

October 4, 2017

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-Demian Sorrentino and Joyce Gustavson.

Also present-Frank Bood.

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 9/20/2017 meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. North Sterling Road Gravel Bank: R. Gray reported that he received an email with pictures dated 10/2/2017 from a concerned citizen of Sterling regarding the dumping for property owned by 12-13 Sterling Associates, LLC located at 0 North Sterling Road. He also stated that he went to the site but could not enter due to "Keep Out and No Trespassing" signs posted on the property. R. Gray left a message for the agent/attorney who is representing the owner of the property and is waiting for a call back. D. Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer shall draft a Notice of Violation and Order to the owner and the owner's agent and carbon copy legal counsel, as well as, the Board of Selectman citing several violations of the zoning regulations for establishing a "use" without obtaining permission and a potential violation of the Town's Dumping Ordinance. 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. Consider & Act on Contract for "Turn-key LED Street Light Project": The proposal for the "Turn-key LED Street Light Conversion Project, pricing proposal, Certificate of Liability Insurance and contract were reviewed. F. Bood, Chairman of the Sterling Energy Committee stated that the project has been budgeted and is awaiting the First Selectman's signature. The next step is for Graybar to come in to discuss the auditing process. The conversion will save the Town approximately \$11,000 to \$12,000 annually. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract for "Turn-key LED Street Light Project" on behalf of the Town of Sterling. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Discussion Regarding Fracking Waste Ban: R. Gray reported that he contacted Don Aubrey, Town Engineer regarding the fracking waste ban. D. Aubrey stated that the fracking waste ban in this area pertains to well water waste. When Pennsylvania performs fracking, it is in gas wells and the water they need to truck off site, contains water, oil and gas. As of right now, fracking waste is not coming to Connecticut. Fracking is a practice that extracts natural gas beneath the ground by forcing a mixture of water and chemicals under pressure into hardened rock formations, thus releasing the gas. R. Gray also spoke to Kevin Skulczyk, First Selectman for the Town of Griswold and was told that the Town of Griswold is working on an ordinance to prevent fracking waste, but they have run into a couple of problems. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Notice of Violation & Order – 378 Pine Hill Road: Submitted into the record is a copy of the Official Notice of Violation & Order – "Residential Occupation of Camper Trailer Prohibited" to James Schrader, 378 Pine Hill Road, dated 9/23/2017 from D. Sorrentino, Zoning Enforcement Officer and an Inter-Office Memorandum, dated 9/27/2017 addressing a complaint from Mr. Schrader regarding a mobile home on the Molodich property (copies on file). As Mr. Schrader did not appear before the Board for tonight's meeting, D. Sorrentino stated that he will record the Notice of Violation & Order in land evidence and forward this matter to the Town attorney to begin legal proceedings for injunctive relief through the Windham County Superior Court. The camper/trailer is a second residence on the property which is not permitted. Mr. Schrader connected the camper/trailer to his home electrical service without a building permit, he also connected the water supply to the camper/trailer from his existing water supply well without a permit from Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), and sewage disposal to the camper/trailer has been tied in to his septic system, also without an NDDH permit.

b. Request for Refund of Excess Tax Payments: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the request for refund to: 1) Patricia N. Conn-Ryan, 50 Taylor Road, Sterling, CT 06377-1415 for \$43.08. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Resignation of Dale Clark from Northeast District Department of Health: R. Gray received a letter from Dale Clark, dated 9/25/2017 stating, "This letter is to serve as my official resignation as the Town of Sterling's alternate board member for the Northeast District Department of Health. I wish to thank the Town for the opportunity to serve as a member, but with my recent move, I will no longer be able to serve." L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to accept D. Clark's resignation from the Northeast District Department of Health with regrets. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. Discussion Regarding Atlantic Broadband Statements: The Town is receiving two (2) separate monthly bills from Atlantic Broadband totaling over \$350. The reason for both bills is because we have two (2) modems coming into the building. Both bills include the "Expanded Package" which includes approximately seventy-two (72) television channels for the Senior Center, Selectman's Office, and staff kitchenette. By reducing cable to "Basic", each bill would be lowered by forty-five (\$45) per month. Dale Boisselle, General Office Assistant, contacted Atlantic Broadband and they could not answer the questions pertaining to the charges on the statements. As soon as the Town connects to the Nutmeg Network, the internet portion of the bill shall be eliminated. Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Selectmen to eliminate the television services to the Selectman's Office and the staff kitchenette. Television service to the Senior Center shall remain. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to eliminate cable television service to the Selectman's Office and the staff kitchenette and reduce the Senior Center package from "Expanded" to "Basic". All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: 1) The Board of Selectmen rescheduled the staff meeting from Monday, 9/25/2017 to Wednesday, 10/11/2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT and have cancelled their regularly scheduled meeting for 10/11/2017; 2) A Special Board of Selectmen meeting has been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 10/11/2017.

Adjournment: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper, to adjourn 6:38 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary