

TOWN OF STERLING
Select Board
September 15, 2021

Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm. 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 work session minutes for August 4, 2021. Select member Sonnenberg 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried.

Public Hearing
Earth Removal

At 6:31, Select member Kilcoyne moved to open the Public Hearings regarding the Earth removal request for 68 Heywood Road. Chair Cranson – 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Opposed. Motion Carried.

Chair Cranson moved to continue the Public Hearing, regarding 68 Heywood Road until October 27th at 6:30. Select member Kilcoyne – 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion Carried. The applicant, James Simpson, stated that he is amenable to the continuation since the new Earth Removal Bylaw has not been approved yet by the Attorney General's office.

Complete Streets
Prioritization

Sheri Bean, from the MRPC, presented the Complete Streets Plan to the Board.



2021 9 7 Complete
Streets Plan .pdf



2021 9 15 Complete
Streets Projects.pdf

This plan includes recommended projects.

SMLD Solar Pilot
lease

Darren Borge, General Manager of the Sterling Municipal Light Department has requested that the Select Board support SMLD's endeavor to lease the 25 acres on 2 Old Princeton Road in order to operate the 1.1 mega-watt (DC) solar array. The property is currently operated by E.H. Perkins with an agreement with SMLD which will end on January 1, 2022. The Assessors have given a verbal agreement to not renew the existing PILOT agreement, which expired on June 30, 2021 and to further grant SMLD an exemption from property taxes during the term of the lease. The agreement between SMLD and E.H. Perkins is in the negotiations process. When complete, SMLD will return to the Select Board for approval.

Special Town
Meeting Request

Interim Superintendent Jeff Nutting requested that the Select Board consider a Special Town Meeting for the Fall, so that the following could be considered by the voters;

- The transfer of \$130,000.00 From Water Debt account to Water Budget account to fund engineering water project in the Campgrounds.
- Authorization of a Water bond to fund the Campgrounds water project.
- Funding to design water lines on Redstone, Hawkins and Flanagan Hill Roads.
- To rescind the \$350,000.00 Bond Authorization to replace meters and readers and use the funds from Retained Earnings instead
- Adoption of MGL to allow the Town to Lein unpaid water bills
- Appropriation of an additional \$100,000.00 to fix roads, sidewalks, culverts, etc and to change the language to allow for flexibility in addressing both roads and other infrastructure.
- Approve funding to do Line Painting and to begin clean up of the Brush Dump
- Approve funding to continue work with the engineering firm to consider all aspects of replacing the DPW facility
- Amend the Storm Water Bylaw to comply with the MS4 permit.

The Board will consider this request for a Special Town meeting.

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Beach Rental Policy	After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to approve the proposed Beach rental application/policy. Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried. The Recreation Department will handle these applications.
ZBA Appointments	After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to appoint Gail Bergeron to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried.
Update on the Butterick Building roof	After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to appoint Everett Pierce to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate member. Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried. The Butterick roof will be discussed at the next meeting.
Compensation study	The Town Administrator has refined the scope and developed a time-line for the Compensation study. The Town Administrator has received 2 bids for the work and will forward both to the Board. A contract will be forthcoming for Board approval.
Brick Removal- Pegs Pond	The Chair of the Open Space Implementation Committee requested that he Board approve the removal of the bricks on the walkway near Pegs Pond Trail. The bricks must be removed in order to facilitate the ADA slope requirements of the walkway. The memorial bricks will be saved, as will the medallion. However, the other bricks will be removed at no charge by Sterling Greenery. After discussion, Select member Kilcoyne moved to grant permission for the brick pavers to be removed. . Select member Sonnenberg – 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried.
Mask Policy	After consideration and concerns about covid cases, Select member Sonnenberg moved that the Board mandate that facial masks must be worn in all Sterling Municipal buildings. Select member Kilcoyne 2 nd . Chair Cranson – opposed. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Opposed. Motion defeated. After further discussion it was decided to “recommend” that people wear masks in public buildings. Signs that say “Please wear a Mask” will be posted on the exterior doors. This topic will be revisited in the future, if necessary.
TA Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Betsy Perry has been hired as the new Library Director. She starts on October 1, 2021.• The TA will meet with the chosen candidate for the Superintendent position at the DPW to discuss the terms of the conditional offer letter (To be ratified by the DPW Board).• Applicants are being considered for the Administrative Assistant for the Planning Department and Building/Inspectional services.
Adjourn	<hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The gazebo at Memorial Park has been vandalized. Anyone with information is asked to report it.• The Farmers market is held on Friday afternoons in front of the Butterick building.• Welcome to Hank Noyes who is attending the meeting while on a visit from South Carolina.• A drive through clinic will be held at the Senior Center for flu vaccines on October 6 from 2-5, by appointment only. At 8:52, Select member Kilcoyne moved to adjourn the meeting. Select member Sonnenberg 2 nd . Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Sonnenberg – Aye. Select member Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion carried. Materials: agenda, minutes, volunteer applications, Earth Removal info., SMLD letter, Beach rental Application, OSIC email re Pegs Pond, TM request for DPW

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