

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF STERLING
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - MINUTES
MAY 11, 2009**

Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm, there is no quorum requirement.

Counters sworn in Ronald Pichierri, Robert Protano, Michael Radzicki, Charles Hadju
All non voters were asked to stand and be recognized.

ARTICLE 1. Transfer Free Cash to Water Enterprise Fund

Voted to transfer the sum of \$ 140,047.06 from Available Funds to the Water Enterprise Fund

Motion made to move on the words of the article

Michael Forance made a motion to amend article and due to a question of legality of the article the motion was not be allowed.

Vote taken at 6:46pm

PASSED MAJORITY

ARTICLE 2. Transfer Free Cash to Capital Fund

Voted to transfer the sum of \$ 400,000 from Free Cash to the Capital Fund, as allowed by the bylaws of Sterling.

Motion made to move on the words of the article. Vote taken at 6:52pm

PASSED MAJORITY

ARTICLE 3. Transfer Free Cash to Stabilization Fund

Voted to transfer the sum of \$ 353,133 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 5B, General Laws, as amended.

Motion made to move on the words of the article

Vote taken at 6:55PM

PASSED MAJORITY

ARTICLE 4. Vote to borrow during FY09 due to Ice Storm

Voted to transfer \$240,000 from Abatement Surplus, and further to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow up to \$1,000,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(9) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town, to pay for emergency and cleanup costs resulting from the Ice Storm of December 11-12, 2008.

Motion made and seconded to move on the words of the article. Nancy Perry questioned what the abatement surplus account is. Donlin Murray explained.

Mr. Philpot asked why are they are borrowing when there is money in the stabilization fund. Donna Erickson, Town Treasurer explained.

Vote taken at 7:03pm

PASSED 2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 5. Bills from Prior Fiscal Years

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, a sum of money to pay any outstanding prior fiscal year's invoices.

Motion made to table article

TABLED

ARTICLE 6. Transfers within FY09 Operating Budget

Voted to transfer funds within the FY09 Operating Budget, from one account to another.

Motion made to move that the town vote

1,500 from insurance expense to article 34 may 12 2008 ATM for Wachusett Earthday expense
5,000 from insurance expense to Zoning Board expense for legal bills
3,000 from insurance expense to Information Technology Professional services
2,000 from insurance expense to DPW expense computer equipment

Vote taken at 7:05 pm

PASSED MAJORITY

ARTICLE 7. Transfer for Future Potential Senior Center

Voted to transfer \$3,500 from Article 12 ATM May 12, 2003 to the FY09 Reserve Fund, and further to transfer \$46,500 from Article 12 ATM May 12, 2003, for expenditures in connection with a potential new Senior Center.

Motion made to move on the words of the article with the amount to read 46, 500 from article 12 ATM May 12, 2003

Motion made to table the article, motion defeated

Vote take on article 7 at 7:20pm

PASSED 2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 8. Transfer for Butterick Building Maintenance

Voted to transfer \$19,600 from Article 27 of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting to fund various repairs and maintenance at the Butterick Municipal Building.

Motion made and second to move on the words of the article.

Vote taken at 7:15 pm

PASSED UNANIMOUS

ARTICLE 9. Purchase New Wood and Brush Chipper

Voted to transfer from the Capital Fund, the sum of \$35,000 to purchase a new wood and brush chipper, said sum to be expended by the Department of Public Works.

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

Vote taken at 7:18

PASSED 2/3RDS VOTE DECLARED BY MODERATOR

ARTICLE 10. Fund Deficit due to Snow and Ice

Voted to transfer from the Stabilization Fund, the sum of \$84,429.03 to the Snow and Ice Account to cover the deficit in the snow and ice budget for the current fiscal year.

Motion made and seconded to transfer from stabilization fund the sum of 84,429.03

Vote taken at 7:20pm

PASSED UNANIMOUS

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the special town meeting at 7:21pm

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie J. Clark
Town Clerk