

April 15, 2015

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

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

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

Pledge of Allegiance: Everyone stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience of Citizens: None

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to approve the 4/8/2015 regular meeting minutes and the 4/9/2015 special meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

**a. Commission Vacancies (Energy Committee & Sterling Recreation Authority):** No new information. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

**b. Notice of Violation and Order – 15 Old Greenwich Road:** No new information. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Schedule Special Town Meeting for the Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budgets:** The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sterling Municipal Building Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT to adopt the Board of Education's 2015-2016 Proposed Budget and to adopt the Board of Selectmen's 2015-2016 Proposed Budget and in accordance with Section 7-7 of the CGS remove the items to a referendum vote to be held on Thursday, April 30, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Sterling Municipal Building Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike in Oneco.

**d. Schedule Special Town Meeting to Approve an Appropriation of \$21,900 from the Town's Fund Balance for Snow and Ice Removal – 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT:** The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sterling Municipal Building Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT to vote to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$21,900 for the snow and ice removal from the roof at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT.

**e. Schedule Special Town Meeting for the Annual Report:** The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sterling Municipal Building Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT to act on the reports of the town, authorize borrowing for the ensuring year, and designate banks for the town depositories.

**f. 511 Sterling Road:** R. Gray reported that he contacted Kari Olsen, Town attorney regarding ownership of the property located at 511 Sterling Road. It is K. Olsen's opinion that the Town has nothing to gain by taking over the property and the Board of Selectmen would need to be project managers, investing time and money. The Town is better off turning the property over to Habitat for Humanity. R. Gray reported that Habitat for Humanity is interested in having the property to be used for a low income family and the attorney from the Wells Fargo Bank will check with their attorney to see if this can be done. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to table to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

**a. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to approve the request for refund to: 1) Charles G. Higbee, 50 Pine Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377-2305 for \$26.21. All voted in favor of the motion.

**b. Resignation of Amy Kemp from Agricultural Commission:** Andy Meek, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission received an email dated 4/14/2015 from Amy Kemp – "Please accept this as a letter of resignation from the committee. Unfortunately due to conflicts, I have not been able to attend the meetings on a regular basis". L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to accept A.

Kemp's resignation from the Agricultural Commission effective immediately with regrets. All voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Consider and Act on Appointment to Agricultural Commission – Katie Hermonot, 227 Eknok Hill Road, Moosup, CT and move Megan Johnson from Alternate Member to Regular Member Replacing A. Kemp:** J. Gustavson reported that the Board of Selectmen received a letter dated 2/2/2015 from Andy Meek, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission stating that the Commission wishes to appoint Katie Molodich as an alternate to replace Megan Johnson. The letter should have read Katie Hermonot (not Katie Molodich) as an alternate. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to appoint Katie Hermonot, 227 Eknok Hill Road, Moosup, CT 06354 as an alternate member to a two (2) term, expiring 3/12/2016 to fill the alternate vacancy created by Megan Johnson and to appoint Megan Johnson, 260 Main Street, Sterling, CT 06377 as a regular member to a three (3) term, expiring 3/12/2016 to fill the vacancy created by A. Kemp. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: 1) Sharon Chviek, Economic Development Coordinator, submitted a letter of resignation to the Board of Selectmen dated 4/15/15 stating that 5/4/2015 will be her last day of employment for the Town of Sterling. "It has been my pleasure to have been able to serve the businesses of the Town of Sterling as Economic Development Coordinator, for the past 18 years" and "submits this resignation with mixed emotions, but know it is my time to find (and hopefully enjoy) the true meaning of the Golden Years". L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to accept S. Chviek's letter of resignation with regrets. All voted in favor of the motion. 2) S. Chviek submitted a letter dated 4/15/2015 requesting the allowance of working the full thirty-five (35) hours in the Economic Development Office from 4/20/2015 through 5/4/2015 and not split her time between the Town Clerk's Office and Economic Development to complete the many pending tasks. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to approve S. Chviek's request to work the full week, thirty-five (35) hours in the Economic Development Office beginning 4/20/2015 through 5/4/2015. All voted in favor of the motion. 3) S. Chviek submitted a copy of a letter sent to James Sweet, Fire Marshal, updating the Board on the numerous tires in the Industrial Park, Lot 15 – Choice Tire. The Economic Development Commission members have multiple concerns regarding the amount of tires being left outside, on the ground and questions if this is a fire hazard? Will the run-off cause DEEP issues (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection)? Lastly, is this a potential accident waiting to happen? The Commission is asking the Fire Marshal to inspect the premises and if any issues need to be addressed, notify the Town so the Economic Development Commission and Choice Tire can work together to correct. 4) Demian Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer, submitted a letter dated 4/14/2014 (copy on file) to the Board of Selectmen regarding the Official Notice of Violation and Order for property located at 301 Church Street, specifically for inhabiting a partially completed dwelling upon the property without having received the requisite permits and/or approvals to do so (Reference Building Permit File #2000-21).

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adjourn 6:36 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary