



Town of Sterling

Town Hall
1183 Plainfield Pike
P.O. Box 157
Oneco, Connecticut 06373-0157

Assessor: 860-564-3030
Building Official: 860-564-2275
Economic Development: 860-564-4752
Library: 860-564-2692
Recreation: 860-564-2136
Registrar of Voters: 860-564-2654

Revenue Collector: 860-564-7563
Selectmen: 860-564-2904
Town Clerk: 860-564-2657
Treasurer: 860-564-8488
Wetlands Agent: 860-564-2275
Zoning Official: 860-564-2275

Legal Notice Town of Sterling Board of Finance Public Hearing 7:00 p.m. – May 12, 2021

The Sterling Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday May 12, 2021 at the Sterling Town Hall/Municipal Building Gym, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT at 7:00 p.m. to obtain written and/or verbal comments on the following:

- Item 1. Itemized Estimates for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board of Education Budget
- Item 2. Itemized Estimates for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board of Selectmen Budget
- Item 3. Estimates of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget
- Item 4. All persons will be heard regarding any item of expenditure they may wish for the Board of Finance to consider for inclusion in the 2021-2022 Budget

Copies of the proposed 2021-2022 Budgets are available at the Sterling Town Hall, 1183 Plainfield Pike during normal business hours. Copies may also be obtained on the following web sites:

www.sterlingschool.org
www.sterlingct.us

Dated this 27th day of April 2021 at Sterling Town Hall, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT.

Robert Salisbury, Chairman
Sterling Board of Finance

Item 3: Estimate of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget: L. Cooper explained that every year the State gives the Town approximately \$40,000. To date we have \$132,235 to be used on a capital improvement project. The money is to be used for non-reoccurring capital projects; such as, a new building or paving.

L. Cooper asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

R. Salisbury asked if anyone had any other questions or comments. There were none.

Item 4: All persons will be heard regarding any item of expenditure they may wish for the Board of Finance to consider for inclusion in the 2021-2022 Budget: There were none.

The Town Meeting for the proposed budgets is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sterling Town Hall/Municipal Building Gym and the Board of Selectmen will adjourn the Town Meeting to a vote by referendum scheduled for Wednesday, June 2nd from noon to 8:00 p.m. in the gym.

The public hearing closed at 7:40 p.m.

May 12, 2021

I. Call to Order: The special meeting of the Sterling Board of Finance was called to order at 7:45 p.m. Roll was called: Robert Salisbury-present; James Molodich-present; Neil Cook-absent; Neil Delmonico-present; Christine Farrugia-present; and Jack Joslyn-present.

Staff present-Lincoln Cooper, Peter Rabbitt, David Shippee, Sherri Soucy, and Joyce Gustavson.

II. Consider & Act on Public Hearing Comments on the Proposed 2021-2022 Board of Education Budget: J. Molodich made a motion, seconded by C. Farrugia to keep the proposed Board of Education Budget as it was presented this evening in the amount of \$8,255,285 and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

III. Consider & Act on Public Hearing Comments on the Proposed 2021-2022 Board of Selectmen's Budget: J. Joslyn made a motion, seconded by J. Molodich to keep the proposed Board of Selectmen Budget as it was presented this evening in the amount of \$2,955,489 and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

IV. Consider & Act on Public Hearing Comments on the Proposed 2021-2022 Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget: N. Delmonico made a motion, seconded by C. Farrugia to keep the proposed Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget as it was presented this evening in the amount of \$132,235 and not make any changes to it. All voted in favor of the motion.

V. Consider & Act on Public Hearing Comments Regarding Any Item of Expenditure to be Considered for Inclusion in the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget: No other items were requested.

VI. Request by Board of Selectmen for Expenditure to Purchase One – 1,000 Gallon Propane Tank for Town Highway Garage, 215 Main Street – Capital Account – Facilities Maintenance and One – 500 Gallon Propane Tank for the Water Pump Station, Sterling Road – Town's Fund Balance: D. Shippee reported that the Board of Selectmen are looking to replace the two (2) propane tanks with Town owned tanks. Currently, the Town leases the tanks from Osterman and is locked into buying propane from them and this will allow us to shop around for the lowest fuel price. N. Delmonico made a motion, seconded by C. Farrugia to approve the expenditure of \$6,427 from the Capital Account – Facilities Maintenance for the purchase of one (1) 1,000 gallon propane tank with regulators (\$3,847), 800 gallons of propane (\$1,560), the installation of the concrete pad (\$1,020) for the Town Highway Garage located at 215 Main Street and to approve the expenditure of \$2,980 from the Town's Fund Balance for the purchase of one (1) 500 gallon propane tank with regulators (\$2,200) and 400 gallons of propane (\$780) for the Water Pump Station, located on Sterling Road. The final expenditure to replace both tanks is \$9,407. All voted in favor of the motion.

VII. Adjournment: N. Delmonico made a motion, seconded by C. Farrugia to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Board of Finance Clerk

May 12, 2021

The Board of Finance Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Robert Salisbury. Other members' present-Neil Delmonico, Christine Farrugia, Jim Molodich, and Jack Joslyn. Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

There were approximately 13 people present at the hearing.

Robert Salisbury welcomed and thanked everyone for joining us tonight and stated that if the proposed budgets were passed as they are submitted tonight, it would mean a zero (0) mil increase.

R. Salisbury read the legal notice into the minutes.

R. Salisbury stated the purpose of this hearing is to publicly present budget proposals and hear questions and comments. Any other topics regarding town or school issues should be brought to the proper board or administration during their regular meetings.

The Board of Education will present their proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget first and after the presentation we will have a question and answer period.

Item 1: Itemized Estimates for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board of Education Budget: Gail Lanza, Superintendent, presented the Power Point presentation for the 2021-2022 proposed Board of Education Budget. G. Lanza stated that the proposed budget is \$8,255,285, representing a flat budget, with a zero (0) percent increase. Anticipated State revenue is forty percent (40) of the appropriated budget. Other Grant Revenue Sources include School Readiness Grant, Title I, Title II, IDEA, and Title IV, Title VI, ESSER 1, and ESSER 2. Other items covered include: The data and details of the proposed budget, as well as the proposed expenditures, budget assumptions, enrollment, preliminary high school acceptances and staffing levels.

G. Lanza asked if there were any questions or comments.

Dana Morrow, 65 Gibson Lane asked if the forty percent (40) of the State Grants projected in the budget is guaranteed next year.

G. Lanza stated that there is no guarantee the Board of Education will receive the same amount next year. This is a preliminary estimate.

D. Morrow also asked why some of the children have not returned to school.

G. Lanza stated that students have been afforded an opportunity or option for remote learning and the State Department of Education for Connecticut is allowing that opportunity for districts.

R. Salisbury asked if anyone else had any other questions or comments. There were none.

R. Salisbury stated that if there are no other questions or comments the Board of Selectmen will present their proposed 2021-2022 budget. There were no other questions or comments.

Item 2: Itemized Estimates for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board of Selectmen Budget: Lincoln Cooper, First Selectman, presented the PowerPoint presentation for the proposed 2021-2022 Board of Selectmen Budget.

L. Cooper stated that tonight's Power Point presentation is a condensed version of the actual budget. He reviewed the anticipated revenues explaining some of ways the Town generates money, such as, from recreation fees, pistol permits, marriage licenses, etc.

The largest expenses are in General Government at twenty-four (24) percent and Debt Service at twenty-seven (27) percent. Proposed budget expenses were reviewed. L. Cooper explained that the Town has switched its software to Infinite Visions and the proposed budget has greater detail than last year's budget; the money is the same but is now in a different place. There are numerous location changes in line items, but not in the numbers. Next year the transition will be complete and much easier to understand. Other items covered include: The components of the grand list with real estate being the largest at 67.9%, budgeted school expenses, such as the yearly purchase of one (1) bus or van, the mechanic, etc., bid projects, town owned facilities, and projected capital improvement projects. L. Cooper also stated that the mil rate will remain the same at 31.94 with no increase to the taxes.

L. Cooper asked if anyone had any questions or comments. There were none.

R. Salisbury asked if anyone had any questions or comments. There were none.

R. Salisbury stated that if no one had any questions or comments, the Local Capital Improvement Plan and Budget would be presented. There were none.