

February 10, 2016

Item I: Call to Order: The special meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:35 p.m. with Russell Gray, Lincoln Cooper, and John Firlik (5:37 p.m.). Staff present-Joyce Gustavson, Dale Boisselle, William Sebastian, Anna Gagner, Patricia Ball, Heather George, and Judy Gooslin.

Item II: Staff Discussion on FY 2016-2017 Selectmen's Budget Proposal and any Other Issues: R. Gray reported that this is an early markup of the budget and one notable change is that on page 6, Estimated Revenues, MRSA Sales Tax Sharing is a new line item in the amount of \$110,893 resulting from a portion of the sales tax (0.5%) being distributed to municipalities. P. Ball asked for clarification on the FICA/Medicare expense and it was determined that was calculated on a proposed three percent (3%) salary increase and shall be changed to reflect a two percent (2%) salary increase. D. Boisselle noted that the FICA/Medicare expense for Library did not change and asked if they are getting a raise. R. Gray stated that the Library is a separate budget and no one is here to answer that question tonight. P. Ball asked on page 2 under Capital Accounts what the equipment line item for \$80,000 represents. R. Gray stated that the Town needs a new dump truck as the current truck is a 1994 and in constant need of repair. Under Town Hall Expenses on page 4, discussion was held on line items Conferences and Dues and Education/Training. It was stated that the Registrar of Voters will need to attend classes and the Assessor and General Office Assistant will also be taking classes so they can become certified. L. Cooper asked the staff to continue looking over the budget and look for any red flags that the Selectmen should be aware of before the Public Hearing. P. Ball asked why the heat expense on page 4, under Town Hall Expenses is reduced but not at the Town Garage. R. Gray stated that oil prices are down and the garage is heated by propane. P. Ball asked why Homeland Security on page 3, under public safety increased from \$500 to \$6,000. R. Gray stated it is a matching grant. The Town has to show that it can match \$3,000 and that is reflected on the revenue page.

Item III: Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments – Penske Truck Leasing Company-\$3,052.78: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the request for refunds to: Penske Truck Leasing Co., RT 10 Green Hills, Reading, PA 19603-0405 for \$3,052.78. All voted in favor of the motion.

Item IV: Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary