

TOWN OF STERLING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 6, 2017

MEETING:	Chairman Cranson called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call: Selectman Kilcoyne – Present. Chairman Cranson - Present. Selectman Lane - Present.
Minutes	Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the public minutes of August 23, 2017, as written. Chairman Cranson 2 nd . Chairman Cranson – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Motion carried.
Public Session	No one spoke at public session.
Fire Department Update	<p>Fire Department Update - June 1, 2017 to August 31, 2017</p> <p>June Review highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- June 6th, the fire department paid a final tribute to retired fire Captain Douglas Day- June 9th, the fire chief and Police Sgt. Gaudette attended a table top exercise at the School District Central Office, testing emergency response plans- June 13th, the fire chief attended a training program in Sudbury regarding evidential fire investigation code updates- Firefighters and dive team members assisted the recreation department and DPW set up the buoys and raft at the town beach on June 15th- Mrs. Allison's Houghton School students visited the fire station on June 16th to plant a Kindness Rock Garden in front of the fire station- The fire department detailed Rescue 1 and Ambulance 1 to the Orange Drag Strip Reunion held at Sterling Airport on June 17th- Sterling hosted the Wachusett Area Muster on Sunday June 18th <p>July Review highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- FF/Medic Emerton and the fire chief participated in a Hurricane preparedness webinar sponsored by MEMA on July 17th- A Fair Safety Committee meeting was held at the fire station on July 21st- Department members participated in a mock plane crash and boom deployment drill on the Wachusett Reservoir in West Boylston on July 26th- The annual Chocksett and Houghton school inspections were completed in conjunction with the building inspector, town maintenance supervisor and town administrator on July 27th <p>August Review highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attended the monthly Regional School District safety administration meeting with the police chief in Holden on August 3rd- The fire chief and police chief met with the principals of the Chocksett and Houghton Schools to review the School Critical Incident Plan and schedule the drills for the upcoming school year- Fire chief attended a Wachusett Reservoir exercise improvement plan meeting on August 8th- Fire chief hosted a District 8 board of directors meeting at the fire station on August 15th- Air quality testing was conducted by the state on August 15th with no findings and two recommendations- Fire chief was a "celebrity server" at the monthly breakfast at the Senior Center on Aug. 25th- Fire chief participated in a Hazard Mitigation Grant briefing on August 15th- Firefighters assisted the recreation department and DPW taking down the buoys and raft at the town beach on August 21st

Police
Department
update

- Sterling hosted the District 8 Technical Rescue training drill at the fire station on Aug. 27th

Incidents Year-to-date: 798 (224 Fire / 574 Medical)

Major Incidents for Period: During this period the department responded mutual aid to a two-alarm house fire on Pleasant Street in Clinton on July 4th, and mutual aid to a house fire on Merriam Road in Princeton on Aug. 1st.

Recognition: On Thursday August 24th, the crew from Ambulance 1 (*FF/Medic d'Entremont, FF/Medic Brosque, and FF/EMT DiVirgilio*) delivered a healthy baby girl on I190 at approximately 3:00PM

Police Department Update - May 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017

May highlights:

Personnel, Training and Equipment:

- Detective Johnson attended a bomb explosive familiarization class.
- Sgt. Pomeroy and Detective Johnson attended evidence room procedures school.
- Sgt Gaudette acted as the Sterling Police representative at a Table Top Training exercise at the Wachusett Region School administrative building.
- Sgt Gaudette handled chief's duties while chief discharged vacation time.

General Police Business:

There were seven arrests during the month:

3 protective custody 1 domestic assault
1 vandalism 1 disorderly/disturbing the peace
1 Failure to register as a sex offender.

Traffic:

Fifty-seven motor vehicle stops and twenty one citations issued.
Eight traffic crashes.

Two on Leominster Rd and 190 Rear End collision One at Leominster and Chocksett Rear End
Two on Route 140, both left the lane of travel Main St. hit parked car
Legate Hill Rd. left lane of travel

June Highlights:

Personnel, Training and Equipment:

- Sgt. Gaudette filled in as acting chief while Chief discharged vacation time.
- Submitted a grant for \$4843.06 for training reimbursement.
- Attended an information meeting on 111F (On duty injuries) by Cook and Company our insurer.

Community Interaction:

- Coordinated, planned and worked the Drag Races at the airport.

General Police Business:

- Town experienced a significant power outage.
- Liquor Licenses:
Two reported disturbances. B-Man's Tavern & 228 Club.
- Arrests:
 1. Warrant
 2. Operating under the Influence
- Traffic:

Road construction has restarted on Route 12 Thirty-two citations (32) during fifty-two (52) Stops.

Thirteen accident investigations:

Three on Route 12:

Route 12 and Chocksett Rear end collision Route 12 and Exit 6 Broadside

	<p>Route 12 Pratts Junction Broadside</p> <p><u>Personnel, Training and Equipment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter of Recognition for officer S. Johnson• Speed Boards arrived and have been deployed. <p><u>Community Interaction:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Met with economic development committee discussed parking on Main St.• Preparation for Sterling Fair, safety meeting.• Meeting with School principals planning for opening of school. <p>General Police Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two arrests during the month. Both for outstanding warrants <p>Traffic:</p> <p>Fourteen crashes during the month, NONE at the Chocksett and Leominster intersection! Intersection under construction and Roundabout implemented on 18 July.</p> <p>Five crashes on Redemption Rock Trail, two at Route 62.</p> <p>Sixty two motor vehicle stops and thirty four citations were issued.</p>
Gates/Campground Road Intersection	<p>The Chief reported that after reviewing the intersection of Gates Road and Campground Road, he recommended that the yield sign be replaced by a stop sign to stop East bound traffic on Gates Road. Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the Chief's request to change the yield sign on Gates/Campground Roads to a Stop sign. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Lane – Aye. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Osgood Road	<p>The Select Board had received a citizen petition regarding speed on Osgood Road. The petitioners requested that additional 30 mile per hour signs be posted on the road and that police make enforcement on Osgood a priority. The Chief reported that he has deployed radar signs to determine speed issues and will continue to monitor the traffic on Osgood. The DPW has replaced a missing STOP sign.</p>
Marijuana Update MRPC	<p>Glenn Eaton, Executive Director of the MRPC, addressed the Board and explained the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On Friday, July 28th Governor Baker signed the state legislature's revisions to the new Recreational Marijuana Law that was adopted in November 2016.• The MRPC's objective in this matter is to provide updated information to member communities and to assist in the preparation of model bylaws, concerning recreational Marijuana• Recreational Marijuana establishments may apply for licenses to operate in April 2018• MRPC urges communities to address local general and zoning issues prior to the opening of such businesses next year: no later than the Annual Town Meeting in the spring.• The MRPC encourages Communities that wish to BAN recreational Marijuana to seek assistance from their prospective legal counsel.• For additional information, Mr. Eaton suggested www.massmarpa.org/recreational-marijuana <p>Sterling voted on a moratorium at last year's Annual Town Meeting. David Shapiro reported that the Planning Board has created preliminary drafts for bylaws that address both (Pro and Con) sides of the issue. Therefore, he is confident that the Town will be prepared at Town Meeting to vote on the issue.</p>
Update Prime Wellness	<p>Pat Scorzelli and John Glowik III addressed the Board. In response to questions, they reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have no plans, at present, to produce recreational marijuana at the Sterling facility• Their company is a non-profit that has spent a great deal of money preparing to produce and sell Medical marijuana.• They produce different strains of marijuana that are used for specific illness relief, as per doctor's prescription

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• They are only licensed to grow, not sell, marijuana in the Sterling facility.• They already have arranged for the maximum number of dispensaries, allowed by law, for the Sterling facility and those dispensaries are located outside of Sterling• The Cannabis Regulatory Commission is less than a week old• No one can be certain of the regulations that will be forthcoming• Prime Wellness continues to work closely with the Building Commissioner to make certain that all aspects of the building/renovation process fall within the Town's bylaws and state mandates• They are currently working on the sprinkler design• While there is, in fact, an agricultural component to the Prime Wellness business, it is a manufacturing plant. Therefore, the light industrial zoning that exists in that section of town is appropriate.• Electricity is not an issue and most of the water will be recycled• They will be in touch with the Town administrator to further discuss the Community Benefit proposal that was submitted to the Town• Prime Wellness representatives will keep the Board apprised of any movement toward purchase of the property that they are currently leasing.
38 Clinton Road BOH Letter	<p>On July 26th the Board of Health issued a letter to multiple Boards about complaints that had been received by them, regarding 38 Clinton Road. Subsequently, the BOH rescinded that letter and issued a new letter on August 31 that reflects those same concerns. Since it was determined that the complaints fall outside of the immediate purview of the Board of Health, they wished to alert the Town to the problems and to seek guidance as to which Boards may have jurisdiction in this case. After discussion, the consensus of the Board of Selectmen was that the issue currently falls within the purview of the Earth Removal Board and that everyone has performed due diligence, regarding this issue.</p>
Curb Cut Permit Process	<p>This issue will be addressed at a future meeting.</p>
One Day Alcohol Permits	<p>After discussion, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the one day alcohol license for Shauna Lucibello and Rick Stein for the 228 Leominster Road Facility for September 9th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm for a family reunion. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>After discussion, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the one day alcohol license for Lloyd and Bouvier for the 228 Leominster Road Facility for September 15th from 11:00 – 5:00 pm for a BBQ. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p> <p>After discussion, Selectman Lane moved to approve the one day alcohol license for the 8 Point Sportsmen's Club for September 9th from Noon – 8:00 pm for a baby shower. Selectman Kilcoyne 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Abstained. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
Park Street Closure Sept 16	<p>After discussion, Selectman Kilcoyne moved to approve the request by the First Church to close Park Street to through traffic on Saturday, September 16th from 6:30 am – Noon for the town wide yard sale. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
TA Evaluation	<p>The consensus of the Board is that Ross Perry is a "good fit" for the Town of Sterling. They are well pleased with his accomplishments thus far. They agreed that his strongest suits are fiscal management, organization, personnel management, negotiation skills, attention to detail and commitment to the community. They described him as a self starter, enthusiastic, forward thinking and "refreshing". They cautioned him to keep the communication open between the Board and himself, to ask questions and to stand tough against those who would derail his efforts, to the detriment of the community as a whole.</p>

TA Report

Mr. Perry thanked the Board for the opportunity to work within the Town of Sterling. He thanked them for their support and kind comments.

The Board again publicly thanked the Town Administrator Search Committee for a job well done.

Town Administrator Report 8/23/17

Schools:

The Regional School accepted the Board's changes to the lease agreement regarding the term of the agreement and extension options. The Board voted to authorize Maureen to sign the agreement with these changes and the agreement is ready for signing.

Staff:

The Town Clerk and Town Administrator are still interviewing part-time and full-time candidates for the Assistant Town Clerk position. They hope to have a recommendation in time for the Board's next meeting. The State announced there will be a special primary election on November 7th and special State election on December 5th to fill the Worcester and Middlesex Senate position vacated when Senator Jennifer Flanagan left to join the Governor's Cannabis Commission. The Town Clerk is starting the preparations for these elections. You can expect a motion to authorize the ballot and voting location at a future meeting.

Facilities:

As mentioned before, the air conditioner in the Town Clerk's office was not working. Resident Chip Hallet, volunteered his time and resources and located the leaking part. He replaced the part and re-charged the system. Although the rest of the system has numerous rusted and corroded parts, we hope the system will last until next year when there will be a town meeting warrant article to replace the entire HVAC system in this building.

The Board of Selectmen publicly thanked Chip Hallet for his service. It is greatly appreciated.

The project to replace the Library HVAC system is out for bid. A pre-bid site walk through was held on September 6th and 5 contractors attended. The goal is to have this work completed before November.

Open volunteer positions:

A list is on the Town web site and also posted at the Police and Fire Departments, and Library.

33 Main Street:

The Town Administrator continues to meet with Mr. Griffin. He has provided two letters supporting his concerns that the Board's letter of nuisance and dangerousness hinders his ability to obtain financing. After talking with him, he agreed to let these matters stand until he can show more progress on improving the appearance of the building.

Town Counsel:

The Board received a letter this week from K-P Law advising the Town that their hourly billing rate will increase \$5 to \$180 per hour effective Oct 1, 2017

Public records request:

A request was received for all public records related to 38 Clinton Rd. An extension for producing these documents was granted to Sept 19th. An estimate of the cost for these records will be sent to the initiator shortly, and payment will be required before any of the copying process begins.

Financial Analysis:

The Town now has the financial analysis software from Clear Gov. This expense was approved at a previous meeting. Access for the Board can be set up. Eventually, this will be a good tool to make public as it will provide transparency of the Town's finances and show comparisons with other communities.

Greenways & Mass Central Rail Trail

Greenways & Mass Central Rail Trail directors are applying for a grant to fund the construction of a portion of the rail trail in West Boylston. They are asking for a letter of support by Friday this week from Sterling. This will help construct the connection of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) at the eastern end of the Route 140/Beaman Street, West Boylston causeway. Construction will complete 600' of the MCRT including the

landing area for the planned MCRT Stillwater River Bridge. Selectman Lane moved to have the Town Administrator draft a letter of support for the Rail Trail and to authorize the Chair to sign on their behalf. Selectman Kilcoyne 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

MRPC

The MRPC has requested a letter of support for the Affordable Access Regional Coordination grant. This grant will help educate low income home owners about clean energy technologies. Selectman Lane moved to have the Town Administrator draft a letter of support for the MRPC and to authorize the Chair to sign on their behalf. Selectman Kilcoyne 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

The public was reminded that the Fair will begin on Friday afternoon and will run until Sunday afternoon.

The All Boards and Committees meeting to review FY 18 goals will meet on 9/18/17

Adjourn

At 8:55 Selectman Kilcoyne moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lane 2nd. Selectman Kilcoyne – Aye. Selectman Lane – Aye. Chairman Cranson – Aye. Motion carried.

Materials: minutes, Fire and Police updates, Prime Wellness Community Benefits proposal, BOH letter with complaints, one day alcohol requests, road closure request, TA report.