

TOWN OF STERLING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN Meeting
September 16, 2020

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| MEETING: | Vice Chairman Cranson called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Roll Call: Chairman Kilcoyne – Present. Selectman Cranson – Present. Selectmember Sonnenberg – Participated remotely. Also present was Town Administrator, Ross Perry. |
| Public Hearing 61A Release of Lot 5, Justice Hill Road | <p>At 6:35, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to open the Public Hearing, regarding the release of Lot 5, Justice Hill Road, from Chapter 61A. The Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Assessors have voted to approve this release and to not pursue the purchase of the property. After discussion, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the release of Lot 5, Justice Hill Road (Worcester Registry of Deeds, recorded as Lot 5 on Plan of land recorded in Book 6059, page 338), from 61A and to not pursue the purchase of the property. Selectmember Sonnenberg – 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectmember Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>Selectman Kilcoyne moved to close the Public Hearing. Selectmember Sonnenberg – 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Selectmember Sonnenberg – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried</p> |
| Appoint Fincom Members | <p>The Select Board, Finance Committee and Moderator considered the applicants for the Finance Committee. Per Town Counsel advice, there were two votes to select the new Finance Committee members.</p> <p>Since the Fin Com didn't have a quorum, the remaining members voted along with the Select Board. Selectman Kilcoyne moved to appoint Christopher Paquette, Ezequiel Ayala, and George Handy to the Finance Committee. Selectmember Sonnenberg 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectmember Sonneberg – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Chair of the Finance Committee, Everett Heller – Aye. Finance Committee Member Solar – Aye. Finance Committee Member Cliett – Aye.</p> <p>(Lynne Shepard voluntarily withdrew her application for the Finance Committee in order to be considered for the "At Large" vacancy on the Capitol Committee. This vacancy will be voted at a future meeting.)</p> <p>Per the Town's Bylaw, a second vote was held with the combined Select Board and remaining Fin Com members casting one vote and the Town Moderator casting the second vote. Selectman Kilcoyne moved to appoint Christopher Paquette, Ezequiel Ayala, and George Handy to the Finance Committee. Selectmember Sonnenberg 2nd. The Select Board –Aye. The Finance Committee – Aye. Moderator Rusch – Aye. Motion Carried.</p> |
| TA Search Committee recommendation | Chair of the Town Administrator Search Committee, Larry Pape, brought forth the Search Committee proposed finalist list. The proposed finalists are Nina Nazarian, Michael Sulprizio and Kathleen Hebert. |
| Schedule TA interviews | The candidates will be interviewed on Monday, Sept. 21. |

Appoint Interim
TA

After discussion, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to appoint Town Accountant, Fred Aponte, as the Interim Town Administrator with an \$800.00, per week, stipend until the new Town Administrator and the Board decide that the new TA is prepared to proceed on their own. Selectmember Sonnenberg 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Selectmember Sonnenberg – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Motion Carried

TA Report

Town Administrator Report 9/16/20

Facilities:

The 'new' old floor, stage and balcony look fantastic after the great effort by Carl Corrine, the 1835 Committee and Patrice Fullhart. The Board may want to consider showing results of this multiyear effort to the taxpayers by holding one of their meetings in the great room.

- We tested the WIFI this morning and it appears to be sufficient to support a Zoom session. The room is large enough to accommodate a large number of people with lots of social distancing room. SLCT will be able to record the meeting but not live stream it.
- Let me know if you'd like to hold your next meeting on 9/30 in the 1835 Building. (The Board approved)

Remote Learning Enrichment Program Approval:

- Part of the process to open these new child care locations is to obtain Municipal Approval before they contact the State EEC (Early Education and Care) and DESE (Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education) for formal approval
- Town Counsel advised that the Select Board is the "Municipal Approving Authority". Although they may delegate the approval process.
- Working with the Board of Health, I will have an application form and approval and process ready for the Board to approve at their next meeting.
- It's possible there could also be an application submitted by that time, which would require approval

Grants:

- Through the efforts by Domenica Tatasciore, Town Planner and Paul Lyon, DPW Superintendant, the Town has received two Shared Streets Grants from the State totally \$64,000.
- The first part of this grant has already been used by the DPW to build a sidewalk extension in front of the Brick to enable an expanded outdoor dining location. This platform re-uses some of the material from the outdoor ATM last June and is modular so that it can be removed when it's too cold for outdoor dining.
- Another part of the project includes safe routes to school with a continuous sidewalk along Boutelle Road between Muddy Pond and Bean Roads.
- Third part of the grant is to create a dedicated bike path from Waushacum Ave to the Rail trail.
- The 4th part is to realign the Meetinghouse Hill Rd and Main St intersection. (This has been part of the Town Center Renovation plan.)
- Also through the efforts of Domenica and Paul, the Town received a grant to hire a consultant to help the Town develop a Municipal Vulnerability Plan (MVP). Last week

over 30 residents zoomed in to provide their input. A second session is planned for tomorrow @ 9:00.

Zoning Changes:

- The Board received correspondence from Pat Fox, ZBA chair asking the Board to submit proposed zoning changes to the Planning Board for a public hearing in preparation for the December Special Town Meeting.
- The proposed changes include “Display Setback” and the Principal Uses table regarding Earth Removal, Child care facilities, and Kennels.
- This request will be sent to the Planning Board.

PSAs

- The First Church is still taking donations of food that is distributed on Mondays, in front of the church, from 3-5pm.
- The Board thanked the Members of the 1835 Town Hall Committee, especially Carl Corrinne for all of their help in getting the 1835 project completed. Special thanks also went out to Patrice Fullhart for all of her efforts as well.

Adjourn

- Jay McConnell retired on August 31st from the Fire Department. The Board wished him all the best.

At 9:10, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to adjourn. Select member Sonneberg – 2nd. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectmemeber Sonnenberg – Aye. Motion carried.

Materials: 61A release request, TA report