

February 19, 2014

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Selectmen present-Russell Gray, Lincoln Cooper, and John Firlik.

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson, Anna Gagner and Kara Fishman (6:20 p.m.).

Also present-Kevin & Betty Costa, Paul Campbell, John & Debra Benoit, Charles & Irene Bassett, George & Amanda Chipman, and Chris Evans (7:10 p.m.)

Pledge of Allegiance: Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience of Citizens: All present for Agenda items.

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to approve the 1/15/14, 1/22/2014, 1/29/2014 and 2/12/2014 special meeting minutes and the 1/15/2014 regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. **Commission Vacancies (Alternates P&Z and Family Day Committee):** As there were no candidates, this item was tabled.

b. **Town Meeting Dates for Renters of Town Property with Option to Buy:** This shall be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission at their next meeting.

c. **Consider and Act on Bonding Requirements – C. Corson Excavation for 0 Sterling Road:** J. Gustavson reported that the Town has received C. Corson's Site Restoration Bond in the amount of \$87,000 for property located at 0 Sterling Road and a check in the amount of \$9,100 (20% of \$11,375) for services performed by the Town Engineer from 7/30/2012 through 7/31/2013. Additional fees have been submitted from

the Town Engineer from 9/26/2013 through 1/31/2014 in the amount of \$645.50. The Board of Selectmen need to determine what to do about the \$2,275 from the original fee for services rendered and the additional fees in the amount of \$645.50 for a total of \$2,920.50.

J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to abate the remaining fees amount of \$2,275 and \$645.50 through 1/31/2014 for C. Corson Excavation resulting in a zero balance due to the Town for services rendered by the Town Engineer. All voted in favor of the motion.

R. Gray will meet with C. Corson as soon the weather allows determining if the bond in the amount of \$11,025 for emergency Erosion and Sedimentation Control measures can be reduced. This is contingent on satisfactory completion and restoration of Phase I by the applicant.

d. Schedule Special Town Meeting for Additional Appropriation for FY Ending June 30, 2013 and Additional Property to be Accepted by the Town: The Special Town Meeting for an additional appropriation to the Board of Selectmen's Budget for FY Ending June 30, 2013 and additional property to be accepted by the Town was cancelled due to snow storm Derby.

L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to reschedule a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #15 for an additional appropriation from the General Fund Balance to the Selectmen's Budget for FY Ending June 30, 2013 in the amount of \$22,222 to cover the budget deficit and for additional property to be accepted by Town. All voted in favor of the motion.

e. Sterling Pond Dam Inspection: R. Grey reported that Don Aubrey, Town Engineer, has agreed to inspect the Sterling Pond Dam every other year, as the State will no longer inspect the dam and is transferring this responsibility to the owner.

f. 2014-2015 Proposed Selectmen's Budget: The Selectmen have been meeting to work on the 2014-2015 Proposed Selectmen's Budget. L. Cooper and J. Firlik will meet with R. Gray at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 3/5/2014 to continue discussion.

g. Consider and Act on a Resolution Regarding the Regional Performance Incentive Program: J. Firlik has reviewed the resolution and has asked R. Grey to contact John Filchak of Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments (NECOGG) for a synopsis. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to table action to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to approve the following refund requests: 1) Robert Hoyt, 537 Margaret Henry Rd., Sterling, CT 06377-1509 for \$5.36; 2) Network Solutions, Inc., 15 Shore Dr., Johnston, RI 02919 for \$24.15; 3) Cab East LLC, Ford Credit Personal Property Tax, PO Box 67000, Dept. #231601, Detroit, MI 48267-2316 for \$164.68; 4) Eastern Savings Bank, 257 Main St., PO Box 709, Norwich, CT 06360 for \$495.97; 5) Edward L. & Paula J. Ilewicz, 800 Margaret Henry Rd., Sterling, CT 06377 for \$103.44, \$110.26, & \$104.56; 6) Glenn A. Moore, 753 Plainfield Pike, Sterling, CT 06377-2018 for \$198.14; 7) Roger T. Smith, 783 Sterling Rd., Sterling, CT 06377 for \$61.86. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Proposal by Sterling Community School for use of Robert P. Jordan Center: R. Gray reported that Rena Klebart, Superintendent of Sterling Community School would

like to use half of the Robert P. Jordan Center (50 Main Street) to work with two (2) students who presently cannot be mainstreamed into the school system. Right now we outsource for special needs children. R. Gray will speak to R. Klebart with the option of using the old Town Hall instead of the Robert P. Jordan Center as the Oneco Fire Department is no longer interested in leasing the land at the Town Hall.

c. Sterling Park Campground: Kevin Costa, owner of the Sterling Park Campground since June 2013, has come before the Board of Selectmen to discuss outstanding revenue bills for three (3) residents prior to the effective date of each individual's Bill of Sale at the Sterling Park Campground. He is asking the Board to abate the taxes, interest, and the Rossi Law fees prior to the Bill of Sale dates and have the taxes revert back to SPC Associates (Bruce Henry), previous campground owner.

J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, that the Board of Selectmen abates the taxes and interest on Personal Property only for Charlie and Irene Bassett, John and Debra Benoit, and Paul and Alisa Campbell prior to the day they became legal owners of said personal property. Date of ownership is established by individual Bills of Sales, that were submitted. All voted in favor of the motion.

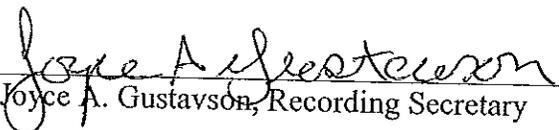
d. Farmland Assessments: Assessor Kara Fishman, mailed farmland surveys to property owners of farmland enrolled in PA490. Based on the responses from the surveys, some property owners no longer meet the criteria to be considered farmland. K. Fishman discussed certain parcels with the Board and is looking to declassify the property owners who no longer meet the criteria.

e. Handicap Motor Vehicle Exemptions: K. Fishman asked for this to be placed on the March Agenda. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table to the 3/5/2014 Agenda. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: 1) The draft changes and final language on the Excavation Ordinance is ready for the Town attorney to review. R. Gray made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to have staff forward the Excavation Ordinance to the Town attorney for review. All voted in favor of the motion. 2) The Annual Town Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 3/5/2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #15. 3) Sharon Chviek, Economic Development Coordinator is asking the Board of Selectmen for a referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission for an 8-24 review of Lot 2 in the Sterling Industrial Park. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to make an 8-24 referral to Planning & Zoning for the sale of Lot 2 in the Sterling Industrial Park. All voted in favor of the motion.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest:


Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary