

October 7, 2015

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson and Demian Sorrentino.

Also present-Hayden Sauvageau and Betsy Chamberland.

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

Audience of Citizens: No Comment.

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the 9/16/2015 regular meeting minutes, the 9/23/2015 and 9/30/2015 special meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. Commission Vacancies (Economic Development Commission, Sterling Recreation Authority, & Zoning Board of Appeals): No new information. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Insulation for Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT: R. Gray reported that J. Gustavson emailed Frank Bood, Chairman of the Energy Committee asking him to provide the names of companies who perform energy audits. We have not received a response to date. L. Cooper stated that if F. Bood cannot provide the names of companies who perform energy audits, we should contact Shawn Johnson from Eversource. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Consider & Act on Proposal to Lease 54.36 Acres of Town Owned Property Located at 0 Industrial Park Road North and 8.31 Acres of Town Owned Property Located at 5 Exeter Drive by Renewable Ventures, LLC to Build a Solar Farm: J. Gustavson reported that she received an email dated 9/21/2015 from Michael Licamele of the MSL Group, Inc. who represents Renewable Ventures, LLC stating they are not ready to go before a Town Meeting as David Held of Provost & Rovero, Inc., representing the applicant is on vacation and the attorneys have not met to work out the lease proposal. R. Gray stated that he has not heard back from M. Licamele and another company, Deepwater Wind, has also expressed interest in the Re-Energy site. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to remove this item from the agenda until further interest is shown in moving forward with the project. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Connecticut Boys State – Leadership Program for High School Juniors: Hayden Sauvageau of Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT reported on the Connecticut Boys State Leadership Program for High School Juniors that he attended in June at Eastern Connecticut State University. Hayden stated that the week long program teaches students about the mechanics of the federal government by role-playing as senators and representatives in a complex dual-party system. Parties were created and elections were held to create a mock government where students can then analyze and solve problems. Hayden also stated that this was a very good, fun experience and thought more juniors could benefit from this program.

b. Gibson Park, LLC (f/n Sterling Park Campground): D. Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer reported that he called Kari Olsen, Town attorney, stating the date for campers to vacate the premises for Gibson Park, LLC, located at 177 Gibson Hill Road, has come and gone. He also contacted Norm Thibeault of Killingly Engineering Associates for an update and was told that only the soil analysis has been done to date. It was the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to have D. Sorrentino contact K. Olsen to write an order on the Town's behalf.

c. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the request for refunds to: 1) Joseph A. or Judy L. Buchowiecki, 519 Sawmill Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377-1407 for \$40.51; 2) Jason D. Klein, 34 Coutney Lane, Sterling, CT 06377-2135 for \$55.99; 3) M&R Trucking and Excavating, LLC, PO Box 695, Moosup, CT 06354-0695 for \$42.95; 4) Michael S. or Barbara J. Reilly, 114 Aleatha Drive, Daytona Beach, FL 32114 for \$32.77; and 5) Michael S. Reilly, 114 Aleatha Drive, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

for \$38.93; 6) Anourack Souksavath, 95 Sawmill Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 for \$38.83. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. Consider & Act on K. Fishman's Proposal to Provide Interim Assessor Services: Kara Fishman submitted a letter dated 9/22/2015 outlining her proposal to provide interim assessor training services for her replacement. The proposed dates are 10/7/2015, 10/15/2015, 10/22/2015 and 10/29/2015 at \$30 per hour. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to hire Kara Fishman as an interim trainer on 10/7/2015, 10/15/2015, 10/22/2015 and 10/29/2015 at \$30 per hour. All voted in favor of the motion.

e. Consider & Act on Assessor's Position: William Sebastian, 86 Ekonk Hill Road, Moosup, CT 06354 was hired 9/24/2015 as Assessor; replacing Kara Fishman who resigned effective 10/5/2015. R. Gray made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to hire William Sebastian, effective 9/24/2015 as Assessor at the following rate of pay: 70% of the current Assessor's salary, increasing to 80% after six (6) months, 3/24/2016; 90% after eighteen (18) months 3/24/2017; and 100% upon certification. Family comprehensive group health insurance coverage at a cost shared between employee and the Town is available upon completion of a ninety (90) day probationary period. All voted in favor of the motion.

f. Consider & Act on Appointment to Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association: Denise Poyer, Coordinator of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association sent a letter to R. Gray asking the Board of Selectmen to appoint one (1) or two (2) Town members to serve on the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association Committee. The Committee will identify important values of the rivers that make them eligible for Wild and Scenic designation and develop a management plan created by the communities directly involved with the Rivers to protect those values. Four (4) members from the Sterling Inland and Wetland Watercourses Commission expressed interest; Roger Gibson, Robert McLevy, Maggie Camplin, and Kimberly Gunn. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to appoint R. Gibson and R. McLevy to the Committee and M. Camplin and K. Gunn as alternate members. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: 1) Discussion was held regarding the construction project letter that will be mailed to Sterling residents from the Land Use Office along with a "Planning a Construction Project" handout. D. Sorrentino will make some changes for the Selectmen to review. 2) The trough eaves on the Town Garage, located at 215 Main Street, Sterling, CT needs to be replaced. R. Gray will contact RicMan Enterprises, LLC of Plainfield, CT for a quote. This is the company who worked on the Incubator building in the Industrial Park. 3) L. Cooper reported that he attended the 2015 Regional Energy Solutions Workshop on 9/24/2015 with four (4) other members from the Energy Committee. The Town of Sterling earned 100 energy efficiency points that can be redeemed for a \$5,000 "Bright Idea Grant" for energy-savings projects.

Adjournment: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to adjourn 6:56 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary