

MINUTES
TRI-BOARD MEETING
Sterling Board of Finance
Sterling Board of Education
Sterling Board of Selectmen

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
6:45 pm

STERLING COMMUNITY SCHOOL
(Community Room)
251 Sterling Road
Sterling, CT 06377

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by M. Rouillard, Board of Education Chair at 6:45 pm

Present were:

Board of Finance: R. Salisbury, J. Molodich, N. Delmonico

Absent: S. Offiler, C. Farrugia, T. Adams

Board of Selectmen: L. Cooper, D. Shippee, M. Joslyn

Board of Education: M. Rouillard, C. Langlois, V. Robinson-Lewis, J. Mossner,
D. Capobianco

Absent: L. Shippee

Left Early: C. Langlois 7:00 pm

Also in Attendance: T. Friend, C. Brannon, C. Chandler,

Audience of Citizens: R. Bonner

II. BOARD OF SELECTMEN ITEMS:

A. HVAC system at the town hall

- L. Cooper discussed the new heating and cooling system that is in the process of being installed at the town hall. The project was done with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money. The new system runs on electricity. There are 65 units in the town hall. Six companies participated in a walkthrough at the town hall. The two 10,000 gal fuel tanks will be removed from the ground and the generator will be replaced. These are not covered by ARPA monies.

B. Anticipated purchase of the new DPW truck

- L. Cooper stated that this was voted on last Thursday night at a town meeting. The town voted to purchase a new truck for the town road crew. The truck will have a plow and dump body. It has a special design that will allow it to distribute sand. This is not to replace vehicles, this is to add to them.

- C. Walter filtration system at the town garage
 - The water at the garage has not been drinkable for many years. ARPA money was used to purchase and install a new water filtration system at the town garage. A new heating system was also installed at the garage replacing the 40 year old system.

- D. Improvements to the town water system infrastructure
 - L. Cooper stated that there is a water system in town that feeds approximately 100 residents. The town wells (located in the Neil Cook Memorial Park) have a high degree of manganese and iron. The water is treated, but doesn't take away the impurities. With the filtration system this will give residents suitable water. The town has been working closely with the DPH and are currently filling out paperwork to apply for some assistance. The project cost is close to 1.5million dollars.

 - L. Cooper also added that recently at a Board of Selectmen's meeting they voted to have a company to come in and update the town website. It will be more user friendly.

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

- A. Update on the Budget
 - Budget Presentations to the town on May 3, 2023 7:00 pm

- B. 5 year Capital Plan
 - T. Friend spoke about the current creation of the 5 year capital plan. He is looking forward to more planning. He discussed student enrollment and that the school will be monitoring student enrollment in the future. Salaries in the next contract negotiations will need to be addressed. Sterling is significantly lower than surrounding areas.
 - D. Shippee questioned the ECS grant money and how the amount drops every year - this year it is down \$118,000. T.Friend noted that the superintendents' group that he belongs to has a representative that is lobbying on the schools behalf.
 - T. Friend also noted that our students are very well supported.

IV. BOARD OF FINANCE ITEMS

- B. Salisbury stated that they don't have any projects that they are working on other than the resolution of the budgets. They are looking forward to the presentations to the town and to hear what the town's people have to say.

V. ANY OTHER ISSUES

- B. Salisbury stated that the Board of Finance is on board with the need for long range planning.
- Once budget season is completed the Capital Plan meetings will resume.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned on 7:25 pm