

May 21, 2014

Call to order: The regular meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by First Selectman Russell Gray. Selectmen present-Lincoln Cooper and John Firlik.

Also present-Frank Bood, Steve Offiler, Robert Lassan, Sharon Chviek, Neil Cook, Kara Fishman, and Judy Lincoln.

Pledge: All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience of Citizens: There were no comments from the audience.

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2014 meeting with a correction to Item 2 of Any Other Business regarding the insurance coverage for H. George which should have read ...a two-person comprehensive group health insurance coverage ...instead of a single coverage. All voted in favor of the motion.

R. Gray made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2014 special meeting as presented. All voted in favor

Unfinished Business:

a. **Commission Vacancies-** No candidates for the two vacancies (1-Alt P&Z & 1 Family Day)

b. **Excavation Ordinance-**No new information.

c. **Falls Creek Conservation Easement-**Not available yet. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to table this item. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. **Proposal to increase ZBA Application Fee-**S. Offiler Zoning Board of Appeals Chair reported that the cost of publishing notices and the amount of notices required for each application (2 for hearing and 1 for decision) is costing \$510 to \$600 per application and the current fee is \$310. He also submitted a comparison of 11 current ZBA application fees from local eastern CT municipalities compiled by Demian Sorrentino, AICP, CSS who serves as our Zoning Enforcement Officer. Further research will be necessary to determine if a Town Meeting will be necessary to make a change to the fee.

e. **Personal Property Audit update-**K. Fishman Assessor reported findings on the two largest accounts. She noted that the extra billing from the audit exceeds the cost of the audit.

f. **Handicap Motor Vehicle Ordinance-**The proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the Town Attorney and will need to be taken to Town Meeting for adoption. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to approve the proposed ordinance and to schedule a special town meeting to take action on its adoption. All voted in favor of the motion. (No date was scheduled at this time)

g. **Consider & act on changes to the 2014-2015 Proposed Board of Selectmen's Budget-** The 5/21/2014 revised budget was submitted for review. J. Lincoln noted that with the changes made at the special meeting on 5/20 the new to be raised by taxes amount has increased due to cuts being made in the revenue section.

J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to approve the budget in the amount of \$2,702,580. All voted in favor of the motion. All in favor of the motion.

Continued

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Continued

New Business:

a. **Establish Energy Commission**-The proposed ordinance to establish a permanent Energy Committee was drawn up by the Town Attorney. This ordinance will be referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission for comment prior to scheduling a town meeting to adopt it. Frank Bood has volunteered for the committee.

b. **Request for refund**-J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by R. Gray, to approve the refund request for Michael Driscoll, 480 Gibson Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377-1903 in the amount of \$23.63. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. **Consider & act on resolution concerning Board of Education Early Childhood Grant**- L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Sterling Community School Board of Education has applied for and been awarded a grant for its Sterling Community Preschool Program;  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Sterling, on behalf of the Sterling Board of Education may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Education, in consultation with the Office of Early Childhood, any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Russell M. Gray, as First Selectman of the Town of Sterling is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Sterling and the Sterling Board of Education and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

All voted in favor of the adoption of this resolution.

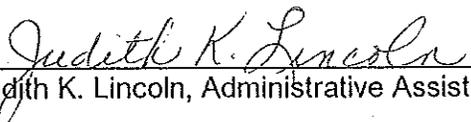
d. **Financing expenses in Sterling Industrial Park**-A packet of information and questions dated May, 2014 was submitted to the Selectmen by Sharon Chviek Economic Development Coordinator regarding engineering services. Questions raised: A) Who is financially responsible for issues within the I-Park? B) Should not big price tag items go out to bid? C) When bills are issued, shouldn't there be some paperwork accompanying the bill such as the how, why, details, and proposal to fix, before a bill is paid? Further discussion of this issue is necessary.

e. **Inland Wetland issues in Sterling Industrial Park**-Two lots in the park are unusable due to wetlands regulations. It was recommended that guidance be obtained from the IW&WC to see if anything can be done to make the areas usable.

Any other business: 1. Complaints have been received about recycling issues on Gibson Hill Road and the need for a Blight Ordinance.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest:

  
 Judith K. Lincoln, Administrative Assistant