

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 4, 2018. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: Aldermen Bob Conklin and John Stauter.

Also present were City Attorney Matt Keegan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Financial Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Waste Water Treatment Scott Howard, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no communications from Visitors.

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

- A) Minutes from May 7, 2018
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$2,365,460.87
- C) Petition from Sterling Kiwanis to hold a Bucket Brigade on June 9, 2018

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

Alderman Martin made a motion to raise from the table the matter authorizing the City Manager to enter into the contingent fee professional services agreement with Azavar; seconded by Alderman Wise. Director Von Holten explained the agreement protected Azavar in the event of a change in Mayors. Section 3.4 of the agreement was removed because the City Manager will be signing the contract. Azavar will collect 45% of recovered funds.

Alderman Martin made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into the contingent fee professional services agreement with Azavar; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to accept the low bid from O'Brien Civil Works in the amount of \$45,339.20 for the sanitary sewer replacement work between Avenue D and Locust; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to authorize the City Manger to enter into an agreement for planning and bid document services for the Farmer's Market area with

Mead & Hunt in the amount of \$49,500; seconded by Alderman Wilen. Manager Shumard stated this is 5% of the estimate, which is common. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston announced the first band concert will be Wednesday night and the first movie, Despicable Me 3, will be next Tuesday. Janna Groharing announced there will be plenty of activities prior to the movie. Elston mentioned how nice Grandon looks cleaned up and with fresh paint.

Superintendent Howard announced that Terry Cox, a 3 year employee, passed his Class 3 Exam for Waste Water Treatment. Howard also reported on studies with Gasvoda on water infiltration. Manholes need to be sealed along Lynn Boulevard. Another large source of rain spikes come from Wallace Street and the downtown area.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned to a study session at 6:53 pm.

Nicole from Republic Services was available for any question on the garbage contract. Manager Shumard stated that he is looking for consensus from the Council to move forward. Alderman Wise indicated the ten year contract will provide consistency and stability. This rate includes one bulk item per household, per week. Alderman Martin confirmed that the contract could be lowered if costs decrease. General consensus was to move forward with the contract for ten years with an annual 3% increase.

Janna Groharing explained that hanging flower baskets in the downtown since 2014. Firehouse of God did the watering and they no longer have the manpower to do it. Main Street is looking to purchase an ATV with a trailer to pull a 100 gallon tank of water. Approximate cost of \$12,000. Groharing has two people interested in doing the watering. She is asking for a one-time donation of \$3000 from the City to purchase the ATV, tank, and trailer. The Council was in favor of this expenditure to enhance the downtown.

Manager Shumard gave Council an update on the Twincom Dispatch Center. The City's share has risen to \$570,000 annually. This exceeds what we paid for our separate dispatch and \$200,000 more than we paid last year. Shumard asked if the Council wanted him to challenge the billing or wait until 2020 when it will be reviewed by all entities.

Alderman Wise feels an argument should be presented because consolidation was to save money. Wise asked if there is a separability clause. Attorney Keegan would check with Zollinger on terms for terminating. Manager Shumard explained that Sterling and Rock Falls pay for a Special Service Area for ambulance. No other communities in the County pay for a Special Service Area or fire calls.

Mayor Lee stated that the County has not accepted comments from the Commission in the operations.

Chief Morgan explained the number is based on calls for service. He has removed any calls that Records can handle to reduce dispatch cases, such as FOIA or sex offenders listings. Manager Shumard admitted that the first contract was just an estimate. Alderman Wise supports Shumard to fight these numbers.

Chief Morgan stated that his peers have not realized savings in dispatch consolidations either.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Marie Rombouts  
City Clerk