

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 18, 2018. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, John Stauter, and Jim Wise. Absent: Aldermen Bob Conklin and Christine Wilen.

Also present were City Attorney Jim Reese, City Manager Scott Shumard, Financial Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Superintendent of Wastewater 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 Stauter made a motion to remove Items H, I, J, and K from the Consent Agenda; seconded by Alderman Wise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

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

- A) Minutes from May 21, 2018 and June 4, 2018
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$903,973.33
- C) Plan Commission Minutes from October 19, 2017
- D) Petition from Marine Corps League to hold a Bucket Brigade on June 30, 2018
- E) Refer to Plan Commission a Petition from Sterling American Legion Post #296 to allow a sign in the right-of-way at 601 First Avenue
- F) Ordinance #2018-06-25 Certifying the Prevailing Wage**
- G) Resolution #R2018-06-10 Regarding the .02% Building and Maintenance Property Tax Levy for Sterling Public Library**
- L) Award Bid to Twin City Construction for 2018 Street Projects Contract #1 in the amount of \$377,777.77 (East Eighth Street from Locust to First Avenue and East 16th Street from 11th Avenue to 16th Avenue)

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

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve (H) Amendment #1 to Miller Road/Second Avenue Drainage Improvements incurring an additional \$12,500 to the Technical Services Agreement; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained engineering plans were changed because of the increased culvert size at First Avenue.

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

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve (I) Amendment #1 to Northland Mall Detention Basin incurring an additional \$11,900 to the Technical Services Agreement; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained engineering plans were changed to accommodate backfill being added to surrounding properties owned by Shaw Media. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve (J) Amendment #1 to Douglas Park Neighborhood Drainage Improvements incurring an additional \$7,600 to the Technical Services Agreement; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained the water detention pond was moved for the future roundabout at Lynn Boulevard and LeFevre. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve (K) Award Bid for Public Works Office Roof Replacement to R. A. Oldeen Inc. from Kewanee in the amount of \$24,929.00; seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Stauter asked when Superintendent Schrader wanted the roof finished. Schrader hopes to have the roof done by fall. Alderman Wise stated he supports local business and suggested we rebid. Other Aldermen expressed concern that bids may come in higher.

Alderman Wise made a motion to amend the motion to reject all bids and rebid. The motion died for lack of a second.

Voting to approve low bid for Public Works roof: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, and Stauter. Nays – Alderman Wise. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the petition from Phil Penaflo to close 13th Street from the alley west of 12th Avenue to 13th Avenue for a child's birthday party; seconded by Alderman Martin. Chief Morgan reported streets have been closed for neighborhood gatherings in the past. Voting: Ayes – Alderman Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve the construction agreement with Illinois American Water Company for shared road work on Griswold Avenue from the north side of Fourth Street to the north side of Ninth Street, West Fourth Street from the west side of Griswold Avenue to a point east of the east leg of the Avenue M wye, a distance of 775 lineal feet and Avenue M from Fourth Street to Third Street. The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to pass **Resolution #R2018-06-09 Authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter of objection to the County** regarding a Special Use Permit from Pennington Solar, LLC to construct up to a 2 MW community solar project in the 1-1/2 mile jurisdiction of the City. The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Superintendent Schmidt acknowledged the petitioner requested the petition to be tabled so she could be present for discussion. Alderman Wise noted the companies listed in the petition have not been set up yet. Superintendent Schmidt explained with a letter of objection from the City, it would take a super majority vote from Whiteside to override the objection. Alderman Wise did not see a reason to table the matter. Voting: Ayes – Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2018-06-26 Amending Chapter 6, Article II of the Code of the City of Sterling by the Addition of a new Section 6-40.2 Permitting Sunday Sales for Licensees Otherwise Ineligible for Sunday Sales at Retail**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Mayor Lee explained this will work for liquor establishments that choose to be open on Sundays occasionally, up to five times per year. Alderman Stauter clarified that The Rusty Fox could get a refund for their Sunday license and open on chosen Sundays. Mayor Lee confirmed they could. Voting: Ayes – Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve the Agreement for the Collection and Disposal of Residential Solid Waste, Recyclable Materials and Yard Waste providing for continued services with an annual 3% increase; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Alderman Wise was concerned about the recycling clause that the City could be fined for unclean recycling streams. Jim Pozzi from Republic stated there would be warnings before any fines were passed along to the City. Wise wants the emphasis on education before any fines. Another question was the base rate. Republic has the base rate at \$15.63, which is \$.08 higher than 3% from the current contract. Wise would like to have the contract available longer for citizens to review and suggested an extension of the current contract. Pozzi stated their lawyers would need to draft an extension agreement for 60 to 90 days, extending beyond July 1.

Alderman Wise made a motion to table the contract to negotiate these items. Alderman Martin asked Pozzi if he could foresee problems with recycling. Pozzi stated they are looking for different avenues but do not see major changes. Alderman Martin asked about educational information. Pozzi stated that once the contract is signed they will have brochures and information ready in 45 days.

Superintendent Schmidt reported several complaints are being called in about missed garbage or late pick-ups. Pozzi was unaware of this. Schmidt stated the Call Center needs to be up and running soon.

Alderman Wise stated it is a good contract but needs tweaking. Manager Shumard stated the number Republic started with was in excess of 3%. Pozzi stated the new base is \$15.63.

Alderman Stauter seconded Alderman Wise's motion to table for negotiations. Voting: Ayes – Elston, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – Alderman Martin. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2018-06-27 Authorizing the Mayor to sign the purchase agreement for Lot 1 of PIN #11-14-177-002 from Shaw Media in the amount of \$120,000**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Elston, Martin, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Schrader asked if the Council approved of the image wrap for the community trailer. There was a general consensus in favor of the design presented.

Superintendent Schmidt advised that the Public Works sign needs to come down. It is a hazard. Superintendent Schrader stated the new sign should be coming in soon; the font that was chosen was discontinued.

Mayor Lee asked about Brick Boss and the culvert on East Lincolnway. Manager Shumard stated the permit is with the Office of Water Resources. The Northland Mall detention may be held up until Boss's project is complete.

Chief Morgan announced that the Fire-Police Commission received 15 applicants for Police Officers; there are four vacancies to fill. Morgan is promoting community involvement and improving morale. Sgt. Messer attended the Torch Lighting for Special Olympics.

Alderman Elston asked for more information on the electrical aggregation program. Mayor Lee stated the opt-out works like before. If you want to opt out, you must return the letter. The City has a lower price than Commonwealth Edison (CE). CE will send a card in 30 to 45 days for one more opportunity to opt out. The contract is for three years.

Alderman Wise likes the positive messages on Facebook. Clerk Rombouts cautioned about Facebook that we need some back up because deleted messages can be requested through FOIA (Freedom of Information Act).

Alderman Stauter asked if Grandon Center can be sprayed for bugs. With more events there, it would be nice to reduce the bugs.

Mayor Lee likes the Facebook posts and encourages other departments to get messages out. Chief Morgan reported the officers posing for the Kill Cliff Recovery Drink were awarded a Yeti cooler full of the drink.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk