



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DEEP RIVER TOWN HALL

Regular Meeting April 25, 2017

Attendance: Selectmen Angus McDonald, David Oliveria & Duane Gates. Also present were Jonathan Kastner, Joanna McMullen, Tom Armstrong, Carol Armstrong, Adam Straub, and Vincent Mase/ President of Branch 19, Nat'l Assoc. of Letter Carriers. Margo Hilfiger and John Greene (videography).

This regular meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by McDonald.

Minutes:

Approve minutes of regular meeting on April 11, 2017.

Gates moved, Oliveria 2nd, to accept the meeting minutes of April 11, 2017.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Discuss sign boards in front of Town Hall:

McDonald opened discussion with his observation over the past several months that signs were being placed in front of and around Town Hall for various functions without the town being notified. All are for good causes however this uncontrolled approach and recent overabundance of signs degrades Town Hall's appearance.

McDonald asked the Board to consider a permanently installed sign board in the Northeast corner near the water fountain that would be used for displaying community interest signs. He hopes to bring examples of this idea to the next meeting.

McDonald invited Mr. Vincent Mase to address the board regarding signs. Mr. Mase is from New Haven and is Branch 19 President of the National Assoc. of Letter Carriers (NALC). Members of the NALC had installed an approximately 3.5' wide by 2' tall wooden sign on the grass in front of Town Hall the previous day prior to seeking permission.

Mr. Mase opened with presenting the benefits of the NALC's annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive that is scheduled for May 13, 2017. The program celebrates its 25th year in 2017 and provides typically 4 to 6 months of food for the local food banks. Mr. Mase questioned why his members were not allowed to put a sign on town property for the NALC's program.

McDonald noted that he had talked with NALC representatives shortly after they installed the sign the previous day and asked them to remove it, suggesting various alternatives, including using a different sign or that they ask a business across the street about installing the sign there on private property for better visibility.

Mr. Mase said that he will review the zoning regulations, and, if he feels that his sign is compliant, will contact the Zoning Enforcement Officer for approval to display his sign.

2017-2018 Budget Discussion/ Schedule:

The Board stayed in session during the Board of Finance meeting to discuss and vote on the budget.

The combined boards remind citizens of three important events:

May 2, 2017 – Region 4 budget referendum vote, noon to 8pm at the Library

May 2, 2017 – Deep River Public Hearing on the 2017-2018 Budget, 7:30pm at the Town Hall Auditorium

May 15, 2017 – Deep River Annual Town Meeting and vote on the 2017-2018 budget, 7:30pm at the Town Hall Auditorium

A postcard will be mailed to all Deep River households with summary budget information, anticipated Mil Rate increase, and these important dates.

Oliveria moved, Gates 2nd, to approve the 2017-2018 budget of \$16,746,610 to Board of Finance for their approval and forward to a Town Meeting for vote.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Audience of Citizens – Any other business to come before the board:

Q1 – Ms. Margo Hilfiger asked what impact the 2017-2018 Budget increase would have on the Mil Rate.

A1 – McDonald reported that the Mil Rate is anticipated to increase by 1.39%.

Adjournment:

Oliveria moved, Gates 2nd, to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Oliveria,
Selectman