee be formed to review situation, or have formal study done, noted some proposals are being researched.

**Monthly Budget Report Review:** monthly report received for review.

**Other Business:** request for bid to our auditors and several other firms, will be presented at May meeting, will need to inform OPM by June 1 of auditor choice.

Noted J. Bauer would not be available for town hearing.

Fund balance roll-forward reviewed.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget reviewed.

Pause for tape change at 9:50 p.m.

Continued discussion on proposed budget, \$14,021,189 total revenue, \$14,008,508 total expenditures, \$12,681 excess over revenue, assumes mill rate same 21.73, tax collection rate reduced to 97.6%, agreed to increase DRES budget by \$158,000 over 2008-2009 budget, estimated GFB still under 5% (noted State recommendation of between 6-10%). On MOTION made by G. Eckenroth, seconded by D. Routh, to approve expenditures of \$14,008,508 to be presented at town hearing on May 5. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

**Adjournment:** on MOTION made by N. Coutant, seconded by R. Balducci, to adjourn at 10:09 PM. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori J. Guerette, COA