

September 16, 2020

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Selectmen present-Russell Gray and Lincoln Cooper.

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

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

Moment of Silence in Memory of Selectman, John J. Firlik, Jr.: R. Gray asked for a moment of silence to honor Selectman, John J. Firlik, Jr., who unexpectedly passed away on September 9, 2020. Per order of R. Gray, the US flag located at the Sterling Municipal Building shall be lowered to half-staff as a mark of respect for the memory and longstanding public service of J. Firlik until sunset on the date of interment.

Audience of Citizens: None.

Approval of Minutes: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to approve the 9/2/2020 meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence: R. Gray reported that he received a letter from Joseph H. Reindl of 52 Jared Hall Hill Road regarding an accessory dwelling for rental income at 40 Jared Hall Hill Road. The Zoning Enforcement Officer and Fire Marshal have been notified, as well as, Northeast District Department of Health. Mr. Reindl submitted a similar letter in July of 2020. R. Gray will have Melissa Gil, Zoning Enforcement Officer follow up on this matter (copy on file).

Unfinished Business:

a. Commission Vacancies (Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission, Northeast District Department of Health, Planning & Zoning Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority, Voluntown/Sterling Transfer Station, and Zoning Board of Appeals): 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.

b. Discussion Regarding the Generator at the Sterling Municipal Building – 1183 Plainfield Pike: R. Gray reported that Chaput Electric worked on the generator last week. The timer was off as well as the switches on the panel and the generator itself. The generator is up and running and a weekly thirty (30) minute self-test is scheduled for Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.

New Business:

a. Approval of Bills: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to approve the bills for 9/9/2020 in the amount of \$24,920.69. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Memorial Resolution Honoring John J. Firlik, Jr.: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adopt the following memorial resolution honoring John J. Firlik, Jr.:

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION A Resolution Honoring John F. Firlik, Jr.

WHEREAS, the Sterling Board of Selectmen and the Sterling community lost a respected member, friend, and Selectman on September 9, 2020, with the death of John J. Firlik, Jr. and;

WHEREAS, John J. Firlik, Jr. dedicated countless hours serving more than twenty-three years on various Boards and Commissions, including Board of Assessment Appeals, Northeast District Department of Health, Sterling Water Pollution Control Authority, Voluntown/Sterling Transfer Committee, and the Board of Selectmen, and;

WHEREAS, John was a Justice of the Peace, a certified National Rifle Association (NRA) instructor, an avid bowler and fisherman, and a motorcycle enthusiast, and;

WHEREAS, John's life was committed to the best interests of the community and he was much loved and respected by his loving wife of over forty years, Dianna, his three children, John, Joseph, and Julie, numerous friends, co-workers, and the Sterling community, and;

WHEREAS, John J. Firlik, Jr.'s sense of humor, kindness, willingness to help others, wisdom, and graciousness enhanced those fortunate enough to know and work with him, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Russell M. Gray, First Selectman of Sterling, on behalf of the entire community, in recognition of John F. Firlik, Jr.'s many contributions and his

distinguished career to our Town and its citizens, do hereby express our deep appreciation for his dedication to the success of this community and extend to his family our sincerest condolences upon his passing.

All voted in favor of the motion.

- c. **Consult with Democratic Town Committee Regarding the Selectman Vacancy Created by the Death of John J. Firlik, Jr.:** R. Gray reported that he reached out on Monday, 9/14/2020 to John Brady, Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee asking if the Committee had candidate(s) in mind to replace J. Firlik. J. Gustavson received an email today from J. Brady with a potential candidate. R. Gray also reported that an individual expressed interest to him in serving on the Board of Selectmen. R. Gray will contact J. Brady next week to discuss the two candidates. L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to table this item and scheduled a special Board of Selectmen's meeting for Wednesday, 9/30/2020 at 4:00 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business: None.

Adjournment: L. Cooper made a motion, seconded by R. Gray to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary