

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting March 23, 2010

The Board of Finance convened its Regular Meeting at the Deep River Town Hall on March 23, 2010. Meeting called to order by J. Bauer at 7:37 PM. Members present: N. Coutant, G. Eckenroth, R. Balducci, L. Guerette, D. Routh. Also present D. Smith, A. Thompson, D. Oliveria.

Approval of Minutes: on MOTION made by N. Coutant, seconded by D. Routh , to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2010. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Audience of Citizens: Fire Department representative Bob Raymond made presentation concerning proposed addition project to fire house, discussion of modification to second floor cost -- without second floor addition projected cost of \$2,116,000, with second floor addition cost projection of \$2,304,000, tower cost of \$50,000. Drawings include scale image of new building and neighbor building with parking space, potential elevator shaft, tower to house radio room and mechanical equipment if utilized, building height increase of one and one-half foot if second floor added, includes four dormers.

Rich Forristall, Jayne Mather and Lori Guerette of Fountain Hill Cemetery Association Board of Directors made presentation concerning request for financial assistance in maintaining cemetery grounds, noted loss of income due to drastic decrease in cremations. Options for operating the cemetery on a continuing basis, many past meetings concerning ways to handle finances, use of Perpetual Care Fund, State Statutes require town takeover if the Association is unable to financially, seeking long term commitment to gradually take over financial operation, crematory building concerns, and housing of equipment, approximate \$50,000 shortfall next fiscal year, additional grave spaces being developed as additional source of income, additional expenditures required to develop grounds. Noted similar takeover by town of Winthrop Cemetery in the past, options that the town is reviewing to help financially. Proposal to be included in this next fiscal year budget with remainder of budget to be made up from Perpetual Care Fund, gradual increase of assistance over next few years. Discussion of potential inclusion of FHC as a town department as a receiver of town funds. Noted FHC is currently at not-for-profit 501-C-13 association.

Scott Bassett of McGladrey & Pullen made presentation concerning DRVNA indirect/in-kind operating costs of revenues and expenditures, how the audit was performed, average of \$190,000 over past five years expenditures over revenues, costs based on actual personnel and operating costs, presentation figures, inclusion or exclusion of expenses. Discussion of cost to town if other contracts were entered into to cover skilled nursing services and social services at approximately \$52,000 annually. Question of how to prepare next proposed budget. R. Daniels note he was unaware that indigent patient care information was available through current software, but this was just presented at their board meeting for the past five years. Discussion of applications fees for fuel assistance, noted that funds still have not been received to the General Fund, letter will be sent formally request transfer.

Treasurer's report: Town Deposits Report received for review.

Recommendation of Selectmen: D. Smith requested \$23,694.60 covering repairs to DRES from water damage.

D. Smith requested \$26,480 for highway department, noted town aid road additional revenue to be received and applied to the highway department.

Actions on Recommendations of Selectmen: on MOTION made by R. Balducci, seconded by N. Coutant, to approve \$22,694.60 and \$1,000 deductible to Special Services line 10109-53400 Contingency. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

On MOTION made by R. Balducci, seconded by N. Coutant, to approve \$26,480 transfer to Highway Department line 10130-53044 Gen.Road/Hwy Maintenance. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Correspondence: Monthly Update Memo of March 23, 2010 from D. Smith concerning snow removal, police services, information from P. Miller concerning Visiting Nurses of Lower Valley, memo from Attorney J. Marsh, letter from McBee concerning DRVNA revenue, letter of 3/5/10 from Selectmen, letter of 2/24/10 from Union President, update on unbudgeted revenues, letter of 3/22/10 from Selectmen, e-mail of 3/22/10 from R. Marth concerning DRVNA Committee, e-mail of Selectmen to VN of LV, letter to Apex Claims.

Monthly Budget Report Review: monthly report received for review. Discussion of VNA budget and anticipated over-expenditures, and notification to VNA requesting plan to cover over-expenditures, noted by auditors of potential over-expenditures of approximately additional \$30,000. Will request statute concerning funding and liability of department to cover their over-expenditures. Noted additional expenditure of \$100 weekly for weekend on-call coverage. D. Smith will request VNA to attend the next budget workshop.

Other Business: Noted hearing on April 1 to have Visiting Nurses of Lower Valley to make presentation of what proposal would cover, and town hearing of April 8 at 7:00 to discuss DRVNA.

Adjournment: on MOTION made by N. Coutant, seconded by D. Routh, to adjourn at 9:25 PM. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori J. Guerette, COA