

TOWN OF STERLING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 12, 2014

MEETING

Roll Call: Selectman Cutler - Present. Selectman Patacchiola – Present. Chairman Furmaniuk – Present. At 7:01 pm, Chairman Furmaniuk called the meeting to order.

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola moved the motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Executive Minutes for February 26, 2014, not to be released until issue is resolved. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola moved the motion to approve the Board of Selectmen regular, public session minutes for February 26, 2014. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

OML

The Open Meeting Law complaints are now being processed per the Open Meeting Law policy, which was adopted at the February 26, 2014 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Regarding the December 4, 2013, in connection with the Chairman's remote participation: The complaint was received on January 10, 2014. Since complaints must be received within 30 days of the alleged violation, this complaint has been dismissed by the Attorney General's office as untimely.

Regarding the Open Meeting Law complaints of February 2 and 14, 2014: Town counsel has sent a response to the Attorney General's office stating the steps recently taken by the Board of Selectmen to remediate any unintentional violations. The Board of Selectmen awaits the Attorney General's response.

WRSD Proposed
Budget

In attendance, to represent the school district: Superintendent, Darryll McCall, Joe Scanlon and Jeff Carlson.

The following was discussed:

- **The Core Mission:** To provide excellence in teaching, learning and social development, so that all students can realize their highest potential as responsible and productive citizens.
- **Budget Goals:**
 - Increase the number of level 1 schools
 - Enhance technology resources and opportunities in all schools
 - Align curriculum to the Common Core
 - Increase Professional Development opportunities for teachers
 - Promote safety, health and well being of all students
- **Enrollment:** has decreased by 83 students from last year. Projections indicate that the enrollment will continue to decline in the foreseeable future
- **Fiscal Year 2015 Appropriation:**
 - Salaries
 - Full time Equivalent
 - Benefits and Insurance
 - Benefits and Insurance Chargebacks
 - Instructional Supplies, Equipment and Technology
 - Operations and Maintenance
 - Pupil Services
 - Special Education Tuitions
 - Special Education Tuitions Chargebacks

- Other Operating Costs
- Transportation
- Debt Service
- Appropriation Reductions
- Total Expenditures : Increase from 80,175,991.00 to 81,307.859.00 (1.4% increase)
- **Revenue**
 - Minimum Local Contribution
 - Operational Assessment
 - Transportation Assessment
 - Debt Service Assessment
 - Total Assessments to Towns
 - Chapter 70 and Other State Aid
 - Local Revenues
 - E & D Assessment Reduction
 - Total Revenue
 - Revenue breakdown

The Budget Calendar indicates that the Schools Annual Budget hearing will be held on March 17, 2014, Community Outreach will be done in April and Sterling's Town Meeting will be held on May 3, 2014.

Business and
Correspondence

Neighbor to Neighbor

After discussion, **Vote:** Selectman Cutler moved the motion to approve the disbursement of \$1,200.00 to pay toward the applicant's electric bill. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

ABAC Appointment

After Discussion, **Vote:** Selectman Patacchiola moved the motion to approve the appointment of Richard Lane to the Animal Control Advisory Board. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried. ACAB member are appointed on a yearly basis. Therefore this appointment will be reconsidered for reappointment in June, 2014.

Fire Department Expenditures from the Wachusett Fund Committee

Chief David Hurlbut requested that the Board approve the expenditures that were recommended by vote of the Wachusett Fund Committee. These expenditures include the final payment toward a Paramedic Class, which was successfully completed by a Sterling E.M.T. and the funds to purchase C.P.R. and paramedic training mannequins. Chief Hurlbut reported that the Sterling EMS will vote to help offset the expenses of the CPR and paramedic training mannequins. Also, there is a boy scout who, as his Eagle Scout project is raising money for this purpose. Therefore, Chief Hurlbut anticipates that the total expenditures out of the Wachusett Fund will be significantly less. With this information at hand: **Vote:** Chairman Furmaniuk made a motion to approve the expenditure from the Wachusett Fund Committee up to \$3650.00, with the understanding that the Select Board will be updated as to the actual amount withdrawn from the Wachusett Fund. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

Town Administrator
Update

The Town Administrator reported the following:

Elected Vacancies - For the upcoming May 12th election, there is a seat available for the Planning board and 2 seats available on the School Committee. The deadline, for submission of papers to the Town Clerk's Office is March 24th at 5:00pm.

Tech Training Survey – the Personnel Board was budgeted \$5,000.00 to develop technical training

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2014

for employees. To that end, a survey will be distributed to Town employees to ascertain the type of training that would be most useful.

Classification and Compensation Scheme – All Board and Committee chairs will meet with personnel on March 20th to be informed of the proposed Classification and Compensation plan for all non-union employees

Chocksett Project – The Town Administrator has spoken with Mr. Andrew Paul, who is the manager for the Chocksett Crossing project. He will be in touch with the Town Administrator within the next couple of months in order to set up a public awareness meeting to discuss the plan in detail.

Budgets – The Capital and Finance Committees are currently working on the Fiscal Year 2015 budgets

Interior Painting – The Worcester County Sheriff's office offers a program with free labor, provided by the inmates. The Town availed themselves to this service when the 1835 Town Hall was painted. Now the service program will be used to paint the interior of the Town Hall at 1 Park street. The cost is expected not to exceed \$3000.00 for materials and lunch for the crew. It is expected that the project will commence before the middle of April.

Public Session

No citizen appeared to participate in the Public Session.

Adjourned

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola move the motion to Adjourn at 8:48. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

Materials list: agenda, AG response to OML complaint dated January 10, 2014, TC letter to AG regarding OML Complaints –Feb 2 and 14, 2014, WRSD Preliminary Budget power point presentation and numbers sheet, email regarding Neighbor to neighbor disbursement, application and email regarding appointment to ACAB, request for expenditures from Wachusett Fund Committee, proposed self assessment for Technology users

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2014

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2014