

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 19, 2019. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Mackenzie Hopping, Joe Martin, John Stauter, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Financial Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no comments from Visitors.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- A) Minutes of February 4, 2018 and Special meeting of February 11, 2019
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$693,025.98
- C) Resolution #R2019-02-04 to amend 2018 MFT General Maintenance Funding in the amount of \$42,000**
- D) Resolution #R2019-02-05 to amend 2019 MFT General Maintenance Funding in the amount of \$42,000**
- E) Resolution #R2019-02-06 authorizing \$449,192,53 for improvements to the Route 40 bridge**
- F) Low bid of Stichter Construction, Inc. of Eire, Illinois to demolish 305 Wallace Street in the amount of \$8,150.00
- G) Low bid of Hopkins & Associates to provide audit services for fiscal years ending 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022
- H) Ordinance #2019-02-02 Annexation of property from Sterling Park District located at the northwest corner of West LeFevre and Lynn Boulevard**
- I) Ordinance #2019-02-03 Annexation of property from Sterling Industrial Development Commission located at the northeast corner of West LeFevre and Lynn Boulevard**

Motion seconded by Alderman Hopping. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Hopping, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion authorizing the City Manager to sign the Agreement for Professional Services with Fehr Graham for Phase 2 environmental assessment work at the Lawrence Brothers site in the amount of \$85,000 and \$25,000 additional for lab testing, if required; seconded by Alderman Wise. Alderman Stauter asked if this is the full amount from Sterling Industrial Development Commission. Manager Shumard stated it is not. Alderman Wise asked how deep the borings would be. Joel Zirkle with Fehr Graham stated they would drill 15' to 20' to bedrock. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Hopping, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign Task Orders related to Engineering Services for the Fourth and Fifth Avenue drainage improvements; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained engineering would be completed with work on utility relocation beginning this summer. Construction would begin in 2020. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Hopping, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Hopping reported Christ Lutheran School would be having a Fun Fair this weekend.

Alderman Elston encouraged attendance at the CEO class Taste of Sauk Valley on Thursday, February 28. Elston also enjoyed the tour at CGH of the second floor surgery area.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm for a budget study session.

Manager Shumard reviewed initiatives from the Strategic Plan that could influence the budget. Property Tax EAV increased. Sales tax increased by 3%. Other sales tax, such as video gaming, continues to rise. Franchise fees continue to decline. Income tax did not increase as much as projected. Replacement tax is estimated to increase. Many of these revenues are estimated from Illinois Municipal League (IML).

For the expense side, Health Insurance should decrease. Extra funding in IT for a new website and replace building-wide battery back-up and data back-up. Increase to fire and police pensions. Capital to replace fire engine and Public Works building. Plan Commission will begin updating to Comprehensive Plan. Summer intern budgeted in Administration. Cost for Police support services are up with county-wide dispatch and no changes planned yet to billing. Primary road project will be Lynn and LeFevre. Some funding will be available to begin Central Park/Grandon renovations. Other

capital expenditures are two Code Enforcement trucks, Coliseum tuckpointing, and strategic plan projects of branding implementation and wayfinding/entry improvements.

Other budgets will be reviewed March 4 and 18. Budget will be on display March 22. Budget hearing will be on April 1, with adoption on April 15.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk