


TOWN OF STERLING
Select Board
May 24, 2023

	<p>Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm</p> <p>Roll Call: Chair Cranson – Present. Select member Smith – Present. Select member Newman – Present. Town Administrator, Bill Caldwell – present. Senior Executive Administrative Assistant, Kama Jayne - present.</p>
Minutes	<p>Select member Newman moved to approve the minutes of May 10, as written. Select member Smith 2nd. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
School Parking	<p>The Board heard concerns regarding the traffic congestion on Boutelle Road before and after school. Parents are picking up students in order for them to get to after-school activities. Idling vehicles line up on both sides of the road causing issues for neighbors and others who must navigate the road at those times. Principal Cipro addressed the board and reported that he has reached out to parents regarding the issue and has been working with the police to solve the problem. Chief Gaudette stated that they are exploring the possibility of establishing a new traffic pattern to alleviate the congestion. Additionally, the Mass DOT has been employed through a State grant to consider this issue. The DOT report is expected in June.</p>
Recreation Update	<p>Shari Gonsorcik, the Recreation Director addressed the Board with the following update;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The 1835 is currently being used for yoga, exercise, and music programs. Other summer programs will be held in the space. The building is also being rented for town programs, meetings and personal use.▪ The ADA compliant Beach bathhouse will be finished in time for the opening weekend - June 17.▪ Three lifeguards have been hired for the season. There are three more for hire (pending recertification).▪ The tennis courts nets are up.▪ Costs for programs was increased by 10% to help defray the increased costs incurred due to increases in minimum wages, transportation and venue fees.▪ Griffin Road<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The batting cages have been revitalized. The nets were donated by Gibbs. SMLD donated the poles. All the work was done by SMLD and DPW.○ Softball Fields #2 and #3 (Houghton) have been renovated. Renovation of Fields #1 and #4 will soon be considered by the Recreation Committee.○ The storage door at Softball field #1 has been repaired.○ The track got new sand for the long jump▪ Sterling Recreation and Mass Cultural Council will collaboratively provide 14 concerts at Memorial Park on Mondays & Wednesdays from 6:00 -8:00pm, starting July 10th. <div data-bbox="1166 1682 1214 1745"></div> <p>SUMMER 2023.pdf</p> <p>The Board thanked her for her dedication and hard work.</p>
Facilities Manager	<p>Chuck Goss, from Templeton, was introduced as the new Facilities Manager. Sterling has agreed to participate in an inter-municipal agreement with West Boylston to share the cost and hours of Mr. Goss' services. He will split the 40-hour work week between the two towns. Select member Smith</p>

	<p>moved to appoint Mr. Goss as the Facilities Manager. Select member Newman 2nd. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried. The Board welcomed Mr. Goss and wished him well in his new position.</p>
COA Appointments	<p>After discussion, select member Newman moved to appoint Deidre Shapiro to the Council on Aging. Select member Smith – 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>Select member Newman moved to appoint Julie Hehir to the Council on Aging. Select member Smith 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried. These are 3-year positions.</p>
Contracts	<p>The Dispatchers and Fire Department MOUs were approved at previous meetings. Those changes have been incorporated into the proposed union contracts for both Fire and Dispatch. After discussion, select member Newman moved to sign the Fire and Dispatchers contracts. Select member Smith 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Liaisons	<p>After discussion, the board decided to divide the liaison responsibilities as follows:</p> <p>Chairman Maureen Cranson – Economic Development, Fair Committee, Recreation Committee, Light Department/Energy Committee</p> <p>Vice Chair, David Smith – Police, Fire, Emergency Management, DPW, Water</p> <p>Clerk, Kirsten Newman – Board of Health, Library, ZBA, Council on Aging, 1835 Town Hall</p> <p>Jointly, the Board serves as liaisons to the Finance Committee, Capital Committee, Accounting and Treasury</p> <p>The Town Administrator handles personnel, labor relations, and the Insurance Advisory Committee. Oversight by the select board is available when necessary.</p>
TA Report	

Town Administrator Update

- IMA – Facilities – Introduce hire 6/5 start, 60-day termination agreement for towns
- ConCom Agent – 5/17 start
- Assistant Treasurer - interim
- Beach ADA grant bathroom – 6/30 deadline
- \$50,000 earmark for beach in House
- Potential \$25,000 earmark for wayfinding signage in Senate
- Roof work complete. Architect inspected. Roof Drains repaired Sunday
- Peg’s Pond this week – site visit with landscaper, SMLD, DPW
- Attended Lake Association Saturday
- Line painting downtown complete – additional spots, improved safety
- Bidding for fuel oil, gas, diesel

Project updates:

1. Playground – Installed w/fence. Asphalt entry
2. Library Lift/Elevator – Otis for elevator modernization
3. School Flooring – Chocksett complete. Houghton this summer
4. Storage Building – Exploring options

5. Peg's Pond – Work scheduled for May
6. Town Beach – Final design and implementation
7. 1835 Building Septic – Will need bid documents. Easements required.
8. 1835 – Install acoustic tiles, suspended ceiling downstairs, window protection on stage
9. 62/140 engineering – Green International – rotary design
10. Maple Street sidewalks – ROW, Design underway. Work for this year.
11. Downtown revitalization – survey plans received – bury utilities will coordinate with Ryan and SMLD. Lights poles/fixtures ordered.
 - a. Design of sidewalks, road crossings, parking, etc.

ARPA Project	Approved	Spent/status
Light Department Broadband	352,000	352,000
CLA ARPA Consulting	1,325.63	1,325.63
Building Commissioner Vehicle	30,000	28,202
Water Main Replacement	74,750	8,350
Library Elevator	200,000	47,089.20
Houghton Playground	120,000	Returned to ARPA – State \$
Route 140 & 62 Design	250,000	78,934.68
COVID-19 Supplies	4,435	4,435
Comcast – Utilities	153,068	0
DPW Cold Storage	212,000	0
Total	\$1,397,578.63	\$640,336.51
2,443,264 total to Sterling	1,045,685.37	

PSAs

Liz Clemence, Assistant Treasurer, has submitted her resignation. She thanked the Board for all of the opportunities that were afforded her during her 5 years of employment. She is returning to the private sector. Her final day is June 5th. The Board wished her well in her new endeavors.

Terry Murray, Assistant Collector, is recovering at Whittier Rehab.

The Memorial Day parade will be held on Monday, May 29th. The parade starts at 11:00 from Hillside Cemetery and concludes at Memorial Park, where the memorial program will be held.

Adjourn

At 7:38, select member Smith moved to adjourn. Select member Newman – 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman - Aye. Motion Carried.