

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, July 1, 2019. Roll call. Present: Aldermen 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 Services 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 Assistant City Clerk Monique Castillo.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Zollinger requested item 3D on the Consent Agenda; Partial Pay Estimate #1 for the Avenue G Bridge Rehabilitation Project be moved to Item 4 – Items removed from the Consent Agenda. Zollinger noted there is pending paperwork, to be submitted, prior to approval of this item.

Alderman Elston made a motion to remove item D – Partial Pay Estimate #1 and approve items A, B, C and E on the Consent Agenda:

- A) Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2019
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$777,622.74
- C) Close 500 block of Second Avenue for Fourth of July Celebration by Amazing Grace Church from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm
- E) Sterling Optimist Club to hold a bucket brigade on July 20, 2019

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

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Partial Pay Estimate #1 for the Avenue G Bridge Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$90,136.72 pending submission of all necessary paperwork. Per Schmidt, we are awaiting a Certificate of Liability Insurance. The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting – Ayes: Aldermen Martin, Stauter, Wilen, Wise and Elston. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wilen made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2019-07-22 Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property Commonly Known as Lots 13 and 14 of Oak Grove Subdivision (northwest corner of Oak Grove and West LeFevre)**. The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. There was a brief discussion regarding the market value, the probability of this land being sold in the near future or the possibility of Public Works using this land for future use. Zollinger noted there are too many unknown factors to get an exact market value. Shumard noted while we hope to find a suitable party to purchase, it is unlikely and further unlikely for Public Works to utilize the land. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Stauter, Wilen, Wise, Elston and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2019-07-17 Authorizing Approval of Entry into an Amended Donation Agreement, relative to the Stanley National Properties and Authorization to Indicate Approval of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan to be submitted by Stanley National to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.** The motion was seconded by Alderman Wise. Shumard noted this is the best case scenario and it is being reviewed with IEPA. Alderman Stauter and Wise inquired about response time. Shumard noted IEPA has a 90 day window to respond but can request an additional 60 days. Shumard also noted if the RAP is accepted, both parties sign off, the City then becomes the sole owner but Stanley is still liable for subsurface clean-up and would be allotted 4 years to accomplish. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Wilen, Wise, Elston, Martin and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin wished everyone a safe and happy July 4th.

Alderman Wilen thanked Schmidt and Schrader for their continued assistance stating they take care of many of the issues she has, even before she is able to report them.

Alderman Elston mentioned she attended the pop-up market, movies in the park and the municipal band concert with the cannons this past week and encouraged all to attend these well-organized events. She also thanks Schmidt and Schrader for all they do.

Alderman Elston invited one of her constituents to present to council a concern of his. Greg Sippel, 1809 21st Avenue, stated he has a neighbor that feeds the wildlife. It has been an issue for the past 4 years but recently has become increasingly dangerous. Sippel noted, the vermin are very aggressive especially when food is sparse and they are destroying the neighborhood. He has experienced approximately \$1,500 in personal damages. Neither animal control nor department of natural resources are able to help. He has set out traps but they get sabotaged and the feedings continue. Sippel is suggesting the City amend the code indicating it should be unlawful to leave food/scraps out to attract wildlife.

Alderman Wise thanked Schmidt and Schrader for all the mowing.

Mayor Lee reminded all to be mindful of the 4th of July celebrations, as not every neighbor is considerate of others. He also wanted to thank everyone for their concerns and prayers, he is well. Lastly, he asked council how involved they wished to be in the process to replace Alderman Hopping and asked they review the voter list for Ward 3 to consider a suitable replacement. He is hoping to review letters of interest by July 17, 2019.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Monique Castillo
Assistant City Clerk