

July 10, 2019

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.

Also present-Joyce Jordan.

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

Audience of Citizens: None.

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the 6/19/2019 public hearing and meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Unfinished Business:

**a. Commission Vacancies (Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission, Economic Development Commission, Energy Committee, Northeast District Department of Health, and Planning & Zoning Commission):** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the next meeting as there are no candidates. All voted in favor of the motion.

New Business:

**a. Approval of Bills:** L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to approve the bills for 6/26/2019 in the amount of \$8,228.49, 7/3/2019 in the amount of \$14,387.76, and 7/8/2019 in the amount of \$280.08. All voted in favor of the motion.

**b. Agricultural Commission's Request for Scholarship Fund:** Joyce Jordan, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission approached the Board of Selectmen to discuss the possibility of getting some funding from the Town to support an Agricultural Scholarship. The Towns of Brooklyn and Plainfield present scholarships to graduating seniors who are furthering their study in the agricultural field. J. Jordan is looking to present two (2) scholarships to a Sterling student who is furthering his/her education in agriculture. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the budget meetings for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. All voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Agricultural Commission's Request for Garden Beautification Donation:** Joyce Jordan, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission approached the Board of Selectmen to discuss the possibility of getting a donation from the Town to help support the Sterling Garden and Beautification Club in their effort to make the Town a more attractive community. The Agricultural Commission would work in conjunction with the Beautification Club to expand services to the Town. By cleaning up the courtyard at the Sterling Municipal Building this could open an opportunity for the Recreation Authority and the Library to offer plant identification and soil experiment programs to interested residents. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by J. Firlik to table this item to the budget meetings for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. All voted in favor of the motion.

**d. Consider & Act on Bids to Upgrade the Sterling Municipal Building, 1183 Plainfield Pike:** L. Cooper reported that the Town solicited bids from four (4) contractors. The Board of Selectmen received the following bids to cover the two (2) existing wooden peaks, vinyl siding with aluminum trim, and the five (5) back vertical fluted columns in front of the building, as well as, the peak on the Town Clerk's vault: 1) The Roofing Store, LLC, in the amount of \$16,880.07 and 2) The Siding Store, Inc., in the amount of \$20,000 which does not include the five (5) fluted columns. Discussion was held, and the bids do not meet the specifications. J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to reject the existing bids and solicit new proposals. All voted in favor of the motion.

**e. Consider & Act on a Resolution Opposing Tolls in Connecticut:** J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to adopt the following resolution:

#### **Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and many members of the State Legislature have signaled support for the placement of tolls on Connecticut's major roadways; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the residents of Sterling, CT use these roadways each day for work, family obligations, and pleasure and spend a significant amount of time on these traffic congested roads; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Connecticut deserve, and the future prosperity of our state depends on the establishment and maintenance of a world class transportation infrastructure, the costs of the implementation of such infrastructure ought not be largely funded by those who cannot afford to pay it, but by means and ideas meant to relieve the citizenry of that burden; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of tolls will result in a significant amount of traffic on Sterling's roads as drivers attempt to avoid the cost burden; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Connecticut already pay more in taxes and fees than most residents in other states around the country.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Selectmen of the town of Sterling is opposed to the imposition of tolls on its residents and urges its elected representatives in the State Legislature to oppose any measure that would impose tolls on our constituents.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: None.

Adjournment: J. Firlik made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary