

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRI-BOARD MEETING**  
Special Meeting of the  
Sterling Board of Finance  
Sterling Board of Education  
Sterling Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

STERLING COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
251 Sterling Road  
Sterling, CT 06377  
Cafeteria – 6:00 pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by F. Bood, Board of Education Chair.

Present were:

Board of Finance: D. Shippee, J. Molodich, N. Cook and C. Wendel-Farrugia.

Absent: R. Salisbury and N. Delmonico.

Board of Education: F. Bood, L. Shippee, D. Capobianco, H. Wood, C. Langlois and M. Rouillard. Also in attendance: G. Lanza, D. Chrzan and D. Zajac

Board of Selectmen: R. Gray, L. Cooper and P. Rabbitt

Audience of Citizens: None

**II. BOARD OF FINANCE ITEMS**

**A. Update on Sterling Community School Signage**

D. Chrzan reported that the blinking caution lights and approaching school zone signage was ordered today. Once installed on the main road in front of the school, it will record the approximate speed during certain hours of the school day.

**B. Update on Rewiring Approximately 250 Emergency Lights to the Generator Panel at the Sterling Community School.**

It has been approved by the Board of Finance for Millennium Electric to rewire approximately 250 emergency lights to the generator panel at Sterling Community School.

**C. FY 2019-2020 Audit**

D. Shippee reported that the 2019/2020 Audit is due by the end of December and the auditors are scheduled to come on November 16, 2020. He wanted to make sure that the school and town were all set. D. Chrzan said that she is all set and has sent the town all of the documents required for balancing from the school through September 30, 2020.

**III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS**

**A. Discuss Financial Ongoings and Policies Surrounding them**

A discussion was held regarding the COVID funds and how they are being utilized. The CRF Grant application is due by November 2nd. The school has already been awarded the ESSER (Cares Act) funds. The checks for the use of the COVID funds will be kept separate at the time of check signing.

**IV. BOARD OF SELECTMEN ITEMS**

**A. Discuss Water Diversion Permit**

R. Gray discussed that a permit is needed for the wells in the ballfield. Currently it is not a metered system. There are approximately 100 families, the school and a few businesses on this system at this time.

**B. Discuss Replacing Fuel Tanks at Sterling Municipal Building - 1183 Plainfield Pike**

The current 10,000 gallon in-ground fuel oil tanks need to be replaced. They are 90% full at this time and were filled at approximately \$1.00/gallon. They will need to be emptied to be tested in the Spring and when the tanks are dug up, they will be replaced at that time.

**V. ANY OTHER ISSUES**

D. Shippee suggested moving the old generator that was replaced with a newer one from the old town hall to the town bus garage.

F. Bood referenced a recent news article regarding Putnam outsourcing their buses and the savings they will generate from salaries, wear and tear, parts, etc. Plainfield has done this with Dattco. He suggested that the Board should research its transportation options.

M. Rouillard voiced his concerns regarding outsourcing transportation in Sterling. He stated that this has not been beneficial for Plainfield because they sold all their buses. He also brought up his concern with the Board policy that does not allow the drivers to bring their children with them on the bus when transporting Sterling students, as he believes this benefit would attract more drivers to the District.

C. Langlois noted that the Board's insurance carrier does not recommend that the Board allow drivers to bring their children with them on the bus when transporting Sterling students as it is an added liability to the Board and the town. She also mentioned equity within the District in that there are other non-certified staff who work for the Board that may also benefit from bringing their children to work with them, such as paraprofessionals. She agreed that looking into transportation options should be investigated.

R. Gray suggested a committee should be formed to investigate transportation options.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by N. Cook and seconded by P. Rabbitt to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm.