

TOWN OF STERLING
Select Board Meeting
January 6, 2021

MEETING:	Chair Cranson, called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call: Chair Cranson – Present. Select member Sonnenberg – Participated remotely. Select member Kilcoyne – Present. Also present were Town Administrator, Kellie Hebert, Operations Manager/Accountant, Fred Aponte and Senior Executive Assistant, Kama Jayne.
Minutes	Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the public minutes of December 3, 2020. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried. Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the public minutes of December 9, 2020. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried. Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the Executive minutes of December 16 th , not to be released. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.
Public Hearing 61A Releases	At 6:35, Select member Kilcoyne moved to open the Public Hearing, regarding the release of Lots 12 and 13 on Roper Road, from Chapter 61A. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried. The Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Assessors have voted to approve these releases and to not pursue the purchase of these properties. After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the release of Lot 12 Roper Road (Worcester Registry of Deeds, recorded as Lot 12 recorded in Book 6059, page 338), from 61A and to not pursue the purchase of the property. Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried. Select member Kilcoyne then moved to approve the release of Lot 13, Roper Road (Worcester Registry of Deeds, recorded as Lot 13 recorded in Book 6059, page 338), from 61A and to not pursue the purchase of the property. Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried. At 6:36. Select member Kilcoyne move to adjourn the Public Hearing and to reconvene in regular public session. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried.
Representative Harold Naughton	Representative Harold (Hank) Naughton joined the meeting via Zoom. He thanked the citizens of Sterling for being loyal constituents and “friends” during his 26 years of service as a member of Congress. He also commended the Select Board members for their service to the Town and encouraged them to “Keep up the good work” and he shared the advise that his own father had shared with him so many years before “Never forget the little guy”. The Board thanked him for his many years of being an outstanding advocate for the Town of Sterling, as well as for his years of service in the military.
Fiber Project	Discussion tabled until February
COA Appointment	

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Cultural Council Appointment

After discussion, Select Member Kilcoyne moved to appoint Meg Chase to the Council on Aging Board. Select member Sonnenberg 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried. The term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Use of Town Road for Filming

After discussion, Chair Cranson moved to appoint Judith Doherty to the Cultural Council. Select member Kilcoyne 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried. The term to expire on January 6, 2024.

On February 16th (tentative) 2021, a filming crew will be at B-Man's Tavern to film for a TV show. The Location Manager, Ryan Cook, spoke with the Board regarding their Road Use proposal. This proposal has been given the nod by the Police Chief and includes the following;

- Police details
- Partial Closure of North Oakdale Cut-off
- One lane traffic on Beaman Road to facilitate parking for production trucks
- No sustained obstructions on Route 140
- Emergency access availability, as discussed with police and fire

They will rent out the 8-point Sportsmen's Club on Beaman, where they will set up tents to accommodate lunches for crew members. Mr. Cook also reported that VERY strict Covid protocols are followed (crew and cast tested daily and "work pods" established to prevent spread, should it occur).

A proposal for the purpose of renting the parking area on Muddy Pond Road for trucks will be forwarded to the Board. After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the Road Usage application as presented. Select member Sonnenberg 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried.

Select Board Rep to School

After discussion, Select member Sonnenberg moved to appoint Select member Kilcoyne as the Select Board representative to the WRSD Round Table budget discussions. Chair Cranson 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried. Town Administrator Kellie Hebert and Todd Chapman of the Finance Committee will also attend.

Road Race

Recreation Department Head, Kristen Dietel has requested approval of the Sterling Recreational Road Race. She has confirmed the traffic pattern and police coverage with Chief Chamberland. After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the Sterling Recreational Road Race for April 10, 2021. Select member Sonnenberg 2nd. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried. The race will begin at 9:00am.

MMA Delegate

After discussion, Chair Cranson moved to appoint Select member Sonnenberg as the Select Board delegate at the MMA annual meeting. Select Member Kilcoyne 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried.

TA Report

PERSONNEL UPDATES:

Recreation Director: Kristen Dietel is leaving her role as Recreation Director. She will be transitioning to a private sector position.

Building Inspector: Building Commissioner Sarah Culgin has accepted a position with the Town of Ashburnham. Her last day on-site is January 19th.

WORK SESSION:

A Work Session will be scheduled in the near future with the Select Board regarding this transition.

WINDOW INSTALLATION:

Approximately 20 windows will be replaced in this building on Friday, January 15-16th. For safety reasons, our Facilities Manager has asked that the building be closed to employees. Therefore, staff will work remotely from home on that day.

ZOOM REMOTE MEETINGS:

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PSAs

It has been suggested that, in the near future, all Select Board meetings be held remotely and the zoom recording would be forwarded to SLCT for broadcasting purposes. (Fred Aponte will work on the feasibility of this endeavor.)

- Shout out to the library for their virtual New Year’s Program which was well received.
- The remote learning program at the First Church has begun.
- The Senior Center garage is moving along.
- A special thanks to both Sarah Culgin and Kristen Dietel for their service. The Board wishes them well.

Adjourn

At 7:36 Select member Kilcoyne moved to adjourn the meeting. Select member Sonnenberg 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried.

Materials: Agenda, Minutes, 61A release, volunteer applications, Road Use Application, Race application, MMA Meeting schedule, TA report