

**Sterling Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 17th, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.
Town Hall – Room #15**

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Selectmen present: Jack Joslyn, Ronald Whitcomb, & Patricia Massey.

Selectmen absent:

Staff present: Judith Stumpo-Revenue Collector, Sara Sleboda-Treasurer, & Ashley StJean-Recording Secretary.


Pledge of Allegiance: Everyone stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience of Citizens:

Approval of Minutes:

- a. P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to amend the November 5th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes-*Unfinished Business*: A should state “Discussion regarding employment job descriptions for all Recreation Department employees: Update”. Motion carried 3-0.
- b. R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to amend the November 19th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes-*Unfinished Business*: A should state “Discussion regarding employment job descriptions for all Recreation Department employees: Update”. Motion carried 3-0.
- c. P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to approve the December 3rd, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Correspondence:

- a. **The Last Green Valley**-P. Massey read letter to give more clarity & transparency of its contents.
 R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to highly consider in budget season including \$500.00 for TLGV in our FY2027 budget & consider contributing to TLGV if the Town has remaining funds budgeted for regional agencies in our FY2026 budget. Motion carried 3-0.
- b. **Constellation: Change in Law Notice—Connecticut Renewable Portfolio Standard Changes**-P. Massey read letter to give more clarity & transparency of its contents.
- c. **United States Senator: Richard Blumenthal**-P. Massey read letter to give more clarity & transparency of its contents. She expressed the idea to reach out to U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal about the potential to meet outside of scheduled public meetings to help with working better as a team. P. Massey & R. Whitcomb still fresh & new to Town business were not aware of a state statute that forbids said meetings from happening. “In Connecticut, private, unannounced meetings of a Board of Selectmen to discuss or act on official business are illegal under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), specifically articulated in Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) § 1-225 and CGS § 1-200(2).”
- d. **A&E Services Group, LLC: Sterling Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program**-P. Massey read letter to give more clarity & transparency of its contents. She questioned this program & what they did for the Town.

- ✚ J. Joslyn advised that after speaking with S. Sleboda, she is looking into this more.

Unfinished Business:

- a. **Discussion regarding employment job descriptions for all Recreation Department employees: Update-**P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to table this item until Jason Licciardi returns from medical leave to review. Motion carried 3-0.
- b. **Discussion regarding new camera, Wi-Fi, & heavy-duty locking electric covers for the Gazebo: Update-**J. Joslyn advised that the material/equipment is expected to be delivered sometime in January & that we are just waiting to receive everything to install.
- c. **Discussion regarding Recreation Department Finances/Budget: Update-**P. Massey made a motion, seconded by J. Joslyn, to table this item until Jason Licciardi returns from medical leave to review. Motion carried 3-0.
- h. **Discussion regarding 72" culvert pipes-Update-**J. Joslyn advised that the possible buyer is currently not interested in purchasing the culvert pipes. He further advised that we work on getting the culvert pipes posted on the government auction website.
- i. **Discussion regarding new *Street Takeover* law: Update-**J. Joslyn advised that this Ordinance is still in draft mode due to the fact that the Town would need an entity to enforce said Ordinance. He further advised that he reach out to the Town's attorney to try & finalize the drafted Ordinance.
- j. **Discussion regarding the purchase & installation of the radiator to the generator located at the Neil H. Cook park-**J. Joslyn advised that he spoke with BRG Radiator & they stated that they expect this job to be completed by the end of this year (2025).

New Business:

- a. **Consider & Re-Appointment of Stephen Thompson to a 3-Year Term (Expiring 12/1/2028) to the Planning & Zoning Commission-**P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to re-appoint Stephen Thompson to a 3-year term (Expiring 12/1/2028) to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
- b. **Consider & Re-Appointment of Heather George to a 4-Year Term (Expiring 12/30/2029) as the Town Clerk-**R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to re-appoint Heather George to a 4-year term (Expiring 12/30/2029) as the Town Clerk. Motion carried 3-0.
- c. **Consider & Re-Appointment of Geoffrey Cooper & Ernie Lewis to 1-Year Terms (Expiring 12/31/2026) to the Voluntown/Sterling Transfer Station Commission-**R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to re-appoint Geoffrey Cooper & Ernie Lewis to 1-year terms (Expiring 12/31/2026) to the Volutown/Sterling Transfer Station Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
- d. **Approval of Bills-**P. Massey questioned the following line items on the following Vouchers:
 - Voucher #1251→Line Item for Sherri A. Soucy \$13,000.00
 - J. Joslyn & S. Sleboda advised that this was for S. Soucy's final payment for her services rendered in FY2025 that was lower than what S. Soucy was asking for, which took months of negotiating to get to agree upon a payment amount.
 - Voucher #1251→Line Item for Halloran & Sage \$5,793.10 & Voucher #1219→Line Item for Halloran & Sage \$1,480.00
 - S. Sleboda clarified that any & all correspondence with the Town's attorney gets billed. She further advised that the Town has ongoing suits that the town's Attorney is assisting with FOIA requests, Margaret Henry animal abuse case, general questions/inquiries, etc.
 - Voucher #1219→Line Item for SHI International \$9,089.00
 - S. Sleboda clarified that this is the yearly subscription to the Town's website.

- Voucher #1219→Line Item for Sterling Community School \$17,981.48
 - S. Sleboda clarified that this is the Town's half portion for the year for using the Sterling Community School's IT service. She further expressed that if any of the Board of Selectmen have any future questions about any bills that they can come to her at any time to gain clarification.
- Voucher #1244→Line Item for Northeast District Department of Health \$18,766.60
 - S. Sleboda clarified that this is the yearly payment for the contract with the Northeast District Department of Health.
- ✚ R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to approve the monthly Invoices for \$196,477.64. Motion carried 3-0.
- e. **Treasurer's Report**-Treasurer's report was reviewed by the Selectmen.

Any other Business to come before the Board of Selectmen:

- a. P. Massey circled back on the drafted Ordinance & reflected back on its importance in remedying the Town-wide issue of reckless activities involving off-road vehicles. She expressed that the Town of Sterling does not currently have the authority required to help enforce the drafted Ordinance. She read a quote of President John Adams that she thought summed up Sterling's current predicament. "Our Constitution was made only for a moral & religious people; self-governing, self-disciplining. It is wholly inadequate to the government of anything else."

Adjournment: R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Attest: *Ashley StJean*
Recording Secretary