

At 5:30 pm, Tripp Muldrow with Arnett Muldrow presented a webinar on community branding. Muldrow explained they conduct a three-day, on-site visit to gather data, organize roundtables, assist with an implementation workshop, and end with a brand reveal. The brand equips the community with tools to promote the area and works as an internal market tool to instill pride in the community. The process usually takes 12 to 14 weeks. The fee is comprehensive. Council asked Manager Shumard to get a cost estimate and include this in the FY 18-19 Budget.

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 2, 2018. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Bob Conklin, Retha Elston, 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, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Deputy Police Chief Jeff Mohr, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

- A) Minutes from March 19, 2018
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$753,581.63
- C) **Resolution #R2018-04-01 to Close Second Street and turn lane from First Avenue** for Main Street Car Show on Sunday, May 6, 2018
- D) **Resolution #R2018-04-02 to Close Fourth Street for Memorial Day Ceremony** at Grandon on Monday, May 28, 2018
- E) **Resolution #R2018-04-03 to Close Fourth Street for Band Concerts** at Grandon on Wednesday and Saturday evenings throughout the summer
- F) **Resolution #R2018-04-04 to Close Fourth Street for Movies at Grandon** on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer

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

Chief Gary Cook introduced Firefighter Ryan Latvaitis. Latvaitis has completed his one year of probation. His wife, Christine, pinned him.

Mayor Lee asked for a moment of silence to remember Brandi Laughlin, wife of Fire Captain Laughlin.

Alderman Elston made a motion to pass the Proclamation Declaring April 5, 2018 as Junior Achievement Day; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Manager Shumard has

worked with the Junior Achievement program in the local sixth grade class and is happy to support a program that teaches the students the practical things in life. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Mayor Lee opened a public hearing at 6:37 pm for the FY 2018-19 Budget. There were no comments. Mayor Lee closed the public hearing at 6:38 pm.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2018-04-06 Amending Chapter 10, Article II, Section 10-45 Governing Fees Imposed on Operators of Mechanical Amusement Devices**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Clerk Rombouts explained there are only three Operators who provide machines across the City. This does not include gaming devices. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2018-04-07 Amending the Liquor Code to Permit Certain Events on Public Property when Authorized by the Liquor Control Commissioner**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Mayor Lee stated that many communities allow patrons to go from bar to bar with open beverages. Main Street Director Groharing explained they want to do pop-up markets in Dale Park. Vendors have signed up and Groharing will work with downtown bars to provide alcohol, thus, keeping patrons downtown. Alderman Wilen asked who would be liable. Groharing stated it would be the liquor establishment with their dram shop insurance. Mayor Lee reported that Police Chief Morgan is on board with this concept. Alderman Conklin asked who will control where people are going. Groharing envisions volunteers in a booth at the market dispensing specific plastic glasses that can be used at this event. Alderman Elston asked about security. Attorney Zollinger explained the area can be demarcated so that people will not be cited for open consumption. Alderman Wise is concerned about demarcation, control, and bar owners' comments.

Mayor Lee stated the Band Commission is also interested in serving alcohol at the Band Concerts to entice more people to attend.

Groharing stated the pop-up markets would be three hours on the third Thursday of May, June, July, and August. Alderman Wilen asked who would issue the permit. Mayor Lee stated that as Liquor Commissioner he would issue the permit. Alderman Conklin asked about the patio that had been planned at the Depot several years ago. Manager Shumard stated that would have required the property to be leased or purchased, which could not be done.

Groharing stated Main Street does not want to sell alcohol but this would work well with the Fiesta Parade for patrons to step outside with their drinks to watch the parade. Alderman Martin expressed concern with patrons walking around town with open liquor.

Alderman Wilen would like to see something like this work because she saw it work in North Carolina for festivals. Wilen's concern is that one person has the power to grant the permit. Alderman Stauter is concerned about control in the area. Alderman Conklin asked why Light Street cannot be used. Groharing stated it would be difficult to start the market while parking lots were still being used.

Dick Card would like to know if it could be done orderly and under control. He feels it is a lot of liability.

Alderman Stauter asked the legal ramifications. Attorney Zollinger stated the City would not have more liability than anyone else walking on public sidewalks. Zollinger suggested that the ordinance could be sunsetted in one year after a trial period.

Alderman Wise appreciates Groharing's initiative but would like to see examples from other communities and how to contain and control the area. Alderman Wise made a motion to table **Ordinance No. 2018-04-07 Amending the Liquor Code to Permit Certain Events on Public Property when Authorized by the Liquor Control Commissioner**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to pass **Resolution #R2018-04-06 to Combine Electrical Load**; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Mike Mudge with Rock River Energy Services explained this resolution permits Rock River to combine several communities together to get a better electrical rate for residential and small businesses. Several nearby communities have contracts expiring about the same time. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Conklin made a motion to pass **Resolution #R2018-04-05 Authorizing the Mayor, with assistance of the City Manager, to select a supplier which will select the new supplier contract, including the energy rate and term**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Mudge explained this authorizes the Mayor and Manager to act on quotes quickly because of time sensitivity; rates can change daily. Voting: Ayes – Alderman Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2018-04-07 Authorizing the Mayor to send letters of objection to legislators regarding changes to the TIF Districts**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained these changes would eliminate porting funds from one TIF District to another like we hope to do with our Central Business District TIFs. It would also require positive letters of support from every education district to approve a TIF. IML also opposed this

legislation. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Conklin made a motion to pass **Resolution #R2018-04-08 Supporting Senate Bill 2611 Amending the School Code to Allow for Temporary Door Locking Devices**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Alderman Stauter asked if there are different warning signals for fire, active shooter, or emergency. Chief Cook explained that temporary locking devices are dangerous because they need to be easily removed by anyone. Deputy Chief Mohr reported that devices are used where door cannot be secured and hard lock downs are announced for non-fire emergencies. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston reminded the public of Sterling Main Street's "Sip into Spring" event on Thursday, April 19.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk