



SELECTMAN'S OFFICE
174 Main Street
Deep River, Connecticut 06417

Regular Meeting — March 8, 2016

Attendance: Selectmen Dick Smith, Angus McDonald, David Oliveria.
Margo Hilfinger, John Greene (videography); Russ Marth,
Michael and Anthony Joia. (Anthony is attending the BOS
meeting to earn his merit badge for Citizenship In The Community)

This regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Dick Smith.

Minutes: Oliveria moved, McDonald 2nd, to approve the minutes from the regular
meeting of February 23, 2016.

APPROVED 3-0

Clean Energy Communities Program:

Allison Jackman representing Eversource and Robert Wall of CT Green Bank gave a detailed presentation as to why Deep River should become a Clean Energy Community.

The following are some reasons why Deep River should become a Clean Energy Community:

Lead your municipality by example.

Imagine if energy-saving, financing and renewable measures adopted by your municipality, residents and businesses could make a difference in your community. Well, now they can! By participating in renewable energy, financing and energy-saving programs through Energize Connecticut, you can make your town or city a Clean Energy Community.

Energize Your Community Today

When residents, businesses and municipalities participate in energy-saving programs such as Home Energy Solutions or Small Business Energy Advantage, communities earn points toward a Bright Idea Grant. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 and can be used toward energy-saving projects designated by your local community, such as implementing new energy standards for municipal buildings or making energy-saving improvements to a school. That means lower energy cost for your town.

Engaging your community in the support of clean energy, such as installing solar photovoltaic (PV) or solar hot water systems, undertaking fuel conversions, machining energy improvements through the Commercial-Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-Pace) program and even using CEFIA's energy financing products can also earn communities clean energy rewards. These rewards include solar PV systems, electric vehicle charging stations and solar trash compactors.

It's just 3 Easy Steps to Become a Clean Energy Community.

1. Commit to the "Clean Energy Communities Municipal Pledge" to save energy in municipal buildings, voluntarily support renewable energy and participate in clean energy financing;
2. Fulfill Pledge by taking actions to save energy and support renewable energy voluntarily; and
3. Earn energy efficiency and renewable energy points.

To find out more, visit:

EnergizeCT.com/communities

The BOS noted during discussion that Town of Deep River has been proactive over the past 26 years in finding ways to save energy. Lighting upgrades in town buildings, street lights converted to LED's, window replacements, state of the art heating and air-condition systems. Natural gas is now servicing Main Street and part of Bridge and River Street. The Town Hall, Library, and 34 River Street (old ambulance barn) are presently being converted from fuel oil to natural gas. The Elementary School is scheduled for this summer. Deep River was the first small town in the area to install a charging station for electric vehicles. Some of these projects were paid for with grants. As a result of the above efficiency projects Deep River would automatically be eligible for a \$5,000 grant under this program.

The BOS will review the information, provide and decide at its next meeting if Deep River should join Energize CT.

Appointments:

Oliveria moved, 2nd by McDonald to approve the following appointments.

Claire Walsh - Community Health Committee term to expire 12/1/2017

Howard Beardsley - Special Constable Term to expire 12/1/2016

William Dahl – Economic Development term to expire 12/1/2017

Steven David – Board of Fire Commissioners term to expire 12/1/2016

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

Selectman gave an update on the following:

Subregistrars

On 12/22/2015 the BOS confirmed the appointment of Philip M. Appell and Jordan A. Wells as Subregistrars for the Town of Deep River. The following is to clarify what a Subregistrar's responsibility is.

Sec. 7-65 Removal, transit and burial permit. Subregistrars, The embalmer or funeral director licensed by the department, or licensed in a state having a reciprocal agreement on file with the department and complying with the terms of such agreement, who assume custody of a dead body shall obtain a removal, transit and burial permit from the register of the town in which the death occurred or the town in which the embalmer or funeral director maintains a place of business not later than five calendar days after death, and prior to final disposition or removal of the body from the state. The embalmer or funeral director who assumes custody and control of the body and obtains a removal, transit and burial permit from the register of the town in which the embalmer or funeral director maintains a place of business shall be obligated to file the death certificate, in accordance with the provision of section 7-62b, in person through an electronic registry system or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The burial permit shall specify the place of burial or other place of interment and state that the death certificate and any other certificate required by law have been returned and recorded. Such register shall appoint suitable persons as subregistrars, who shall be authorized to issue a removal, transit and burial permit for any death that occurs in the registrar's town, based upon receipt of a completed death certificate as provided in sec. 7-26b, during the hours in which the registrar of vital records is closed. All such certificates upon which a permit is issued shall be forwarded to the registrar not later than seven days after receiving such certificates. The appointment of subregistrars shall be made in writing, with the approval of the selectman of such town, and shall be made with reference to locality, to best accommodate the inhabitants of the town. Such subregistrars shall be sworn, and their term of office shall not extend beyond the term of office of the appointing registrar. The names of such subregistrars shall be reported to the Department of Public Health. The Chief Medical Examiner, Deputy Chief Medical Examiner and associate medical examiners shall be considered subregistrars of any town in which death occurs for the purpose of issuing removal, transit and burial permits. The fee for such removal, transit and burial permit shall be paid to the town issuing the removal, transit and burial permit.

2016/2017 Budget

The BOS reviewed the **draft budget** for 2016/17 which will be discussed at the 1st workshop of the Board of Selectman and Finance on Wed. March 9. Due to the revaluation the mill rate will be adjusted by .51 tenths of a mill. The 2016/17 budget will see a .49 increase due to new expenditures. The majority of the increases are our schools, Reg. District #4 \$385,838, Elementary School \$87,254. The total increases of \$473,092 at the schools equate to almost a 1 mill increase. On the General Govt. side of the budget the Resident Trooper line will increase by \$70,000 (the town presently pays 85% of all cost for a Resident Trooper, which will increase to 100%), salary increases for town employees is up \$20,756.

Due to reductions and a carry-over of \$135,000 within the Gen. Govt. side of the budget we were able to hold the mill rate increase to .49 tenths of a mill instead of 1 mill.

In the 2016/17 budget residents will see a 1 mill increase of which .51 tenths of a mill is a direct result of the 2015 grand list decrease. If there were no increases in expenditures or revenues in the proposed 2015/16 budget, a .51 mill rate adjustment would be required. The revaluation which was just completed in 2015 reflects a shift in taxation from the majority of residential properties to Commercial, Industrial and Condominium properties. If this **draft budget** was to pass as purposed, 988 properties would see a tax decrease and 1075 would see a tax increase.

A master list of all properties has been prepared by the Selectman and our Assessor Robin O'Loughlin which provides the financial impact (increase or decrease in your tax bill) on our residents and businesses. Please call the First Selectman at 860-526-6020 or e-mail at selectman@deeperiverct.us to find out your tax decrease or increase for July 1, 2016.

Oliveria moved, McDonald 2nd, to adjourn at 7:38 pm.

APPROVED 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. Smith