TOWN OF STERLING Select Board September 27, 2023

Chair Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm. 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.

Executive session

At 6:01, 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. Select member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried. Public session to resume after executive session.

Minutes

At 6:33, select member Newman moved to resume the public session. Select Member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

Select member Newman moved to approve the September 13, 2023 executive session minutes, not to be released. Select Member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

Select member Newman moved to approve the September 13, 2023 public session minutes. Select Member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

Select member Newman moved to approve the September 18, 2023 public session minutes. Select Member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

Public Hearings

At 6:35, select member Newman moved to open the public hearings. Select Member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

61A Land Release portion of 56 Kendall Hill Road

The Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Board of Assessors have voted to approve the release of a portion of 56 Kendall Hill Road, consisting of approximately 60' x 62', plus an access road, from 61A and not to pursue the purchase of this property. (recorded in book 5474, Page 324 at the Worcester Registry of Deeds and as a portion of the Assessor's map 112, parcel 12). Select Board member Newman moved to approve the release of this portion of 56 Kendall Hill Road. Select member Smith - 2nd. Select member Smith – Aye. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Motion carried.

Earth Removal Permit – 17 Stone Crest Way Continuation

The board considered the application for the renewal of an earth removal permit for The Grands, LLC & Love4grands, LLC DBA Onyx, 17 Stone Crest Way (formerly 17 Leominster Road). This application includes the addition of recently purchased parcels #3 and #49. At the last meeting (Sept. 13) the board voted to continue this hearing because Onyx had not submitted specific site mapping plans. At this meeting, Onyx engineer Richard Harrington, presented the required mapping, as per the directive of the last Select Board meeting.

After further discussion, select member Smith moved that Onyx be issued their earth removal permit



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contingent upon their adherence to the order of conditions. earth removal permi Select member Newman -2nd. Chair Cranson – Aye. Select member Newman – Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Motion carried.

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At 7:22, the public session resumed.

Sign Warrant for STM

The Select Board considered the following articles for the Special Town Meeting;

- Acquisition of 67 Holden Road for Fire Pond
- Acquisition of 6 Michael Lane for Drainage
- Voter Registration
- Opioid Funds
- Capital Stabilization
- Stabilization Funds
- Amendment to Regional School Agreement

Select member Newman moved to support the articles and move the warrant forward. Select member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

The other two articles on the warrant are citizen petitions;

- BOH Regulations
- BOH Audit Citizen's Petition

The STM will be held at the Chocksett Gymnasium on October 16 at 6:30 pm.

Senior Center Director

Select member Smith moved to appoint Sheila Beane as the Senior Center Director. Select member Newman -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried.

Cultural Council Appointments

Select member Newman moved to appoint Christine McCarthy and Molly Hartnett to the Cultural Council. Select member Smith -2^{nd} . Select member Newman - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Chair Cranson - Aye. Motion carried. Christine's term will expire on 9/27/2026. Christine's is a youth term and will expire on 9/27/2024.

TA Report

Town Administrator Update

- Earmarks for Sterling in House and Senate
 - o \$50,000 Beach
 - \$25,000 Wayfinding Signage
- MT will work on Memorial wall @ Peg's Pond.
- MART Advisory Board representative
- Community Compact Grant best practices
 - o Capital Improvement Plan
 - Budget Document
- Special Town Meeting 10/16 630 @ Chocksett
- ATM/Budget/Capital Calendar next agenda
- MMA Legislative Breakfast to be hosted here @ 1835

Project updates:

- 1. Library Lift/Elevator Otis for elevator modernization
- 2. School Security Working with District
- 3. Storage Building Exploring options
- 4. Town Beach Priorities: drainage, tree work
- 5. 1835 Building Septic Will need bid documents. Documents sent to owners

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- 6. 1835 Suspended ceiling downstairs, window treatments 1st 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	

Public Session

Laura Richie thanked the town for all of their efforts in getting road signage placed in front of the school.

Adjourn

At 7:32, Select member Newman moved to adjourn. Select member Smith -2^{nd} . Chairman Cranson - Aye. Select member Smith - Aye. Select member Newman - Aye. Motion Carried.

 $Materials: agenda, minutes, 61A\ docs., Earth\ removal\ permit\ docs, STM\ warrant,\ resume,\ Volunteer\ applications$