

July 8, 2015

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was not held due to the lack of agenda items.

July 15, 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 Kara Fishman (6:06 p.m.).

Also present-Neil Cook (6:05 p.m.).

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 7/1/2015 regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. Commission Vacancies (Economic Development Commission & Sterling Recreation Authority): 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. Notice of Violation and Order – 174 Church Street: R. Gray reported that he stopped by the Sterling Post Office with the returned letter and picture of the roadside mailbox receptacle and was informed that this is a rural delivery out of the Moosup Post Office. D. Sorrentino's letter was mailed during the transition period and it was returned back to sender due to human error. The camper is no longer on the property.

c. Economic Development Coordinator's Position: J. Firlik stated that he drafted the legal notice for the advertisement of the Economic Development Coordinator's Position. This position will be part-time, 12 hours per week. The notice is scheduled to run 7/22/2015 and 7/26/2015 in the Norwich Bulletin.

New Business:

a. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments: The Agenda incorrectly listed the refund amount as \$107.36. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the request for refund to: 1) Anthony F. Perreault, 79 Snake Meadow Hill, Sterling, CT 06377-1611 for \$10.11. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Land Use Permits: Kara Fishman, Assessor stated the issuance of building and zoning permits for campers in the Town's four (4) campgrounds surfaced when an applicant from Gibson Hill Park submitted a building permit to enclose a sun roof on an existing deck. Demian Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer requested that the applicant submit a signed letter from the campground owner granting approval. This is the first time a camper requested a building permit. K. Fishman sent an email dated 7/14/2015 to Kyle Collins, Building Official, regarding a policy for building permits and the campgrounds in Sterling, what to do with existing structures, and how to address new construction that is less than 200 square feet for which no building permit is required. K. Fishman also contacted several towns that have campgrounds to inquire on their policy and there is no consistent policy. It varies from town to town and campground to campground. Some require no building permits and some have very specific policies. Discussion followed on whether to have the campers get building and zoning permits on existing structures and what happens to those structures if and when the camper sells. Moving forward, all residents at the campgrounds will need to get building and zoning permits, as well as a letter from the campground owner stating that the proposed addition will be allowed. Existing additions will be grandfathered in and no permits will be required. K. Fishman will receive a copy of all zoning permits and any structure that is over 100 square feet will be assessed.

Any Other Business: **a. New Requirements for Taxing Motor Vehicles:** The Connecticut General Assembly passed Section 206 of Public Act 15-244 establishing new requirements for taxing motor vehicles commencing 10/1/2015 assessment year. This act prohibits municipalities from using a mill rate greater than 32 mills to tax motor vehicles for the 2015 assessment year. From the 2016 assessment year forward, municipalities cannot use a mill rate greater than 29.36

mills. The State proposes to distribute motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities to mitigate the loss of revenue. The details of the program have not been defined.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik, to adjourn 6:36 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary