

**MINUTES
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2006**

At a legal meeting of voters of the Town of Sterling qualified to vote in town affairs held on Monday the 13th day of November at the Chocksett School on Boutelle Road, the registrars checked in 72 of the 5247 registered voters of the town. The Moderator, Peter Monaghan called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

ARTICLE 1. Voted, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 60, § 77C of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure on a parcel of land located at 3 Gates Terrace, as shown as Lot 18 on Assessors Map 156, and assessed to Geoffrey & Sandra Jackson. Motion made and seconded to move the words of the article.

Russ Philpot of Heywood Rd, asked what would be done with the parcel by the town. Mr. Sheppard stated that the land consists of 2.3 acres in size. Owners left the house because the septic has failed and they had no way to repair it. The town basically just wants to get back what they can for the back taxes, approximately \$18,200. They will probably tear down the house unless someone would like to buy it and move it. Mr. Philpot also asked if there was anything hazardous on the site due to the septic, the answer was no. They did have a problem with feral cats on the site but nothing hazardous.

PASSED

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 2. Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell for such consideration and on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems reasonable, appropriate and in the best interests of the Town a parcel of land located at 3 Gates Terrace, as shown as Lot 18 on Assessors Map 156, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute and deliver such deeds and other documents it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this article. Motion made and seconded to move on the words of the article. Property is assessed right now, at \$189,000.

PASSED

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 3. Voted to authorize the transfer of \$20,267.25 from the Stabilization Account to a new payroll line item within the Police Budget to be called "Military Pay" said sum to be paid to Scott Johnson in accordance with Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003 as amended by Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2005, which has been duly accepted by the Town of Sterling through its approval of Article #26 of the May 15, 2006 Annual Town Meeting.

PASSED

2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 4. Voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell a conservation restriction on the Town Forest; Map 98 Parcels 5 (5.1ac.), 6 (2.0ac.) and 7 (5.2ac.) and Map 100 Parcels 27 (11.1ac.) and 28 (59ac.) for a total of approximately 82.4 acres, located off of Holden and Princeton Roads, to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation in consideration for \$180,000.00, and to further authorize the Selectmen to act on behalf of the Town in all respects to this matter. The sale of such a restriction must include the ability of the town, from time to time, to log said property in accordance with an approved forestry/logging plan.

Motion made and seconded to move the words of the article.

PASSED

2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to amend the town of Sterling Personnel By-Law "Attachment A- position Description Classification Grades Changes/Additions" by adding, at grade 5, the position of "Administrative Assistant" for the "Planning board" and that the person currently working for the Planning Board be transferred into this position as a town employee without having to advertise or post the position or require an application process.

Nancy Perry of Newell Hill Rd., made a motion, seconded by Nancy Kristoff of Redemption Rock Trail, to amend this article to read: "To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law by adding one Regular part time position of Administrative Assistant at grade 5 to Attachment A-Position Description Classification Grades Changes/Additions, or take any action in relation thereto.

Ken Williams of the Planning Board made a motion that was seconded by Robert Protano, to amend the amendment to add "To the Planning Board" after Administrative Assistant.

Motion made and seconded to accept the amendment to the amendment. Amendment carried.

Voted to amend the Town of Sterling Personnel By-Law, as amended, by adding, one regular part time position of Administrative Assistant to the Planning Board at grade 5 to "Attachment A- position Description Classification Grades Changes/Additions.

PASSED

MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 6. Voted to fund, for the first time, the regular part-time Administrative Assistant position within the Planning Board as created by Article #5 as amended above, of this Special Town Meeting by transferring from Stabilization Account the sum of \$17,126.00, \$9,126.00 of which is to be added to a new line item "Wages" under "Planning Board" in Article #1 of the Annual Town Meeting held on May 15, 2006, and \$8,000.00 which is to be added to the same Article #1, "Workers Comp/Medicare/Liability, Group Insurance and Unemployment Expense" line item.

PASSED

2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERTOR

ARTICLE 7. Voted to pay old bills of the Butterick Building/1835 Town Hall payable to Sterling Municipal Light Department in the amounts of \$732.72 for the Butterick Building and \$87.25 for the 1835 Town Hall said sums to come from the Stabilization Account.

PASSED

9/10THS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 8. Voted to pay old bills of the Fire Department in the amount of \$267.00 to the Fallon Clinic and \$1,084.06 to the DPW for a total sum of \$1,351.06 said sum to come from the Stabilization Account.

PASSED

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. Voted to pay old bills of the Ambulance in the amount of \$166.75 to Airgas East, \$350.90 to Sterling DPW for fuel, \$975.57 to Medicompts, and \$4,281.40 to the Town of Lancaster EMS for a total sum of \$5,774.62 said sum to be paid out of the Ambulance Receipts for Appropriation Account.

PASSED

UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. Voted to pay an old bill of the Board of Appeals, payable to Karen A. Sunnarborg, in the amount of \$1,500.00 said sum to come from funds under the control of the ZBA (\$69.00), which were derived from the Stonegate Village 40B development, and the Stabilization Account (\$1,431.00).

PASSED

9/10THS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 11. Voted to authorize the expenditure of the additional sum of \$116,748.00, to be combined with Article #36 of the May 15, 2006 Annual Town Meeting, said sum to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for highway resurfacing and/or other related work or expenditures as allowed by the State Chapter 90 regulations, said sum to be expended by the Department of Public Works.

PASSED

UNANIMOUS VOTE

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Respectfully submitted

Melanie J. Clark
Town Clerk