

March 1, 2017

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

Staff present- Joyce Gustavson.

Also present-Lois Bruinooge and Leatrice Shippee.

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

Audience of Citizens: No comment.

Approval of Minutes: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the 2/8/2017 meeting minutes and the 2/21/2017 and 2/23/2017 special meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. Commission Vacancies (Planning & Zoning Commission): No candidate for the Planning & Zoning Commission. 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. Schedule Special Town Meeting for Sale of Former Right-of-Way – Main Road #2 which Extends from Snake Meadow Hill Road (directly across from Main Street)

Northeasterly to Margaret Henry Road: The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for tonight at 7:00 p.m. in the Sterling Town Hall/Municipal Building, Room #15.

New Business:

a. Presentation by Lois Bruinooge of The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor:

Lois Bruinooge, Executive Director of The Last Green Valley (TLGV) National Heritage Corridor stated that The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor was established in 1994 and covers thirty-five (35) towns in eastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts. She discussed some of the programs and events that are offered; such as, Walktober and a spring walk. TLGV will fund cleanups up to \$500 and historic preservation grants are also available. L. Bruinooge presented the Board of Selectmen with a “Welcome to Sterling” plaque.

b. Consider & Act on Re-appointment of Russell Gray (3 yr. term expiring 3/4/2020), John Firlik and Lincoln Cooper (1 yr. term expiring 3/4/2018) to Water Pollution Control

Authority: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to re-appoint Russell Gray, 712 Ekonk Hill Road, Moosup, CT 06354 to a three (3) year term expiring 3/4/2020, John Firlik, 61 Jared Hall Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 and Lincoln Cooper, 420 Porter Pond Road, Moosup, CT 06354 to a one (1) yr. term expiring 3/4/2018 to the Water Pollution Control Authority. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Consider & Act on Re-appointment of Judith Gooslin & Tammy Etheridge (2 yr. Term expiring 3/6/2019), Luigi Vergato & Dan Currier (1 yr. term expiring 3/6/2018) to Sterling Recreation Authority:

L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to re-appoint Judith Gooslin, 1285 Plainfield Pike, Sterling, CT 06377 and Tammy Etheridge, 491 Pine Hill Road, Moosup, CT 06354 to a two (2) year term expiring, 3/6/2019, Luigi Vergato, 194 Gibson Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 and Dan Currier, 284 Gibson Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 to a one (1) year term expiring 3/6/2018 to the Sterling Recreation Authority. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. Consider & Act on Re-appointment of Alt. Howard Hopps (1 yr. term expiring 3/12/2018) to Sterling Agricultural Commission:

J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to re-appoint alternate Howard Hopps, 148 Pine Hill Road, Sterling, CT 06377 to a one (1) year term expiring 3/12/2018 to the Sterling Agricultural Commission. All voted in favor of the motion.

e. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the following refund requests: 1) Henry Z. Lockwood, 253 North Sterling Road, Sterling, CT 06377 for \$1,439.22 and 2) Heidi L. Thompson, PO Box 144, Grosvenordale, CT 06246 for \$63.77. All voted in favor of the motion.

f. Discussion of Employee Safety and Health Committee Guide: J. Firlik submitted a rough draft to be reviewed for the Town’s Employee Safety and Health Committee outlining Purpose and Scope, Training, and Duties and Responsibilities stating that any established committee needs

to have a charter. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to table this item to the next scheduled meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

g. Consider & Act on Adopting Proclamation Announcing March 12, 2017 as Girl Scout Day: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adopt the following proclamation:

Proclamation

WHEREAS, March 12, 2017, marks the 105th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, which began in 1912 when Savannah, GA native Juliette Gordon Low gathered 18 girls to provide them the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually;

WHEREAS, 1912 was also the year in which Girl Scouting started in the state of Connecticut;

WHEREAS, for more than 100 years, Girl Scouting has helped build millions of girls and women of courage, confidence, and character who act to make the world a better place; and,

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Leadership Experience helps girls discover themselves and their values, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place; and,

WHEREAS, through the dedication, time, and talent of volunteers of different backgrounds, abilities, and areas of expertise, Girl Scouts of Connecticut offers the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to more than 32,000 girls in grades K-12 across the state of Connecticut; and,

WHEREAS, core programs around environmental stewardship, anti-bullying techniques, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), and healthy living, help girls develop a solid foundation in leadership; and,

WHEREAS, today, more than 59 million American women are Girl Scout alumnae and 2.7 million girls and adult volunteers are active members;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Russell M. Gray, by virtue of the authority vested in me as First Selectman of the Town of Sterling do hereby applaud the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for more than 100 years of leadership and expertise as the voice for and of girls, proudly proclaim March 12, 2017, as Girl Scout Day.

All voted in favor of the motion.

h. 2017-2018 Local Capital Improvement Plan (LoCIP): R. Gray stated that the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) will not credit towns with an additional entitlement in March 2017 and until further notice, OPM will not be accepting or approving any new project authorization requests beyond those that were approved as of 12/22/2016. As of March 2017, the Town has available \$292,409 in the Local Capital Improvement Budget to be used for road repairs for when OPM begins accepting LoCIP Project Authorization Requests. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to accept the report as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

i. 2017-2018 Proposed Selectmen's Budget: The budget was reviewed and discussed. The Board of Selectmen's proposed 2017-2018 budget will be presented to the Board of Finance on Wednesday, 3/8/2017 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #15, at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT.

j. Recognition of Avis Barr's 100th Birthday: R. Gray reported that Avis Barr will be 100 years of age on 4/9/2017. He spoke to Heather Somers and the Connecticut General Assembly will issue a proclamation to Avis Barr recognizing this milestone. The Senior Center will hold a celebration at their luncheon on Wednesday, 4/5/2017 and R. Gray, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, will present Ms. Barr with a letter commending her 100th birthday.

Any Other Business: None.

Adjournment: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to adjourn 6:40 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary