

TOWN OF STERLING
Select Board
June 7, 2023

	<p>Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call: Chair Cranson – Present. Select member Smith – Present. Select member Newman – Present.</p> <p>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 24, as written. Select member Smith 2nd. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Downtown Parking	<p>Through a grant, the Town employed an engineer to design the street striping for the downtown area. That project was recently implemented. This new striping designates appropriate/legal places to park, while eliminating those spaces which were illegal and/or interfered with safety. A spokesperson for the Local Area and Main Street Businesses (LAMB) addressed the Board to discuss their concerns regarding the current parking situation. After considerable discussion, it was decided that a group (including safety department heads, several spokespeople for LAMB, Chair Cranson and Administrator, Bill Caldwell) will meet early next week to further discuss this issue and to offer/consider possible parking solutions with a balance between safety, liability and the support for local business prosperity.</p>
Library Update	<p>Library Director, Alexandra Grebinar, gave an update that included the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phil Gold retired in April after 18 years at the library.• Three new staff members have been added and the library is currently fully staffed.• All library staff are current on CPR and AED certifications• Four staff members have applied for and received grants to take courses through the Massachusetts Library System.• The library has added adult puzzles, a fort-building kit; board and card games; coding toys, musical instruments, memory kits for people living with dementia and their caregivers, as well as themed notebooks to help to preserve the history of Sterling.• New Saturday hours begin on July 1. For July and August, the library will be open from 9am to 12pm; September through June, hours will be 9am to 2pm.• Program attendance at the library is up 45% from this time last year and most library programs currently have waitlists. Most of the library programs are funded by gifts, the Friends of the Library, grants and State Aid.• The Summer Reading Program, will run from June 20-August 10. Raffle prizes are donated by patrons, staff and the Friends and are still being accepted at the library. The Summer Reading Kickoff is a magic show with Scott Martell and will be held at the First Church on June 28th at 11am.• Adult programs will be held in July and August. The library received a Cultural Recovery Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for \$39,570. The funds are being used for programming as well as increasing the diversity of the library's collection. <p>The Board thanked Alex for her report and commended her on her enthusiasm for the job that she is doing as Library Director.</p>

Fair
Appointments

After discussion, select member Smith moved to appoint Tim Hardy to the Fair Committee. Select member Newman – 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

Select member Smith moved to appoint Tahna Hallet and Brianna Williams to the Fair Committee. Select member Newman – 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

MRPC
Appointment

After discussion, select member Smith moved to appoint select member Newman to the MRPC as an alternate. Chair Cranson – 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

Cultural Council
Appointment

Select member Newman moved to appoint Melissa Warren to the Cultural Council. Select member Smith 2nd. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried. These are 3-year positions.

TA Report

Town Administrator Update

- Facilities Manager has started M/T Sterling Th/F WB split Wednesday
- 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
- Peg's Pond major construction complete
- Summer schedule for meetings

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 – Nearly complete
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

Select Board Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2023

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

- Special thanks to Bob Temple for orchestrating the Memorial Day observance.
- The Friends of the Senior Center will hold a trunk sale at the Senior center on June 17th.
- Volunteers are needed for Finance and Capital Budget Committees.

Adjourn

At 8:02 pm, select member Smith moved to enter into executive session for Reason 3, M.G.L. c.30 Sec. 21(a) Litigation. MacLeod Vs the Town of Sterling. The Board will not return to public session. Select member Newman – 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Motion Carried.

At 8:15 select member Smith moved to return to public session. Select member Newman – 2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman - Aye. Motion Carried.

At 8:16 select member Smith moved to adjourn. Select member Newman – 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman - Aye. Motion Carried.

Materials: agenda, minutes, TA report, volunteer applications, Parking info. Library update