


TOWN OF STERLING  
Select Board  
September 13, 2023

	<p>Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:33 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>
Executive session	<p>At 5:33 select member Newman moved to enter into executive session pursuant to MGL c. 30A, s. 21(a) (3) to discuss threatened litigation with respect to street markings near the common. Public session to resume after executive session. Select Member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Minutes	<p>At 6:31 select member Newman moved to resume the public session. Select Member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>Select member Newman moved to approve the August 30, 2023 minutes. Select Member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Abstained. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Public Hearings	<p>At 6:39 select member Newman moved to open the public hearings. Select Member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
61A Land Release - 200 Justice Hill Road Cut-off and 184 Justice Hill Road Cut-off	<p>The Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Board of Assessors have voted to approve the release of 200 Justice Hill Road Cut-off, (formerly Lot 10, Justice Hill Road) (Deed Ref. Book 6059, Page 338 – Assessors map 18, Parcel 16 - 4.37+ acres) and 184 Justice Hill Road Cut-off (Formerly 188-194 Justice Hill Road) (Deed Ref. Book 6059, Page 338 – Assessors map 18, Parcel 16 - 4.37+ acres) from 61A and not to pursue the purchase of these properties. Select Board member Newman moved to approve the release of Lot 10, 200 Justice Hill Road Cut-off and 184 Justice Hill Road Cut-off from 61A. Select member Smith - 2<sup>nd</sup>. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Earth Removal Permit – 17 Stone Crest Way	<p>The board considered the application for the renewal of an earth removal permit for Onyx. This application includes the addition of recently purchased parcels #3 and #49. The Board considered the application and the most recent report by Graves Engineering. The board was displeased that Onyx has</p> <div data-bbox="1218 1407 1274 1470"></div> <p>2023 9 13 Graves review of Onyx earth</p> <p>not complied with all of the requirements set forth in the Graves report.</p> <p>Neighboring residents complained about the monthly blasting. In consideration of their concerns, Onyx representatives agreed to text or email those who wish to be notified of impending blasts.</p> <p>Select member Newman moved that this public hearing be continued on October 27<sup>th</sup>, at which time it is expected that Onyx will have complied with all aspects of the Graves report and the Board will have an order of conditions prepared. Select member Smith - 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>At 7:52, Select member Newman moved to exit the public hearings. Select member Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Motion Carried.</p> <p>At 7:57, public session resumed.</p>

Sterling Land Trust request - 61A releases	<p>Dan Mongeau of the Sterling Land trust, requested that the Land Trust be advised of 61A property releases early enough so that the Trust might have the opportunity to purchase appropriate parcels. After discussion, it was suggested that they contact the assessor’s office to determine which lots the Land Trust is interested in buying. Then, when those parcels come to the attention of the Assessor’s office for approval of release, the Trust can be notified.</p>
Animal Control Advisory Board procedure discussion	<p>Present were Kelly Jones, Animal Control Officer, and Terry Sadler, Chair of the Animal Control Advisory Board. The Select Board received a letter from Jill Mongeau Gaines, member of the ACAB, which alleges that the Animal Control Advisory Board did not follow procedures that are outlined in the Town’s bylaws, regarding a recent complaint, in which Ms. Mongeau Gaines is the alleged offender. As a result of the discussion, Ms. Sadler and Kelly Jones were encouraged to be mindful of and to explicitly follow the specifics in the Town bylaws. They were also reminded that all information is public and that all ACAB minutes need to be posted on the website. The select board also expressed appreciation for the job that Kelly Jones is doing as ACO.</p>
Finance and Capital appointments	<p>Finance and capital appointments are made between the Finance Committee, the Select Board and the Moderator. Each Board has one vote and the Moderator has one vote. After discussion, select member Newman moved to appoint Mark Gauthier to the Finance Committee and Ezekiel Ayala to the Finance and Capital Committees. Select member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Select Board vote was unanimous. The moderator, Jennifer Scalise-Mullet has agreed to approve these appointments and the Finance/Capital Committees have voted to approve these candidates. Motion carried. Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Ayala’s appointments expire on 6/30/2026.</p> <p>Select member Newman moved to appoint John Kilcoyne to the Capital Committee. Select member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Select Board vote was unanimous. The moderator, Jennifer Scalise-Mullet has agreed to approve this candidate and the Finance/Capital Committees voted approval of Mr. Kilcoyne. Motion carried. Mr. Kilcoyne’s term will expire on 6/30/2025.</p>
TA Report	<div><div><b>Town Administrator Update</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earmarks for Sterling in House and Senate<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ \$50,000 Beach</li><li>○ \$25,000 Wayfinding Signage</li></ul></li><li>• MT will work on Memorial wall @ Peg’s Pond. Benches delivered</li><li>• COA Director position – finalists</li><li>• Assistant Collector – finalists</li><li>• MART Advisory Board representative</li><li>• Community Compact Grant – best practices<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Capital</li><li>○ Budget Document</li></ul></li><li>• ADA Grant – update ADA plan</li><li>• Special Town Meeting dates</li><li>• Special SB meeting</li></ul><p>Project updates:</p><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Library Lift/Elevator – Otis for elevator modernization</li><li>2. School Security – Working with District</li><li>3. Storage Building – Exploring options</li></ol></div></div>

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4. Town Beach – Final design. Priorities
5. 1835 Building Septic – Will need bid documents. Documents sent to owners
6. 1835 – Suspended ceiling downstairs, window treatments 1<sup>st</sup> floor
7. 62/140 engineering – Green International – rotary design
8. Maple Street sidewalks – Bid opening 8/23
9. Downtown revitalization –
  - a. Design of sidewalks, road crossings, parking, water main, storm water

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

- Condolences to Bob Temple’s family and to his legion “family”. Bob was recently recognized. as Sterling’s Home Town Hero on the Fox News Zip Trip episode.
- Thank you to the fair volunteers. It was a challenging year with all the rain.
- Thank you to the Senior Center Director search committee.
- The Board will meet on Monday, Sept. 18 to appoint the new Assistant Collector and Senior Center Director.

Adjourn

At 8:42, Select member Newman moved to adjourn. Select member Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Select member Smith – Aye. Select member Newman - Aye. Motion Carried.

Materials: agenda, minutes, 61A docs., Earth removal permit, Letter about ACAB, Volunteer applications