

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 28, 2019

The Board of Finance convened its Regular Meeting at the Deep River Town Hall on Tuesday May 28, 2019. Meeting called to order by George Eckenroth, Chairman, at 7:30 PM. Members present: Carmela Balducci, Bill Ballsieper, Lori Guerette, Russ Marth, John Wichtowski. Also present: Angus McDonald, Duane Gates, James Olson, Tom Lindner.

Approval of Minutes: on MOTION made by J. Wichtowski, seconded by B. Ballsieper, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes of April 30, May 7, May 20 #1 and #2, 2019. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Other Business: Michael VanDeventer, CPA and Lauren Messina, CPA with Mahoney Sabol presented the 2018 Audit and Financial Statements, noted unmodified clean financial statements, will be working with Accounts Manager in assisting to develop/work on improvements in accounting practices and reconciliations as part of the formal closing procedures and reconciliations periodically through the year on going forward basis - this is not a new deficiency report item. No material non-compliance with laws is noted/reported.

Pause at 7:48 to move to main meeting room in the Town Hall.
Reconvened at 7:52

Recommendations concerning several accounts/funds which are currently maintained separately, and should be included in the regular financial statements and oversight by the Accounts Manager. Year end noted audited Unassigned Fund Balance of \$1,248,446 or 7.41% of expenditures which can cover 0.9 months of general operating expenditures, State OPM recommends minimum of two months of operating expenses or 16%.

Discussion of Board of Education retiree health benefits which are entirely funded by the employees and not funded by the Town but has to be included in the financial statement. The State Teachers Retirement System liability is approximately \$431,000 for DRES only.

Will move up the audit process to start earlier this year for filing in a more timely manner.

Audience of Citizens: none

Treasurer's report: T. Lindner presented Town Deposits Report for review. Noted several funding transactions including USDA sewer bond payment pending, receipt of ECS funding, boiler payment for DRES-a seven year note.

Discussions of Selectmen: A. McDonald noted additional conversations with the State concerning the waiver with funding to DRES in the last FY, and it appears that the waiver will not be granted, total \$68,481 to be returned. The amount approved by the Town was \$68,000. The State considers efficiency

savings in regionalized services, but does not believe that the retirement of a teacher, and not replacing that teacher, combined with a decrease in student population and no reduction in services qualifies as a reason to reduce funding. There are other towns in the same situation, will be taking this back to the State legislature for consideration in the future. On MOTION made by C. Balducci, seconded by B.Ballsieper, to approve \$481 to cover the shortfall in the amount total amount to be returned to DRES. Discussion noted that the \$68,000 was already approved at a Town Meeting. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Still waiting for notification concerning the fire truck grant.

Correspondence: none

Monthly Budget Report Review: monthly report received for review.

Adjournment: on MOTION made by B. Ballsieper, seconded by R. Marth, to adjourn at 8:50 PM. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

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