

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting April 23, 2013

The Board of Finance convened its Regular Meeting at the Deep River Town Hall on April 23, 2013. Meeting called to order by John Bauer at 7:43 PM. Members present: Carmela Balducci, Bill Ballsieper, Nichole Coutant, George Eckenroth, Lori Guerette. Also present Richard Smith, Dave Oliveria, Angus McDonald, Tom Lindner.

Approval of Minutes: on MOTION made by B. Ballsieper, seconded by C. Balducci, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of March 2013. Motion CARRIED.

Audience of Citizens: no comments heard.

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

Recommendation of Selectmen: R. Smith recommended end of Fiscal Year 2012-13 adjustments as noted in memo of April 23, 2013, adjustment transferring revenue received to line 10100-46090 of \$46,83.67 to lines General Road/Highway Maintenance 10130-53044 \$28,007.86 and Equipment Maintenance line 10130-52021 of \$18,825.81, and adjustment transferring revenue line 10100-47330 to Valley Shore Emergency Communications line 10124-53024 of \$45,000.

Action on recommendation of Selectmen: on MOTION made by G. Eckenroth, seconded by N.Coutant, to approve adjustments outlined in memo of April 23, 2013, as noted above. Motion CARRIED.

Correspondence: none

Monthly Budget Report Review: monthly report received for review and discussion.

Other Business: received Final Recommended Suspense List from tax collector Lisa Bibbiani. On MOTION made by L. Guerette, seconded by G. Eckenroth, to approve the Suspense List. Motion CARRIED.

Discussion of Proposed Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. R. Smith noted information concerning State budget - no ECS funding, alternate revenues, and still not have question of DRES teacher retirement issue answered. Discussion of proposed mill rate increase of 0.5%.

Discussion of reply from Superintendent Ruth Levy concerning letter from the Board of Finance to R. Levy and G. Sawyer of April 11, and proposed DRES budget.

On MOTION made by B. Ballsieper to reduce increase proposed for DRES budget of by \$38,000. No second heard. Motion FAILED.

On MOTION by L. Guerette, seconded by B. Ballsieper, on proposed Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Town Expenditures of \$14,789.461, including reduction of \$40,000 to proposed increase in DRES budget. Discussion that a reduction of \$85,000 to proposed increase would not be detrimental to students' education, continuation of decline in ADM of 10 students last year and anticipated 21 students next year according to DRES proposed budget, and continued decline in ADM through school year 2018 of more than 100 students. VOTE: yea: N. Coutant, nay: L.Guerette, B.Ballsieper, C.Balducci, G. Eckenroth. Motion FAILED.

On MOTION made by L. Guerette, seconded by C. Balducci, on proposed Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Town Expenditures of \$14,779.461, including reduction of \$50,000 to proposed increase in DRES budget to \$5,511,158. VOTE: yea: L. Guerette, C. Balducci, G. Eckenroth, B.Ballsierer, nay: N. Coutant. Motion CARRIED. Noted this could potentially allow further reduction in mill rate increase.

R. Smith noted selectmen have agreed to hold vote at the town meeting on the proposed fiscal year budget by paper ballot. Discussion noted cost of \$2,000+ per referendum, with an average cost per vote of approximately \$100. Agreement that this is not fiscally responsible.

R. Smith distributed books from COST providing information from the State on proposed laws concerning budgets, bonding, state.

Noted town hearing and town meeting will be held at the town hall auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday May 7 and Monday May 20.

Adjournment: on MOTION made by N. Coutant, seconded by C. Balducci, to adjourn at 9:26PM. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori J. Guerette, CRA COA