

September 4, 2019

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
Selectmen present-Russell Gray and Lincoln Cooper. Selectman absent-John Firlik.
Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

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 R. Gray to approve the 8/7/2019 meeting minutes with a correction under New Business, Item e. "construction permit 19-02"...instead of..."construction permit 19-01" and the 8/28/2019 special meeting minutes. All voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence: 1) R. Gray stated that he received a copy of a letter from Joseph Theroux, Inland Wetlands Agent, dated 8/28/2019 approving the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses application from Greenskies to construct a solar array at the Sterling Municipal Building located at 1183 Plainfield Pike (copy on file). 2) L. Cooper stated that he received the following letter from Elizabeth Desjardins, dated 7/24/2018" "I, Elizabeth Desjardins, wish to resign as treasurer and member of the Family Day Committee as of Tuesday, 7/24/2018. Personal commitments do not allow me to continue to volunteer as necessary". L Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to accept Elizabeth Desjardins resignation from the Family Day Committee with regrets. 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 R. Gray 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 R. Gray to approve the bills for 8/15/2019 in the amount of \$4,273.94, 8/22/2019 in the amount of \$23,701.14, 8/29/2019 in the amount of \$1,367.67 and 9/5/2019 in the amount of \$8,200.14. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Consider & Act on Application for Driveway Construction Permit for 70 Sawmill Hill Road: Desmarais and Sons, Inc., submitted an application for a driveway construction permit dated 8/26/2019 for property owned by Donna Knox, located at 70 Sawmill Hill Road. R. Gray made a motion, seconded by L. Cooper to approve driveway construction permit #19-03 for property owned by Donna Knox located at 70 Sawmill Hill Road. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: R. Gray stated that on 7/15/2019 Interfaith Human Services of Putnam sent him a letter inviting the Town to participate in the 2nd **Community Diaper Drive Challenge**. R. Gray also stated that on 9/3/2019 Myra Ambrogi, Coordinator of the Plainfield Family Resource Center, sent an email asking if the Sterling Municipal Building would act as a collection site and to adopt the following Proclamation. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adopt the following proclamation:

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Diaper Need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to ensure that infants and toddlers are clean, healthy and dry, can adversely affect the health and welfare of infants, toddlers and their families; and

WHEREAS, national surveys report that one in three mothers experiencing diaper need at some time while their children are less than three years of age and forty-eight percent of families delay changing a diaper to extend their supply; and

WHEREAS, the average infant or toddler requires an average of at least 50 diaper changes per week over three years; and

WHEREAS, there are no government assistance programs for the purchase or provision of diapers, and a monthly supply of diapers can cost as much as six percent of a full-time minimum wage worker's salary, therefore obtaining a sufficient supply of diapers can cause economic hardship to families; and

WHEREAS, a supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for infant and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early education programs; and

WHEREAS, the people of Sterling recognize that addressing Diaper Need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's low-income families and can lead to improved health for families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Sterling is proud to be home to various community organizations that recognize the importance of diapers in helping provide economic stability for families and distribute diapers to poor families through various channels; now

THEREFORE, I, Russell Gray, First Selectman of the Town of Sterling & Oneco, do hereby proclaim the week of September 22nd through September 28th, 2019 as

DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

And encourage the citizens of Sterling to donate generously to the IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT which distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in Sterling-Oneco and Northeastern Connecticut.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adjourn at 6:06 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary