

March 9, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Sterling Board of Finance was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman David Shippee. Other members' present-Bruce Lindberg, Dale Clark, Neil Cook, Neil Delmonico, and Robert Lassar.

Staff present-Russell Gray, Lincoln Cooper, Patricia Ball, and Joyce Gustavson.

Also present-Brenda Needham and Dottie Capobianco.

Audience of Citizens: No Comment.

Correspondence: None

Approval of Minutes: N. Cook made a motion, seconded by D. Clark to approve the minutes of the 2/10/2016 monthly meeting as written and presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. Tax Collector's Grand Ratebook Balance Sheet Report: The report was submitted and reviewed.

b. I.T. Upgrades for the Sterling Municipal Building: D. Shippee reported that an engineer from Flagship Networks, Inc., located in Shelton, CT inventoried the switches and servers for the Municipal Building located at 1183 Plainfield Pike and will submit a report later this week of his findings. D. Shippee is looking for two (2) or three (3) volunteers to assess the computer needs at the Town Hall. An email was sent out to residents who have signed up for email notifications from the Town and two (2) individuals are interested in joining the committee. John Penney of The Norwich Bulletin ran an article explaining that the Town is looking to form a committee to oversee computer related projects and is seeking volunteers with expertise with network switches and servers.

c. Confirm Budget Schedule for 2016-2017: The tentative dates are as follows: Public Hearing, Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7:00p.m.; Town meeting, Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.; and the referendum on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 in the Town Hall Municipal Gym. D. Clark made a motion, seconded by N. Cook to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Consider & Act on the Board of Education's Proposed 2016-2017 Budget: The total 2016-2017 Budget request is \$8,109,459. Estimated Revenue is \$3,357,886 leaving \$4,751,573 to be raised by taxes. D. Shippee stated this budget represents 21.45 mils using \$221,551 as the worth of one mil. He also noted that the Board cannot act on this budget until all the revenues are available.

D. Clark made a motion, seconded by N. Delmonico to table the Board of Education's proposed 2016-2017 budget in the amount of \$8,109,459 until all the revenues are available. All voted in favor of the motion.

A special meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT.

b. Consider & Act on the Board of Selectmen's Proposed 2016-2017 Budget: The total 2016-2017 Budget request is \$2,748,085. Estimated Revenue is \$436,943 leaving \$2,311,142 to be raised by taxes. This represents 10.43 mils.

D. Clark made a motion, seconded by R. Lassar to approve the Board of Selectmen's proposed 2016-2017 Budget in the amount of \$2,748,085 as it was presented this evening and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

The total estimated mil rate would be 31.89 mils which is a 0.29 mil increase over last year.

c. Consider & Act on the Board of Selectmen's Proposed 2016-2017 Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget: J. Gustavson reported that with the March 2016 entitlement in the amount of \$41,624 the Town has available \$292,409 in the Local Capital Improvement Budget to be used for road repairs.

D. Clark made a motion, seconded by R. Lassar to approve the 2016-2017 Local Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$292,409 as it was presented this evening and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: 1) D. Shippee inquired if the auditors have received everything from the school that they need to finish FY 2015-2016 audit. B. Needham responded that to her knowledge everything has been received. 2) D. Shippee reported that the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) has introduced an annual license to the GrantFinder tool which enables CCM members to access real-time grant information, search a database of grant information and filter search results and receive weekly notifications. J. Gustavson reported that the fee is \$500 per year. 3) Discussion was held on the motor vehicle tax. Effective 7/1/2015 Section 206 of Public Act 15-244 establishes new requirements for taxing motor vehicles. The act prohibits municipalities from using a mil rate greater than 32 mils for FY 2016-2017 (Grand List 2015) and 29.36 mils for FY 2017-2018 (Grand List 2016).

Adjournment: D. Clark made a motion, seconded by R. Lassar to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____

Joyce A. Gustavson, Board of Finance Clerk