

**Sterling Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 21st, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.
Town Hall – Room #15**

The meeting of the Sterling Board of Selectmen was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

Selectmen absent:

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

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

Audience of Citizens: Lincoln Cooper, Karen Izzo, & Paul Manocchio.

- a. L. Cooper stated that it is "Good to be on this side of the fence."

Approval of Minutes:

- a. R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to approve the December 17th, 2025, Public Hearing Minutes. Motion carried 3-0.
- b. P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to approve the December 17th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Correspondence:

- a. **United States Senate: Senator Richard Blumenthal**-P. Massey expressed that the *Water Resources Development Act* (WRDA) would help assist in the dredging of the pond. J. Joslyn advised that due to cancelling the January 7th, 2026 Board of Selectmen Meeting, the cutoff date (January 16th, 2026) to submit for this assistance was missed. P. Massey requested that the Town try to reach out to get an extension.
- b. **Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. (ECCD)**-J. Joslyn advised that this will be passed along to the Treasurer to get put on the budget.
- c. **Senior Resources Agency on Aging**-J. Joslyn advised that there is no action needed for this.
 - P. Massey advised that this Agency could provide assistance to the Seniors in need & wanted to praise all that they do to help.
- d. **Cable TV Advisory Council of Eastern Connecticut**-J. Joslyn advised that there are 2 open spots on this Council (1 to represent the Municipality & 1 to represent the Board of Education) & that the Board of Selectmen needs to appoint someone as a member to represent the Municipality. J. Joslyn suggested to appoint Cory Luba from the Town of Sterling's IT Department for this spot.
 - R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to appoint Cory Luba as the member (with a 2-year term expiring 7/1/28) to represent the Municipality on the Cable TV Advisory Council of Eastern Connecticut . Motion carried 3-0.
- e. **Plainfield-Killingly Probate Court (27)**-J. Joslyn advised that this will be passed along to the Treasurer to get put on the budget.
 - P. Massey asked for clarification of what is involved in probate court & why the Town of Sterling pays. L. Cooper provided said clarification.
- f. **Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection**-J. Joslyn advised that he will reach out to the Town's Engineer, Matthew Maynard of Towne Engineering, to get the Dam Inspection scheduled.

g. **Verogy: Husky Solar**-J. Joslyn acknowledged the proposal of the solar system, substation, & 3-breaker ring bus switching station.

- P. Massey expressed concerns about this proposal. J. Stumpo questioned if this would have to go before Planning & Zoning. J. Joslyn confirmed that it would. K. Izzo questioned if Verogy-Husky Solar owns said 202 acres. J. Joslyn advised that they do not & would most likely be renting the acreage from the owners.

Unfinished Business:

- Discussion regarding employment job descriptions for all Recreation Department employees: Update**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to accept & approve the employment job descriptions for all the Recreation Department employees. Motion carried 3-0.
- 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 by next week. S. Slepoda further advised that the material/equipment arrived & that IT needs to set everything up.
- Discussion regarding Recreation Department Finances/Budget: Update**-J. Joslyn advised that this item was approved at the Town Meeting on December 17th, 2025.
- Discussion regarding 72" culvert pipes-Update**-J. Joslyn advised that the 72" culvert pipes should be on the government auction site by the end of the week.
- Discussion regarding new Street Takeover law: Update**-J. Joslyn advised that this Ordinance is still in draft stage due to the fact that the Town would need an entity to enforce said Ordinance. He further advised that he would reach out to the Town's attorney to try & finalize the drafted Ordinance.
- Discussion regarding the purchase & installation of the radiator to the generator located at the Neil H. Cook park**-J. Joslyn advised that this project was completed on January 13th, 2026.

New Business:

- Consider & Appointment of Myron "Jack" Joslyn to a 1-Year Term (Expiring 6/3/2026) to the Chamber of Commerce**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to appoint Myron "Jack" Joslyn to a 1-year term (Expiring 6/3/2026) to the Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried 3-0.
- Consider & Appointment of Neil Delmonico to a 1-Year Term (Expiring 6/30/2026) to the Economic Development Commission**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to appoint Neil Delmonico to a 1-year term (Expiring 6/30/2026) to the Economic Development Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
- Consider & Appointment of Steven Joslyn to a 2-Year Term (Expiring 6/30/2027) to the Economic Development Commission**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to appoint Steven Joslyn to a 2-year term (Expiring 6/30/2027) to the Economic Development Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
- Consider & Act on Snow & Ice Policy**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to accept & approve the Snow & Ice Policy. Motion carried 3-0.
- Consider & Act on DPW Garage cameras**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to approve & send to the Board of Finance for their approval of the CDW-G's quote of \$1,579.20 for the update of the DPW Garage camera system. Motion carried 3-0.
- Lincoln Cooper presenting Red, White, & Blue Celebration for the 250th Anniversary of America**-L. Cooper discussed the upcoming 250th Anniversary of America & expressed the idea of putting together a volunteer committee to plan a BBQ picnic type of event free to all residents of Sterling located at the Gazebo in the front of the Town Hall on Saturday, July 4th, 2026. L. Cooper further discussed possibility of donations. J. Stumpo questioned why the need of a "new committee" instead of using the Family Day Committee. L. Cooper advised that he believes that the Recreation Department would be more suitable for said event for advertising purposes.

- R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to endorse L. Cooper's *Red, White, & Blue Celebration* BBQ Picnic idea.

g. **Discussion regarding overview of Water Filtration Plant DWSRF Application & Funding Process**-J. Stumpo discussed in vast detail the need for a Water Filtration Plant & expressed the following key points:

- Levels of iron & manganese are very high causing metallic taste, stains, sediment deposits, cloudy water, etc.
- 10% of the Town uses the water system.
- Estimated cost for Water Filtration Plant ranges from \$2.35 million to \$4.99 million.

⊕ J. Stumpo further advised the steps moving forward:

- Figure out contracting & funding.
- Finish the application before moving forward. Matt Cassedy from RCAP is assisting in this.
- Create a project plan where a designated team meets regularly which should include: WhiteWater, RCAP, & others within the Town.
- There will need to be permits pulled, Public Hearings/Town Meetings scheduled, involvement with Town of Plainfield (Sewer purposes), inquire about state/federal funding, HR/Treasurer assistance.
- Create a webpage on the Town's website specific to the Water Filtration Plant & its progress.

➤ L. Cooper commended all of the hard work & dedication that J. Stumpo put forth on this project.

h. **Approval of Bills**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to approve the monthly Invoices for \$183,692.31. Motion carried 3-0.

i. **Treasurer's Report**-Treasurer's report was reviewed by the Selectmen.

Any other Business to come before the Board of Selectmen:

- Consider & Act on year one of the IT Department's 5-Year Capital Project Plan**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to approve & send to the Board of Finance for their approval, the B&H's quote of \$9,369.38 for year one of the IT Department's 5-Year Capital Project Plan. Motion carried 3-0.
- Resignation of Sara Sloboda from the position of the Economic Development Commission Coordinator**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to accept with regret the resignation of Sara Sloboda from the position of the Economic Development Commission Coordinator. Motion carried 3-0.

⊕ J. Joslyn advised that Susanne Tetreault will be filling the position of the Economic Development Commission Coordinator.

- Resignation of Ashley StJean from the Agricultural Commission**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to accept with regret the resignation of Ashley StJean from the Agricultural Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
- Resignation of Ashley StJean from the Safety Committee**-P. Massey made a motion, seconded by R. Whitcomb, to accept with regret the resignation of Ashley StJean from the Safety Committee. Motion carried 3-0.
- Consider & Appointment of Jennifer Jamroz to the Safety Committee**-R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to appoint Jennifer Jamroz to the Safety Committee. Motion carried 3-0.
- P. Massey advised that there are 50+ unregistered vehicles parked in the field across from the Herb Shop on Porter Pond Road. She further stated that after speaking with L. Cooper, this has been going on for about 20 years & that the Town should try to remediate the issue of the "junkyard". A. StJean mentioned that we first need to see who owns said property as the person who owned the Herb Shop recently passed away & was

not sure if that field was owned by the same person. If that is correct, then that would mean it would be going through probate. Research is needed to confirm who owns the property with the vehicles & check if there's an Ordinance in place addressing the abundance of unregistered vehicles. L. Cooper questioned who would be the authority to enforce said Ordinance as Sterling does not have a police force.

Adjournment: R. Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by P. Massey, to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Attest: *Ashley Stjean*
Recording Secretary