

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## DEEP RIVER TOWN HALL

Regular Meeting -- February 28, 2012

**Attendance:** Selectmen Dick Smith, Angus McDonald, David Oliveria. Also: Margo Hilfinger, Rich Strukus (*videography*); Russell Marth, Richard Nagot; Margot Burns (CRERPA); Bobby Hamblett (Boy Scouts) & his mother, Jane.

This regular meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Dick Smith.

**Minutes:** Regular Meeting – February 14, 2012

Motion by McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Oliveria, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 14, 2012.

APPROVED 3 – 0

### **Menunketesuck-Cockaponset Regional Greenway**

Margot Burns of the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency (CRERPA) gave a detailed presentation regarding the greenway project. She responded to questions and concerns from the Selectmen as well as from members of the audience of citizens. The Board of Selectmen was asked to approve a resolution of support. The Selectmen asked for time to review the document, and agreed to vote on it at their next regular meeting on March 13, 2012.

*A copy of the proposed resolution follows:*

*Town of Deep River Connecticut*  
*Resolution in Support of the*  
*Menunketesuck — Cockaponset Regional Greenway*

**WHEREAS**, the Menunketesuck — Cockaponset Regional Greenway is a proposed 18-mile long, wildlife and multi-use corridor, that connects US Fish and Wildlife's Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge Salt Meadow Unit in the Town of Westbrook to Cockaponset State Forest, the Quinimay Trail, its surrounding private forest land, and its public recreational resources through the Municipalities of Westbrook, Clinton, Deep River, Killingworth, Chester, and Haddam, and...

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Menunketesuck — Cockaponset Regional Greenway is to protect the private and working forest land; water quality and quantity; wildlife habitat; and the public recreational and scenic resources that support and create the character of the Town of Deep River and the lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region, and...

**WHEREAS**, in the Town of Deep River the regional greenway boundary includes the western portion of the Town of Deep River from its western boundary with the Town of Killingworth to the greenway's eastern border that follows north along Warsaw St. from the Town's boundary with the Town of Essex, until its intersection with Rt. 80. It then turns right onto Rt. 80 until its intersection with Rt. 9, where it follows Rt. 9 north until its intersection with the Town's boundary with the Town of Chester, and///

**WHEREAS**, Deep River's 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development recognizes Areas of Special Conservation Interests which are within the greenway boundary; encourages the Town to pursue all resources to enable

an active program of land acquisition; and encourages the protection of the Town's natural resources in order to avoid public health and safety problems and to maintain its open space and scenic and rural quality which is an important part of the Town's character and treasured by the Town's residents, and...

**WHEREAS**, the quality of our community character and environment is of utmost importance to each of the participating communities of Westbrook, Clinton, Deep River, Killingworth, Chester, and Haddam. and...

**WHEREAS**, the Menunketesuck — Cockaponset Regional Greenway, will serve bicyclists, walkers, equestrians, the physically challenged and other non-motorized users, by trail links between protected open space, and other destinations, and further, will encourage people of all ages to increase the time they spend outdoors, offering improved health and physical fitness through improved access to their community; and...

**WHEREAS**, the Menunketesuck — Cockaponset Regional Greenway will increase the accessibility and quality of the outdoor experience for all residents and visitors,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Deep River, supports establishment of the proposed Menunketesuck - Cockaponset Regional Greenway; and through the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency to be publicly recognized by the Connecticut Greenway Council for official State of Connecticut Greenway designation.

*The following items were tabled so they could be discussed and acted on during the joint meeting with the Board of Finance to follow:*

- Confirm appointment of Carmella Balducci to the Board of Finance.
- Request for a Budget Line Transfer by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

## **Appointments:**

Tracy Woodcock was on the agenda for appointment to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Smith asked the Board to add to the agenda the appointment of Lisa Bibbiani to the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA).

Oliveria moved, McDonald 2<sup>nd</sup>, to add to the agenda for discussion and action the appointment of Lisa Bibbiani to the WPCA.

APPROVED 3 – 0

McDonald moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Oliveria, to appoint Tracy Woodcock to the Parks & Recreation Commission and Lisa Bibbiani to the Water Pollution Control Authority, both terms to expire on December 1, 2014.

APPROVED 3 – 0

## **Audience of Citizens – Any Other Matters to Come Before the Board**

Margo Hilfinger asked the Selectmen to comment on the proposed increase in the school budget. Smith advised that the draft budget for the Deep River Elementary School does include an increase of approximately \$310,000. After review of this first draft by both the Deep River Elementary School Board and the Superintendent and Business Manager of Regional School District #4 at their budget workshops, a final draft will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. Following the Town's first budget workshop in March a draft of the entire town budget will appear on the Town's website [deeperiverct.us](http://deeperiverct.us).

*The Board of Selectmen, while awaiting the Board of Finance meeting, took part in the Special Town Meeting scheduled for 7 pm.*

## **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Tim Lee advised both boards that the 250 gallon water tank on the 1982 Chevrolet Brush Fire Truck has failed and must be replaced. After discussion, the two Boards agreed that the 30 year old fire pump mounted on the truck should also be replaced. The Fire Department has received three price quotes for the tank, the highest of which was \$11,995. After questions from members of both Boards, Smith recommended that the Board of Selectmen request an appropriation of \$12,000 for replacement of the tank and fire pump. Chief Lee was advised to prepare specifications and to advertise for formal bids. The Selectmen felt that, in an actual bidding process, pricing is likely to be more favorable to the Town. Oliveria moved that the appropriation not to exceed \$12,000 be set aside for the new equipment. McDonald 2<sup>nd</sup>.

APPROVED 3 – 0

## **Transfer with FD budget:**

McDonald moved to add to the agenda for discussion and action a request from the Board of Fire Commissioners for an internal transfer of funds. Oliveria 2<sup>nd</sup>.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Motion by McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Oliveria, to approve the transfer of \$1,419.92 from line 10121—53011 to line 10121—53018.

APPROVED 3 – 0

**Adjournment:**

McDonald moved, Oliveria 2<sup>nd</sup>, that the meeting adjourn at 9:00 pm.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Respectfully submitted,

*Richard K. Smith,*

First Selectman

RHS/jk