

Tri-Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 26, 2016
Sterling Community School
251 Sterling Road
Sterling, CT 06377
7:00 pm

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by R. Theroux-Keech, Board Chair.

Present were:

Board of Selectman: R. Gray, L. Cooper

Board of Finance: D. Shippee, N. Cook, R. Lassan, B. Lindberg, D. Clark

Board of Education: R. Theroux-Keech, R. Choquette, D. Capobianco and B. Salisbury

Also in attendance: B. Needham, B. Boyd, D. Martin and K. Gunn

II. Board of Finance Issues

a. FY 2015-16 Audit

D. Shippee asked how we were doing on the audit. C. LaFlamme-Miller had sent an email with a report and she did not feel that an extension would be needed.

b. Current School Bus Program vs. Outsourcing Bus Service

D. Shippee asked for a full accounting of what we had for expenses for transportation including fuel. He also suggested contacting 1 or 2 bus companies and ask them the cost not trading in the buses.

R. Theroux-Keech informed the tri-board that she had gone to the Plainfield Board of Education meeting two weeks ago and they did not include their summer school in the RFP. They were discussing if they should go back out to bid or not.

B. Needham indicated that information from TAS had been received last year; they were a consulting firm that will conduct a survey of the town and needs.

Last year's expenses, not including Extra Curricular was \$516,000.00. That did not include summer school either.

The Union contract that we have now does not allow outsourcing. The Bus companies won't give you a dollar amount unless they have an RFP.

You don't have to have buses as part of your RFP. D. Shippee is concerned if they buy our buses and then the contract is not renewed the town couldn't afford to buy all new buses.

N. Cook indicated that if we sell the buses and it doesn't work out we would not be able to afford to buy the buses back.

L. Cooper indicated that it is our due diligence to at least look into this.

D. Shippee indicated that there is a CCM Conference in November and he can see if there are any bus companies there.

Right now the Board pays \$12,000.00 insurance for the buses.

III. Board of Education Issues

The Board of Education has no issues at the present time.

IV. Board of Selectman Issues

a. Internet Technology Upgrades, Sterling Town Hall/Municipal Building

They will be scheduling a town meeting to get approval for the upgrades.

b. 2016 STEAP Grant

Work will be done on Gibson Hill Road from Route 14A to Saw Mill Hill Road.

c. Fiber Internet Grant (E-rate) to Sterling Public Library

\$24,000 was received in a Library Grant and \$23,000 USAC Grant

V. Any Other Issues

L. Cooper brought up that a MOU was signed by the town to promote a program called Solorize Sterling. The Conservation committee has talked about putting in solar panels for the town and school.

L. Cooper also asked about acquiring a generator for the school. R. Theroux-Keech indicated that we would have to hire a design consultant. It was asked if there were grants for generators.

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by D. Clark and seconded by N. Cook to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. Vote: All in favor.