

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a special meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 25, 2018. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, John Stauter, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: Aldermen Bob Conklin.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Financial Director Cindy Von Holten, 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 raise the Republic Contract from the table for discussion; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard explained language in the contract has been changed to provide for a meeting with Republic Services to discuss and educate the community on recycling before any fines could be imposed. The financial amounts have not been agreed upon. Republic offered 3% over the next ten years. Manager Shumard stated he was unaware of the 3.5% base rate to begin the contract. Option 2 includes 3% for the first year and 3.25% for the following nine years. Option 3 includes 3% for the first year and 3.25% for the following six years only. Option 4 is 3% for the first year and variable recycling fees for the following nine years.

Alderman Elston feels Option 1 or 3 are the most workable.

Alderman Stauter wished we had put the garbage contract out for bid instead of being held hostage at this point.

Alderman Wise does not like Options 3 and 4. A long term contract gives consistency. Wise likes the language for the recycling and warnings before any fines can occur.

Alderman Stauter understood the contract to be 3% for all ten years, not a base starting at 3.5%. Stauter is not comfortable with the contract.

Alderman Martin prefers Option 1 because the other options are higher. Martin believes if Republic was trying to "hoodwink" us, it would be for more than 8 cents.

Alderman Wilen prefers Option 1 with a base increase of 3.5% and 3% thereafter.

Alderman Elston understood the proposed contract was 3% all years, not 3.5% for the base rate.

Attorney Zollinger suggested an amendment to the contract to accept the language for recycling education and the terms of Option 1 with a 3.5% increase for the base rate and 3% for the following nine years of the contract.

Mayor Lee was concerned with the first year of the contract but felt the contract is fair. Lee noted a lesson to learn about more thoroughly reviewing a contract prior to the deadline.

Alderman Martin made a motion to amend the contract to accept the language for recycling education and the terms of Option 1 with a 3.5% increase for the base rate and 3% for the following nine years of the contract; seconded by Alderman Wise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard reported that Sterling Industrial Development Commission (SIDC) met to sell lots to Greater Sterling Development Corporation for the Cobb Building, two lots to Halo for future expansion, and a partial lot to P & P Supply. Another lot will be sold in July.

Manager Shumard reported that bids were opened for Douglas Park Neighborhood Drainage Improvements. The bid came in 2.6% above the engineer's estimate. The drainage improvements behind Northland Mall are still being worked on. A hang-up for the mall project is the permitting for Brick Boss's project.

Manager Shumard reported on a meeting with the Millennials and getting the group energized about the riverfront.

Alderman Martin asked when the Avenue G bridge work would begin. Manager Shumard stated it is in the hands of the engineers. Martin was concerned about traffic and detours with Fourth Street being closed by Illinois American Water Company.

Alderman Stauter asked about the property south of the Coliseum.

Mayor Lee asked Attorney Zollinger about Coventry Village. Zollinger stated it is in the hands of the owners of Coventry.

Alderman Elston informed everyone of upcoming events -- a movie on Tuesday, concert on Wednesday, and fireworks on Saturday.

Alderman Wise would like more informational updates on current projects.

Mayor Lee congratulated Alderman Wilen on her retirement from Sauk Valley Bank.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk