



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## DEEP RIVER TOWN HALL

Regular Meeting – April 9, 2013

**Attendance:** Selectmen Dick Smith, Angus McDonald, David Oliveria; Margot Hilfinger, Richard Strukus (*videography*); Art Thompson (*DRTHARC*); Tom Perry.

This regular meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Dick Smith.

**Minutes:** Regular Meeting – March 12, 2013  
Special Meeting – March 27, 2013

*NOTE: The Regularly scheduled Meeting of March 26, 2013, was cancelled.*

Oliveria moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McDonald, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 12, 2013 and the Special Meeting of March 27, 2013.

**APPROVED 3 – 0**

### **Resident Trooper Agreement:**

Oliveria moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McDonald, to approve the Resident Trooper two-year contract for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

APPROVED 3 – 0

### **Addition to Agenda:**

Smith moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McDonald, to add to the agenda for discussion and action the Intertown Capital Equipment (ICE) Purchase Incentive Grant Program.

APPROVED 3 – 0

### **Intertown Capital Equipment (ICE) Purchase Incentive Grant Program:**

Smith explained that the purpose of ICE was to encourage regional cooperation based on economies of scale for purchases that would benefit two or more towns. The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) had already approved a matching grant of \$18,000 to Deep River, as the lead municipality, with Essex as the participating town, to purchase a vehicle for the use of the Fire Marshal, who serves both towns.

Smith noted that he has been serving on a Regional School District #4 committee whose purpose is to review District facilities in terms of student and staff safety. The Committee, established by Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent of Schools, had discussed installing a dedicated radio system. Such a network would provide unfettered communications among the five schools and administrative offices in emergency situations. The cost was estimated to be approximately \$40,000. After learning of the School's intention to pursue

funding for the proposal, it is my recommendation that enhancing school safety through a dedicated radio network should have priority.

When approached, OPM agreed, suggesting that we reapply based on the new proposal. Deep River, as lead municipality, must submit the appropriate paperwork, including resolutions of support from the participating towns of Essex and Chester.

McDonald moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Oliveria, to approve redirecting the ICE grant as proposed, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the Town of Deep River.

APPROVED 3 – 0

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

Art Thompson offered an update on the historic illustrated curtain that originally hung in the proscenium of the Town Hall Auditorium stage. The photograph below is of the curtain as it appeared many years ago. Since then it has been stored at the Deep River Historical Society. The mural portion has suffered substantial paint loss, although the advertising panels are substantially intact.



The Board of Selectmen agreed to have a specialist in archival restoration inspect the curtain and advise on a course of action. Two considerations are the curtain's size—20 by 28 feet—and its flammability. If it were to be displayed, it would have to meet fire safety codes. Once the professional's report is available all options will be presented to residents at a Special Town Meeting.

Kirtland Street resident Tom Perry submitted a complaint concerning the condition of the Valley Railroad freight house and grounds on property adjacent to the Deep River Landing. He presented photographs and a letter as evidence. Following discussion, Smith agreed to schedule a meeting with the Board of Selectmen, Perry and Railroad management in an attempt to resolve the issue.

Margo Hilfinger asked about the status of the sewer expansion proposed for River and Kirtland Streets, and including adjoining streets. Smith reported that a necessary step in the process is the approval of the Planning & Zoning Commission, as required under State Statute 8-24. At a Special Meeting of the Commission held on April 4, 2013, the project was approved as being in conformance with the Town's Plan of Conservation & Development. The Board of Selectmen can now schedule a Special Town Meeting at which residents will have the opportunity to review all information, and to discuss and vote on the proposal. Informational postcards announcing the date and time of the meeting will be mailed to all residents.

**Adjournment:**

Oliveria moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McDonald, to adjourn at 7:20 pm.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Respectfully submitted,  
*Richard H. Smith,*  
First Selectman