

February 21, 2018

The continued public hearing scheduled tonight for excavation application by Canterbury Realty, LLC for 76, 92 & 94 Sterling Road has been cancelled and rescheduled to Wednesday, 3/7/2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT.

February 21, 2018

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 Dale Boisselle.

Also present-Jason Bandieramonte and Frank Bood (6:20 p.m.)

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

Audience of Citizens: None.

Approval of Minutes: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve the 2/14/2018 meeting minutes, and the 2/15/2018 special meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to move New Business, Item a. ahead of Unfinished Business. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Water Billing – EmpireCo Limited Partnership for Property Located at 10 Exeter Drive, Sterling: The following was submitted into record: 1) A letter from the Board of Selectmen, dated 1/18/2018 requesting EmpireCo's presence to discuss and hopefully reach a satisfactory agreement regarding the delinquent water bill for property located at 10 Exeter Drive (copy on file). 2) Email correspondence dated 5/17/2017 through 6/2/2017 between William Ralson, Chief Risk Officer, ReEnergy Holdings, LLC and Vince Contestabile, Managing Member, EmpireCo Limited Partnership regarding the water bill at the power plant (copy on file). Jason Bandieramonte, representing EmpireCo Limited Partnership stated that EmpireCo intends to pay the taxes, the sewer bill, and water usage for property located at 10 Exeter Drive, but EmpireCo did not make any agreement to continue quarterly payments in the amount of \$16,760. ReEnergy had an unwritten agreement with the Town to pay that quarterly fee. EmpireCo took over the property in September 2016. J. Bandieramonte also stated that EmpireCo is thinking of tearing down the building in April. It is the consensus of the Board of Selectmen and agreed upon by Jason Bandieramonte, to adjust the water bill to estimated usage (\$924.47 including interest and lien fee) for billing dates 2/1/2017 through 1/22/2018 and pay actual usage moving forward.
Audience of Citizens: R. Gray asked F. Bood if he any questions or comments. F. Bood asked what is preventing ReEnergy from becoming operational. R. Gray stated that EmpireCo could not find someone to operate the plant and it would cost quite a bit to get the plant up and running. Permits are in place but are currently on hold due to a State issued Order which basically blocks new usage until everything is corrected.

Unfinished Business:

a. North Sterling Road Gravel Bank: No new information. The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, 2/27/2018 at 6:30 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco.

b. Discussion Regarding Fracking Waste Ban: R. Gray asked for a motion to remove this item from the agenda until a later date. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to remove this item from the agenda until a later date. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Retrofit Lighting at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike: F. Bood, Chairman, Sterling Energy Commission reported Paquette Electric Co., Inc. dropped off revised contracts on 2/15/2018. Contracts shall be updated on 2/22/2018 and delivered on 2/27/2018 to the Sterling Municipal Building. On Wednesday, 2/28/2018 R. Gray and F. Bood shall meet to verify, sign, and execute the contracts and work shall begin thirty to sixty (30/60) days from the signed contract date. F. Bood stated that the four (4) rooms past the Registrars' Office will not be retrofitted to LED lighting at this time to

compensate for the gym that was missed, due to lack of access. This could result in a possible slight overage. Once completed, the Town could see a thirty (30) percent overall reduction.

d. Staff Meeting with O'Connor Davies, LLP: R. Gray reported the meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2/28/2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco to discuss solutions to FY 15-16 audit findings.

e. Excavation Application for Canterbury Realty, LLC – 76, 92 & 94 Sterling Road: The public hearing scheduled for tonight has been cancelled and rescheduled for Wednesday, 3/7/2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Room #15 at the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco.

f. Commission Vacancies (Zoning Board of Appeals): No candidate for the Zoning Board of Appeals. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: R. Gray reported that Tracey Hanson, First Selectperson for the Town of Voluntown contacted him regarding RFPs (Request for Proposal) for the position of Tax Collector and Assessor. Voluntown has filled the Tax Collector's position, but not the Assessor's position and inquired if Sterling would be interested in sharing our Assessor. R. Gray spoke to the Assessor and he would be willing to work in Voluntown after hours. It was the consensus of the Selectmen that as long as the Assessor can handle two positions and taking on this position does not affect his performance there should be no issue. Discussion was held and R. Gray stated that further information will be needed.

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

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary