

April 10, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Sterling Board of Finance was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman David Shippee. Other members' present-Bruce Lindberg, Robert Salisbury, Neil Delmonico, and Peter Rabbitt. Members' absent-Neil Cook.

Staff present-Russell Gray, Lincoln Cooper, Sherri Soucy, and Joyce Gustavson.

Also present-Gail Lanza, Deana Chrzan, Rosalind Choquette, Courtney Langlois, Frank Bood, and Jill Shamback.

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

N. Delmonico made a motion, seconded by R. Salisbury to move New Business, Items a., b., and c. ahead of Audience of Citizens. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

a. Consider & Act on the 2019-2020 Board of Education Proposed Budget: G. Lanza, Superintendent/Director of Special Services of Sterling Community School presented the proposed Board of Education budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The total 2019-2020 budget request is \$8,366,604. Estimated revenue is \$3,255,497 leaving \$5,111,107 to be raised by taxes. The proposed budget represents a 2.34 percent increase over last year's budget. G. Lanza stated that the proposed budget includes a two (2) percent increase in the liability insurance, ten (10) out of district placements and a seven (7) percent increase in transportation costs.

b. Consider & Act on the 2019-2020 Board of Selectmen Proposed Budget: R. Gray, First Selectmen presented the proposed Board of Selectmen budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The total 2019-2020 budget request is \$2,842,969. Estimated revenue is \$400,723 leaving \$2,442,246 to be raised by taxes. The proposed budget represents a 1.46 percent increase over last year's budget. R. Gray stated that the proposed budget includes a line item for tree removal and additional money has been added for road resurfacing. The biggest change in the proposed budget is that municipalities shall be responsible to contribute to the Teacher Retirement System.

c. Consider & Act on Board of Selectmen Proposed 2019-2020 Local Capital Improvement Plan (LoCIP): R. Gray presented the proposed 2019-2020 Local Capital Improvement Plan (LoCIP) and budget stating that the March 2019 entitlement is \$48,919 to be used for road repairs.

Audience of Citizens: No comment.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes: P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by R. Salisbury to approve the 3/13/2019 monthly meeting minutes as written and presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

a. Tax Collector's Grand Ratebook Balance Sheet Report: The report for month ending 3/31/2019 was submitted and reviewed.

b. I.T. Upgrades for the Sterling Municipal Building: J. Gustavson reported that the monitors and desktop computers have been ordered. We received the monitors and are waiting for the computers to be delivered.

New Business:

a. Consider & Act on 2019-2020 Board of Education Proposed Budget: The Board of Education presented their proposed 2019-2020 budget earlier tonight. Discussion was held on whether or not to present the budget at a public hearing as is with a .65 mil increase or to reduce the proposed budget with a zero (0) mil increase. P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by N. Delmonico to present to the taxpayers a zero (0) mil increase. P. Rabbitt-aye; N. Delmonico-aye; R. Salisbury-nay; and B. Lindberg-nay. Chairman, D. Shippee broke the tie by voting-aye. Motion carries. The Board of Finance has reduced the proposed Board of Education's total 2019-2020 budget from \$8,366,604 to \$8,214,874. This represents a reduction in the amount of \$151,730. Estimated revenue is \$3,255,497 leaving \$4,959,377 to be raised by taxes. This budget represents 21.40 mils.

b. Consider & Act on 2019-2020 Board of Selectmen Proposed Budget: The Board of Selectmen presented their proposed 2019-2020 budget earlier tonight.

R. Salisbury made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to approve the Board of Selectmen's proposed 2019-2020 budget in the amount of \$2,842,969. All voted in favor of the motion. This budget represents 10.54 mils.

c. Consider & Act on Board of Selectmen Proposed 2019-2020 Local Capital Improvement Plan (LoCIP): P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by R. Salisbury to approve the 2019-2020 Local Capital Improvement Plan (LoCIP) in the amount of \$48,919 as it was presented this evening and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. Consider & Act on Budget Schedule for 2019-2020: P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by N. Delmonico to set the following budget schedule dates: Public Hearing, Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.; Town Meeting, Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.; and the referendum on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 in the Town Hall Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT. All voted in favor of the motion.

e. Consider & Act on Revenue Collector's Suspense List for FY 7/1/2018-6/30/2019: Anna Gagner, CCMC, Revenue Collector submitted the Suspense List for action by the Board of Finance. R. Salisbury made a motion, seconded by N. Delmonico to approve the transfer of certain uncollected taxes to the Suspense Tax Book as follows: Motor Vehicle Suspense List 2016, FY 7/1/2018-6/30/2019 in the amount of \$20,103.07; Motor Vehicle Supplement Suspense List 2016, FY 7/1/2018-6/30/2019 in the amount of \$9,173.79; Personal Property Suspense List 2016, FY 7/1/2018-6/30/2019 in the amount of \$15,457.03. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business to Come Before the Board of Finance: None.

Adjournment: P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by R. Salisbury to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____

Joyce A. Gustavson, Board of Finance Clerk