

TOWN OF STERLING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
April 5, 2017

MEETING:	Chairman Kilcoyne called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Roll Call: Selectwoman Cranson - Present. Chairman Kilcoyne – present. Selectman Lane - present.
Minutes	<p>Selectman Lane moved to approve the public minutes of March 22, 2017, as written. Selectwoman Cranson 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne- Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>Selectman Lane moved to approve the public minutes of March 4, 2017, as written. Selectwoman Cranson 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne- Aye. Motion carried.</p>
De-Commission TA Search Committee	The Board decommissioned the Town Administrator Search Committee and thanked the members for their time and effort. Certificates of Recognition will go to; Charles Conroy, Todd Solar, Larry Pape, Patrick Fox, Matthew Stelmach and Donlin Murray. Mr. Henry Noyes was in attendance and was publicly recognized for his participation.
Registrar Appointment	After Discussion, Selectwoman Cranson moved to appoint Dick Barrier to the Board of Registrars with the term to expire April 1, 2020. Selectman Lane 2 nd . Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.
One day alcohol Licenses	<p>After discussion Chairman Kilcoyne moved to approve the one day license for the 8 Point Sportsmen Club on April 22 from 8:00am – 5:00 pm for the Fishing Derby. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Abstained. Motion Carried.</p> <p>After discussion Chairman Kilcoyne moved to approve the one day license for the 8 Point Sportsmen Club on April 23 from noon – 5:00 pm for the Fishing Derby. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Abstained. Motion Carried.</p> <p>After discussion Chairman Kilcoyne moved to approve the one day license for the 8 Point Sportsmen Club on May 19 from 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm for the Worcester County League Meeting. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Abstained. Motion Carried.</p>
Draft letter for 1835 Warrant Articles	Selectwoman Cranson and Selectman Lane have composed letters to the Editor that would help explain to the voters the 4 warrant articles, regarding the 1835 Town Hall. The board wishes to make clarifications and to quell misinformation. The draft letters are very similar so the Town Administrator will make some changes to Selectman Lane's draft letter, per the Boards suggestions and as he deems appropriate. The finished letter will be forwarded to the Board members for final approval, prior to submitting it to the Meetinghouse News, Clinton Item and the Landmark. It is the consensus of the Board that all members will sign and submit the letters for publication.
Warrant article Thomas Lane – Public Way	The warrant article to accept Thomas Lane as a public way was submitted as a citizen's petition. Therefore, it was included in the warrant. However, the Planning Board met and reviewed the engineer's report and has reported to the Town Administrator that in all likelihood, the road will not be ready for acceptance by Town Meeting. Also, the request has not gone through the correct procedures for acceptance. Therefore, the Board may move "no action" at the Town Meeting.
Review Preliminary	The Town Administrator reviewed the budget reflected in the current draft warrant. The Town Administrator stated that it is in the best interest of the town if the budget is balanced, solvent and prudent. It is with this

Budget	goal in mind that Treasurer, Anne Cervantes and Accountant, Fred Aponte continues to process and adjust the budgetary numbers.
Sign Warrant and vote positions	<p>After discussion, Selectman Lane moved to approve the recommendations by the Board of Selectmen on the following Special Town Meeting articles;</p> <p><u>Article 1. Transfer Certified Free Cash to Capital Fund</u> – Selectmen recommend approval of this article with an amendment that reads Transfer a sum of zero dollars</p> <p><u>Article 2. Transfer Certified Free Cash to Stabilization Fund</u> – Selectmen recommend approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 3. Fund Animal Inspector Salary</u> – Board recommends approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 4. Fund deficit due to Snow and Ice</u> – Board of Selectmen will report at Town Meeting, when numbers are available.</p> <p><u>Article 5. AMI Water Meter Upgrades</u> - Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 6. Bills from Prior Fiscal Years</u> – Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 7. Transfers within FY17 Operating Budget</u> - Board of Selectmen will report at Town Meeting</p> <p>Selectwoman Cranson 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.</p> <p>The warrant will be corrected to read the name of the business, where the warrant will be available, as Café Fresh Bagels.</p> <p>Annual Town Meeting Articles.</p> <p>The Board considered and made recommendations to the following articles;</p> <p><u>Article 1. FY18 Town Operating Budget</u> - Selectmen recommend approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 2. Compensation for Elected Officers</u> – While it is “legal” for a board to increase their own stipends, The Select Board advocates for transparency and applauded the Light Department for bring an article to Town Meeting for the voters regarding their Board’s salary. After discussion the Board decided to recommend approval of this article. The Town Administrator will provide a chart that shows the compensation of Town Boards.</p> <p><u>Article 3. Set Salary of Municipal Light Board</u> - Selectmen recommend approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 4. Reserve Fund for FY 18</u> - Selectmen recommend approval of this article</p> <p><u>Article 5. WRSD Net Minimum Contribution, Debt & Interest</u> – The Board was informed that if 3 of the 5 towns in the district do not vote to approve the minimum, the State will intervene. The board decided to report at Town Meeting.</p> <p><u>Article 6. WRSD Above Net Minimum Contribution</u> – The Board feels strongly that the school increases are not sustainable and are unfair to other town departments and employees. Therefore the Board decided NOT to recommend this article.</p> <p><u>Article 7. Montachusett Regional Vocational School Assessment</u> – The Board wishes further information on the 9% increase for this school. Therefore they will report at Town Meeting.</p>

Article 8. Article Fiscal Year 2018 Capital Plan – The Board explained that they have advocated for necessary IT upgrades and that the Finance committee has approved the capital requests on this article for the police, Fire, DPW and Clerk's office. – The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 9. Water Department Operation Enterprise Fund – The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 10. Water Department Operation Enterprise Fund - Selectmen recommend approval of this article

Article 11. Chapter 90 Funding - Selectmen recommend approval of this article

Article 12. Renaming of the Courtyard in the area of the Art Department at WRHS – The Board does not at this time feel that this is appropriate. However, It will report at Town Meeting.

Article 13. Renaming of Gymnasium at Chocksett Middle School - The Board does not at this time feel that this is appropriate. However, it will report at Town Meeting.

Article 14. Amendments to Personnel Policy Bylaw Classification and Compensation matrices – The increase to wages is 2%. The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 15. East Lake Waushacum Treatment - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 16. Authorize Treasurer to Borrow Money - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 17. Compensating Balance Agreements - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 18. Fund Post Employment Benefits- The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 19. Fund OPEB Actuarial Valuation - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 20. Fund Wachusett Greenways Expenses - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 21. Fund Sterling Land Trust Expenses - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 22. Disposition of 19 Hardscrabble Road – At the 2011 Town Meeting the voters approved the purchase of the Land on Hardscrabble Road with the understanding that access for Conservation land would be established and the land resold. Town Counsel has determined that it would be in the best legal interest of the Town to get specific approval of the voter to sell the land, as it is now legally registered as two separate parcels. The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 23. Transfer Hardscrabble Road Parcel to Conservation Commission – The Hardscrabble property has been divided in order to establish a parcel of land that will grant access to the Conservation land. The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 24. Senior Center Facilities Maintenance Technician - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 25. Senior Center Facilities Supervisor - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 26. Temporary Moratorium on Marijuana Establishments – This moratorium would prevent the retail sale of recreational marijuana within the Town of Sterling until July of 2018. It is hoped that by then the State will have established the laws and regulations that may impact the process by which the Town must legally approach possible prohibition. The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 27. Update Open Space and Recreation Plan - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 28. Amend Chapter 92 of the General Bylaws, Licenses, Denial Of - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 29. Revolving Funds Bylaw - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 30. Building Rental Revolving Fund - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 31. Acceptance of Homestead Lane as a Public Way - - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 32. Acceptance of Thomas Lane as a Public Way – The Board of Selectmen recommends no action on this article

Article 33. Fund Major 1835 Town Hall Repairs – The Total of \$610,000.00 would fully fund repairs; roofing, septic and access projects over the next 5 years, toward the goal of bringing the building back to a safe, fully functioning and aesthetically appropriate cornerstone in the village of Sterling. Selectman Lane moved to support this article. Chairman Kilcoyne 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Opposed. Selectwoman Cranson – opposed. Motion did not carry. The Board will report at Town Meeting.

Article 34. Fund 1835 Town Hall repairs only – Fully Funded – The total of \$298,000.00 would be funded to achieve roof/structural repairs and necessary wiring, insulation and ceiling finish.

Article 35. Fund 1835 Town Hall Roof repairs only – partial funding – The total of \$150,000.00 would be funded for roof repairs only

Article 36. Fund 1835 Town Hall Maintenance and Conveyances – The total of \$15,000.00 would be funded to stabilize and preserve the building. Selectmen would be authorized to address the possibility of selling the property. After Discussion, Chairman Kilcoyne moved to defer all 1835 Town Hall articles to the Town Meeting floor. Selectwoman Cranson – 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.

Article 37. Fund Medical Waste Disposal Kiosk - The Board recommends approval of this article.

Article 38. Sterling Fair Support - The Board recommends approval of this article

Article 39. Apply Stabilization fund to Stabilize the Tax Rate - The Board will report at Town Meeting.

Article 40. Annual Town Election - The Board will report at Town Meeting.

Selectman Lane moved to approve these warrant article recommendations by the Board of Selectmen for the May 1, 2017 Town Meeting. Selectwoman Cranson 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried. The Board signed the warrant.

The Town Administrator reported the following;

- Two merit increase requests were submitted by the DPW Board for Superintendent Bill Tuttle and Driver Geoffrey Donohue. The Town Administrator reviewed the performance evaluations submitted by the DPW Board and recommend the Board accept these increases.
- Two tentative contract agreements have been accepted by the Dispatch and Fire Dept. unions for review by the Board during executive session.
- Chocksett Crossing, the development along Patriots Way, has sent two letters. One asking the board to sign a conservation restriction. (After it has been signed by the Conservation Commission and

	<p>Land Trusts, the Board will be asked to sign it, possibly at their 4/19 meeting.) The other letter requests the return of funds that were held in the Chocksett Crossing Mitigation Stabilization Fund. The Town Administrator is reviewing the source of these funds and checking if there is any potential work to be do at the Rt. 12 / Chocksett Road intersection after MASS DOT finishes the roundabouts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With Tom Rutherford's direction, and the review by many, several truckloads of old junk was cleaned out of the 1835 basement in preparation for their April17 open house. Many thanks to the Roger and Ray from the DPW for doing this work.• Tom is talking with the Worcester County Sheriff's Community Service Program about painting the Butterick building windows this summer.• JLMC hearing is planned for next week in Boston to as the first step in the arbitration hearing on the police union contract. The Town responded within 2 days to the union's 11 public records request with a quote on the cost to deliver these documents. We offered to make this delivery within 5 days of receipt of their payment covering the cost to produce these records.• The marijuana moratorium language in the warrant is per K &P Law's review. In their opinion, this adequately protects the town from commercial, recreational marijuana establishments through June 2018.• The budget is coming together. The municipal budget is showing a 1.9% increase, with a 6.3% increase from Wachusett Regional Schools and a 9% increase from Montachusett Tech. There are \$1,032,668 in capital projects approved by the Fin Com and Capital Planning Committee. All committees including Town Counsel have agreed to split these capital costs between Certified Free Cash and \$366,082 from the Capital Stabilization Fund. If the 2nd 1835 building project article is approved for \$298,000 it would be funded via raise and appropriate. The overall budget should leave \$518,000 in used levy limit and following the 'pay as you go' policy, does not involve any borrowing, unless the full scope 1835 project, at \$610,000, is approved.
Public Session	No one spoke at public session.
Executive Session	<p>At 9:18, Chairman Kilcoyne moved to exit public session and to enter into executive session for exemption #3 of the MGL C. 30A, Sec.21 (a) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Town. This session regards the Dispatch Union and the Fire Union. The Board will reconvene in public session following the executive session to sign any MOUs relative to these agreements. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.</p> <p>The Board took a short recess prior to convening in Executive session.</p> <p>At 9:24 The Board proceeded to Executive session.</p>
Adjourn	<p>At 10:03, he Board reconvened in public session. Selectman Lane moved that the Board sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Dispatchers Union. Selectwoman Cranson 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried. The Board signed.</p> <p>At 10:05, Selectwoman Cranson moved to adjourn. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectwoman Cranson – Aye. Chairman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.</p> <p>Materials: minutes, one day licenses, draft letters, draft warrant, MOU draft for dispatchers</p>