

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday November 27, 2018

The Board of Finance convened its Regular Meeting at the Deep River Town Hall on Tuesday November 27, 2018. Meeting called to order by George Eckenroth, Chairman, at 7:32 PM. Members present: Bill Ballsieper, Lori Guerette, Russ Marth, John Wichtowski. Also present: Angus McDonald, Duane Gates, Bill Burdick, Tom Lindner.

Nomination of Officers: R. Marth nominated George Eckenroth for Chairman and Lori Guerette for Vice-Chairman and Secretary. Discussion of nominations, no other nominations heard. MOTION by R.Marth, seconded by B.Ballsieper, to close nominations. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

On MOTION made by R. Marth, seconded by B. Ballsieper, to approve nominations as presented. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: on MOTION made by R. Marth, seconded by J. Wichtowski, to approve Special Meeting Minutes and Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2018. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Audience of Citizens: none

Treasurer's report: T. Lindner presented Town Deposits Report and Investment Updates for review, noted receipt of ECS funds in October, grant for Assessors office, repayment of sewer project loans, discussion of any large pending expenditures - noted possible town truck purchase.

Recommendation of Selectmen: A. McDonald noted receipt of letter from the State concerning budget funding for DRES, no action is needed at this time other than acknowledgment. Discussion of MBR (Minimum Budget Requirements), according to the State the funding for DRES is \$68,000 too low according their calculation, and if not rectified there will be a reduction of \$136,000 for ECS. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, and Kim Allen, Business Manager, presented information on how calculations are made, the State hadn't removed/amended the MBR as was considered for the current fiscal year, capital and debt services are not included in calculations, will be giving testimony at the State on how the MBR doesn't work well for towns like Deep River and Chester, noted that Chester had the same problem in the past, seeking a waiver or alterations in the bill, if not approved would be required to be refund \$68,000 to the budget by the end of this fiscal year, the State formula is revised annually, and budget figures from the prior year and enrollment numbers from two years prior are used in the formula. Noted by the State that other towns have also been affected by the MBR in a negative way but would not name the towns, will be researched. Looking to see if there is any support from CCM, COST or the schools' equivalent, CABA.

Correspondence: Discussion of letter from Auditors, audit will be finished early next month, may require extension with the State for filing of the audit.

Monthly Budget Report Review: monthly report received for review. Discussion of building adjacent to the fire station, past taxes due while property was rented, ownership, intentions of use of building/land by the fire station/town.

Other Business: 2019 Schedule of Meetings and Workshops - all regular meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month except August at 7:30 p.m., and workshops on Tuesdays in March and April at 7:00 p.m. On MOTION made by R. Marth and seconded by J. Wichtowski, to approve the schedule as proposed. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

R. Marth presented information concerning the Economic Development Committee, consideration of changes to the Town Website, gathering cost information which will be shared at a future meeting. A.McDonald noted that there has to be a change of the Town Website since it's current platform will no longer be supported, reviewing options at this time, all will have to be considered in this current budget as well as planning for next fiscal year.

Adjournment: on MOTION made by B. Ballsieper, seconded by J. Wichtowski, to adjourn at 8:35 PM. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori J. Guerette, CRA COA OCT-C
Vice-Chairman, Secretary
Board of Finance