

August 18, 2021

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

Selectmen present-Lincoln Cooper, Peter Rabbitt, and David Shippee.

Staff present-Joyce Gustavson.

Also present-Harry Heller, Andrew McCoy, David McKay, Joseph Boucher, Jamie Devanny, Wesley Reinhart, Kevin LaRose, Melanie Duncan, Chris Caccia, Christopher Burton, Barry Goldberg, Raymond Locicero, and Susan Doyle

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

Audience of Citizens: No comment.

Approval of Minutes: D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to approve the 8/4/2021 meeting minutes and the 8/12/2021 special meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence: None.

Unfinished Business:

a. Commission Vacancies (Economic Development Commission, Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority, and Zoning Board of Appeals): D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to table this item to the next meeting as there are no candidates. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Special Excavation Application by American Industries, Inc. for Property Located at 609 Sterling Road (Owner: Grace Harriot Roberts) Map 03830, Block 022, Lot 0102: Harry Heller of Heller, Heller, & McCoy stated that he is representing the property owner, Grace Harriot Roberts for property located at 609 Sterling Road and the applicant, American Industries, Inc. H. Heller introduced Andrew McCoy, associate of Heller, Heller, & McCoy and David McKay, Design Engineer of Boundaries, Inc.

The following was submitted into record: Site Plan – Proposed Gravel Excavation Plans dated January 2020 – Revision A dated 4/9/2020, Revision B dated 4/24/2020, Revision C dated 8/28/2020, and Revision D dated 7/29/2021 consisting of seventeen (17) sheets along with a complete application and abutter notifications; Bond Estimate – Soil Erosion and Sediment Control/Site Restoration with a revised date of 7/29/2021; Traffic Report Study prepared by KWH Enterprises, LLC dated 5/22/2019; Stormwater Management Report prepared by Boundaries, Inc. dated January 2020 - revised April 2020; Proposed Gravel Excavation Stormwater Figures – “Pre-Development Watershed Plan” dated January 2020; correspondence from Heller, Heller & McCoy dated 6/29/2021, a copy of the warranty deed from Nancy and Albert Perkins to the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company, Volume 5, Page 334 recorded in the Sterling land records; KWH Enterprise, LLC dated 5/22/2019, Silverstein Appraisal Services, LLC dated 12/13/2019, Boundaries, Inc. dated 8/4/2021; and Towne Engineering, Inc. dated 7/27/2021, 8/9/2021, 8/10/2021, and 8/11/2021 (copies on file).

The proposed project is to excavate approximately 870,000 cubic yards of structural earth product. The property is in two (2) tracts as shown on the site location plan and both owned by G. Roberts. The property is bifurcated by a strip of land which is owned by the State of Connecticut currently under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the location of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill rail line. The proposed excavation is on parcel two (2) which is about 64 acres and to excavate in six (6) phases. It is anticipated that the total duration of the project is seven (7) years.

Residents voiced their opinions/concerns regarding abutter notification, traffic study, curve in front of the Roberts' property, road frontage/sight line, noise impact, potential impact to wells, air quality, and violations from the Town of Sterling Regulations.

P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by D. Shippee to table this application to the next scheduled meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Discussion Regarding Purchasing an Electronic Diagnostic Scanner: L. Cooper reported that an Autel Maxi System Electronic Diagnostic Scanner, Model #MS908CV was purchased for less than \$2,500.

New Business:

a. Approval of Bills: D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to approve the bills for 8/11/2021 in the amount of \$203,181.56 and 8/18/2021 in the amount of \$11,990.85. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Consider & Act on Request to Celebrating Agriculture: L. Cooper stated that he received a letter dated June 2021 from Linda Auger, Chairman, Fundraising Committee - Celebrating Agriculture. September 25 marks the 21st annual Celebrating Agriculture event; a fun filled educational day for the whole family held at the Woodstock Fairgrounds. L. Cooper would like the Board of Selectmen to consider sponsoring the event, as the Town is an agricultural community. D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to approve the request for \$250 - Silver Sponsor to Celebrating Agriculture. All voted in favor of the motion.

c. Request for Refund for Driveway Apron Bond #21-02 – Hilltop Contractors, LLC – 211 Valley View Road: Peter Thurlow of Hilltop Contractors, LLC has requested release of driveway apron bond #21-02 in the amount of \$1,500 for property located at 211 Valley View Road. L. Cooper stated that the driveway apron has been properly installed. D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to release driveway apron #21-02 in the amount of \$1,500 to Hilltop Contractors, LLC, 32 Railroad Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259. All voted in favor of the motion.

d. 8-24 Referral for the Potential Sale of 31 Hungry Hill Road: L. Cooper reported that he received a memo dated 8/3/2021 from Patricia Ball, Economic Development Coordinator, requesting the consideration of a referral from the Board of Selectmen to the Planning and Zoning Commission for an 8-24 review of 31 Hungry Hill Road. Melissa Nordstrom, owner of 0 Hungry Hill Road and resident of 5 Hungry Hill Road, is interested in purchasing 31 Hungry Hill Road for the negotiated price of \$2,500. D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to refer the 8-24 referral for the potential sale of 31 Hungry Hill Road to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review. All voted in favor of the motion.

e. Consider & Act on Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG)

Contract – Animal Control Services: L. Cooper reported that he received the Animal Control Services contract from Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG). D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Animal Control Services contract on behalf of the Town of Sterling. All voted in favor of the motion.

Any Other Business to Come Before the Board of Selectmen: D. Shippee asked for an update on the heating and security system for the Town Highway Garage located at 215 Main Street. L. Cooper asked for a motion to table this item. D. Shippee made a motion, seconded by P. Rabbitt to table this item to the next meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

Adjournment: P. Rabbitt made a motion, seconded by D. Shippee to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Joyce A. Gustavson, Recording Secretary