

TOWN OF STERLING  
Select Board  
May 26, 2021

MEETING:	Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30pm. Roll Call: Chair Cranson – Present. Select member Sonnenberg – Present. Select member Kilcoyne – Present. Also present were Town Administrator, Kellie Hebert and Senior Executive Assistant, Kama Jayne.
Minutes	Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the Minutes for May 11 and May 15, 2021. Select member Sonnenberg 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select Member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried.
Scholarship Recipient	The Board interviewed Isabella Del Negro. She is a recipient of one of the scholarships. Ms. DelNegro is planning on attending Providence College to major in Biology. She hopes to pursue a medical career. The Board wished her well in her endeavors.
EDC Appointment	After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to appoint Dick Maki to the Economic Development Committee. Select member Sonnenberg 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select Member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select Member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried. His term will expire on 6/30/22.
Chocksett School Request	The Board received a request to use Sholan Park on June 18 <sup>th</sup> for the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade graduation from the Chocksett school. Certified life guards will be paid for by the school and the parents of the participants will need to sign a waiver of liability. The school will be responsible for insurance. Select member Kilcoyne moved to allow the Chocksett 8 <sup>th</sup> graders to hold their graduation festivities at Sholan Park on June 18 <sup>th</sup> . Select member Sonnenberg 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select Member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried. Trash will be “Carry in – Carry out” and the Park will not be closed to the public.
Thomas Prince School	The Board received a request to use Sholan Park on June 16 <sup>th</sup> (June 17 <sup>th</sup> rain date) by the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade graduation class from Thomas Prince School in Princeton. The Board discussed this but the current policy is that the Park is for Sterling Residents only. Therefore, when Select member Sonnenberg moved to allow the Thomas Prince 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Class to use Sholan Park for their graduation gathering, Select member Kilcoyne 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chair Cranson – Opposed. Select Member Sonnenberg – Opposed. Select Member Kilcoyne – Opposed. Motion denied. The Thomas Prince School 8 <sup>th</sup> grade will use the Leominster State Park instead.
Town Warrant	<p>The Board voted on support of the following articles;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Water enterprise: Purchase of Water Meters</b> – Select member Kilcoyne moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Town Common Improvement Project</b> (Transfers from Available Funds) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Personnel Management:</b> Professional Services, HRIS &amp; Records Management - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Earth Removal General Bylaw</b> - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Amend Conservation General Bylaw</b> - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Earth Removal (Select Board)</b> - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li><li>• <b>Earth Removal (Zoning Board of Appeals)</b> - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.</li></ul>

- **Use Regulations (Zoning Board of Appeals)** - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Use Regulations regarding kennels** - Select member Sonnenberg moved to report on Town Floor, regarding this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Table of Principal Use** (Zoning Board of Appeals) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Rate of Development** (Planning Board) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Subdivision Phasing** (Planning Board) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Accessory Dwelling Units Use** (Zoning Board of Appeals) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.

Select member Sonnenberg moved to allow the Town Administrator to compile Consent Articles that relate to “housekeeping” changes. Unanimous vote

- **Zoning Map:** PZ to C (Planning Board) – Select member Sonnenberg moved to support this article. Unanimous vote.
- **Zoning Map:** RRF to NR (Land Owner petition) - Select member Sonnenberg moved to report on Town meeting floor. Unanimous vote.
- **Citizen Petition:** Playground structure at Houghton School (no position)
- **Citizen Petition:** Omnibus Budget Warrant Article (no position)
- **Citizen Petition:** Capital Appropriations Warrant Articles (no position)
- **Citizen Petition:** Eliminate the Board of Public Works (no position)

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- The DPW Board will decide whether they want to fund the excavator or the tracker mower.
  - The Town Administrator will update the Table of contents for the warrant.
  - Funding for the Requested Stormwater compliance request from the DPW will be considered.
  - Juneteenth will be added as a state holiday in the General Bylaws.

Select member Sonnenberg moved to accept the proposed changes to the personnel bylaws, paragraph 1 & 2 but not to include additional 10 days of paid leave credit for new hires, and to include an additional compensation level added as Grade level “F” at a 15% increase over Grade level “E”. Select member Kilcoyne 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried

PSAs

- The Memorial Day Parade will be at 11:00am. It will organize at 10:45 at the Hillside cemetery.
- Sterling is part of the Water Sense Program to conserve water. The Town is experiencing a level 1 drought. Residents may water on the day that their trash is picked up.
- The Farmer’s market is open.
- Shawn Hamilton is retiring from the Light Department. The Board wishes him well.
- Candidates’ night will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00. Lex Thomas will host.
- The Board wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Adjourn

At 8:55 Select Member Kilcoyne moved to adjourn the public session and enter into Executive Session MGL c30, Sec 21 (a) Reason 2 – To conduct strategy in prep for negotiations with non-union personnel – Inspectional Services and Building Inspector. The meeting will return to public session only to adjourn. Select member Sonnenberg 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. The Board convened in Executive Session.

Materials: agenda, minutes, warrant articles, Town property requests