

November 18, 2015

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

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

Audience of Citizens: None.

Approval of Minutes: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the 11/4/2015 regular 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. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik 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 the Energy Committee met last Thursday, 11/12/2015 and they are moving forward with the energy audit. The insulation will be included in the audit for the Sterling Municipal Building located at 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to remove this item from the Selectmen's agenda. All voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Gibson Park, LLC (f/n Sterling Park Campground):** R. Gray reported that he received an email from D. Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer, dated 11/11/2015 regarding the Notice of Violation that was issued to Gibson Park, LLC on 6/27/2013 and an email from Kari Olsen, Town attorney also dated 11/11/2015 responding to D. Sorrentino's questions (copies on file). J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

**d. RPJ Community Center Repairs:** R. Gray reported that the damaged portion of the ceiling at the Robert P. Jordan Community Center located at 50 Main Street, Sterling, has been removed and additional insulation has been installed behind the walls. The defective rubber membrane roofing has also been removed and waterproof rubber membrane has been installed above the entryway to help prevent further leaks. Kyle Collins, Building Official inspected the building, and he did not find any mold in the building and in his opinion, he feels it is safe to inhabit. R. Gray will continue to monitor. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

**e. Consider and Act on Bid to Replace Damaged Gutters – Town Garage, 215 Main Street, Sterling, CT:** The Board of Selectmen received the following two (2) bids for replacing the damaged gutters at the Town Garage, 215 Main Street, Sterling, CT: 1) AmeriGutter Seamless Gutters, LLC, One Main Street, Putnam, CT 06260 in the amount of \$1,624 to remove eighty (80) feet of existing gutter and install six (6) inches of white seamless gutter, 80 feet with hangers and \$950 to install snow bars including labor for a total bid of \$2,574; 2) RicMan Enterprises, LLC, 107 Colonial Road, Plainfield, CT 06374 in the amount of \$4,058 to remove eighty (80) feet of existing gutter and replace with new gutters including materials, labor, boom lift rental, crating and freight to site and \$4,577 to furnish and install approximately eighty 80 linear feet of two pipe snow guard system with ice flags for a total bid of \$8,635 and if both projects are done together, the final bid amount would be \$7,635. R. Gray stated that he was unsuccessful in obtaining a bid from Central Construction Industries, LLC, (CCI) located in Putnam, CT. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to award the bid to AmeriGutter Seamless Gutters, LLC, One Main Street, Putnam, C 06260 to remove eighty (80) feet of existing gutter and replace with six (6) inches of white seamless gutter, eighty (80) feet with hangers and the installation of snow bars for \$2,574 including labor and materials. All voted in favor of the motion.

**f. The Upper Room/Tabernacles of Grace Chapel – 50 Main Street, Sterling:** In response to the letter received 11/2/2015 to the Board of Selectmen from Dr. Valerie A. Beauchene, ThD, Pastor of The Upper Room/Tabernacles of Grace Chapel located at 50 Main Street, Sterling, R. Gray reported that he has not been able to contact V. Beauchene to give a report regarding her concerns for the cost of heat, possibility of mold, and partial insulation and repairs of the facility.

The Upper Room/Tabernacles of Grace moved to the left (former senior center) side after the right (former daycare) side had damage due to a broken pipe. It was the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to have The Upper Room/Tabernacles of Grace Chapel vacate the left side, have it re-keyed and to move back to the right side of the building. R. Gray will contact V. Beauchene.  
New Business:

**a. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the request for refunds to: 1) Donald S. Hopkins, 540 Snake Meadow Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377-1712 for \$330.35; 2) Jordan Sawmill, LLC, 201 Sawmill Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377-1405 for \$66.74; 3) Russell E. Dyer, PO Box 21, Oneco, CT 06373-0021 for \$29.11; 4) William J. O'Connor, 366 Main Street, Sterling, CT 06377-1606 for \$151.68; 5) Anthony A. Smith, 359 Main Street, Sterling, CT 06377-1607 for \$40.92; and 6) Zachary I. Gaudreau, 97 Newport Road, Oneco, CT 06373 for \$42.44. All voted in favor of the motion.

**b. Consider & Act on Resolution Adopting the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan:** J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to adopt the following resolution adopting the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan:

**Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Sterling Board of Selectmen recognizes the threats that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Town of Sterling; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Sterling, in collaboration with the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG) has prepared a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan known as the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan has identified mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from the impacts of future natural hazards and disasters that affect the Town of Sterling and the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security has approved the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan on condition of local adoption, enabling the Town of Sterling to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funds; and

**WHEREAS**, NECCOG, Northeastern Connecticut Emergency Management Committee, and public informational meetings were held between September 2011 and November 2014 regarding the development and review of the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption by the Town of Sterling Board of Selectmen demonstrates their commitment to achieving the hazard mitigation goals outlined in the Town of Sterling's section of the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Sterling Board of Selectmen hereby adopts the 2015 Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

All voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Consider & Act on Appointment to Library Director Vacancy – H. Wood:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to appoint Holly Wood, PO Box 91, Oneco, CT 06373 to a six (6) year term expiring 11/19/2019 to fill the Library Director vacancy. All voted in favor of the motion.

**d. Exemption from Property Tax for Turkey Barn for Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm, 227 Ekonk Hill Road, Moosup:** In accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes 12-91(c), a municipality, upon approval by its legislative body, may provide an exemption from property tax for any building used actually and exclusively in farming as defined in section 1-1, or for any building used to provide housing for seasonal employees of such farmer. The municipality shall establish the amount of such exemption from the assessed value, provided such amount may not

exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) with respect to each eligible building. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the exemption from property tax not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for a turkey barn for the Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm located at 227 Ekonk Hill Road, Moosup, CT. L. Cooper and J. Firlik voted in favor of the motion and R. Gray abstained.

**e. Consider & Act on 2016 Schedule of Meetings:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded J. Firlik to approve the 2016 Meeting Schedule. All voted in favor of the motion.

**f. Consider & Act on Re-Appointments to Energy Committee-R. McGarry, R. McLevy, and J. Baccarie – 3 Year Terms Expiring 11/7/2018:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to re-appoint Richard McGarry, 143 Sawmill Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377, Robert McLevy, 33 Miller Road, Sterling, CT 06377, and John Baccarie, 34 Ledge Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 to a three (3) year term expiring 11/7/2018 to the Energy Committee. All voted in favor of the motion.

**g. Consider & Act on Re-Appointment to Planning and Zoning Commission-D. Morrow – 3 Year Term Expiring 12/1/2018:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to re-appoint Dana Morrow, 65 Gibson Lane, Sterling, CT 06377 to a three (3) year term expiring 12/1/2018 to the Planning and Zoning Commission. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: None.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adjourn 6:47 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

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