

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRI-BOARD MEETING**  
Special Meeting of the  
Sterling Board of Finance  
Sterling Board of Education  
Sterling Board of Selectmen

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

STERLING COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
251 Sterling Road  
Sterling, CT 06377  
Community Room – 6:00 pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by R. Choquette, Board of Education Chair.

Present were:

Board of Finance: B. Salisbury, N. Delmonico and D. Shippee

Board of Education: R. Choquette, D. Capobianco, L. Shippee Also in attendance: G. Lanza and D. Zajac

Board of Selectmen: L. Cooper and J. Firlik

Audience of Citizens: F. Bood, K. Gunn, J. Angelone, R. Bonner and M. Cook

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. BOARD OF FINANCE ISSUES**

- A. B. Salisbury discussed the option of having students visit the Town offices to be more aware of what elected officials' duties are and to prepare them for elections in the future. A discussion was held regarding possibly shadowing town officials and a town government facebook page. Currently 6th grade students are studying government issues and the possibility of a mock election with the candidates could be set up.
- B. L. Shippee asked about adding library board to the agenda. At the library board meeting a discussion was held regarding changing the current sign at the town with a lighted digital sign. The board of selectmen will meet to discuss this as a group and will let L. Shippee know.

**III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ISSUES**

- A. Discussion on Fence - Closure from corner of existing building along walkway and terminating at tree line.

A proposal/contract and map from Atlas Companies L.L.C. was passed out to the board members. R. Bonner noted safety concerns regarding anyone being able to drive onto the track and digging up the fields. D. Shippee asked if the gate openings will be large

enough for the fire trucks to go through. The fire department will be contacted to come to the school to look at the proposed fence to make sure. The cost is estimated to be \$6,206.28 and will be taken out of the Capital Account if approved. R. Bonner will confer with fire department to make sure openings are what is needed for emergency services and he will check on cost as original proposal was dated 2018. R. Bonner will get back to G. Lanza regarding both issues.

**B. Update regarding Solar Project**

L. Cooper noted that the installation is imminent. R. Bonner noted that there will be 2 crews: one for school and one for the town. A discussion was held regarding having this installed when school is in session and the safety of the students and staff. Plainfield had the same issue and is having their installation done next summer. F. Bood questioned the warrantee time period.

**C. Discussion on Generator Tank**

The tank at the school holds 530 gallons and was larger than expected. A discussion was held regarding purchasing a larger tank at the town garage. This would allow the town to get a better price per gallon.

**D. Discussion on buses at the Town Garage**

R. Choquette presented the idea of housing the buses at a central location rather than at the drivers' homes. M. Cook noted that if the buses are all in one location there could be more chance of damage. F. Bood said that currently there is not adequate space to hold all the buses at the town garage. K. Gunn noted that she bases the runs on where the drivers live and said that the drivers like having the buses at their homes. G. Lanza will check with CIRMA to see if the buses are insured wherever they are parked.

**E. Discussion on School Record Storage**

G. Lanza asked if there is any additional room for record storage at the town building. Currently there is not a lot of extra room for records. D. Shippee will check options for possible digital storage at the CCM meeting in December. The possibility of a digital image scanner, microfiche and an offsite location other than the town building to house records was discussed. It was brought up that Plainfield may be using an off site location for their records and the school will check with them to see what they currently do.

**F. R. Choquette discussed adding snow/delayed start to the agenda.**

When there is a delayed start or no school due to snow the town is also plowing the school later. Office staff and teachers come in earlier than the delayed start time and office staff also come in when there is no school and this is a safety concern if the parking lot is not plowed. The town will be notified to plow the school first and G. Lanza will notify R. Bonner if no one is coming in so he can notify the town.

A discussion was also held regarding installing a blinking light or approaching school zone signs. This has been brought up in the past with the DOT and L. Cooper will contact them and have them contact the school to discuss this.

**IV. BOARD OF SELECTMEN ISSUES**

A. Update Regarding Paving of Town Road

L. Cooper stated that the paving started on Sept. 24th and will continue through next Monday, Sept. 30th - then it will start again the following Monday, Oct. 7th. The lines will be added when all the paving is finished. Also starting on the morning of Sept. 26th the bridge on 14A will be closed and this will affect the bus routes.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

R. Choquette, Board of Education Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm