

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 5:30 pm on Monday, October 2, 2017. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Bob Conklin, Retha Elston, and Christine Wilen. Absent: Aldermen Joe Martin, John Stauter, and Jim Wise.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Director of Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Meeting moved to Riverfront for a walking tour. Manager Shumard led the group to the lookout over the river, along the river and back to parking lot. The tour continued on the west side of the Best Cobb building where the future amphitheater is planned. Many were surprised how much property there is.

Return to Council Chamber at 6:30 pm. Aldermen Joe Martin, John Stauter, and Jim Wise joined the meeting. Finance Director Cindy Von Holten also joined the meeting.

Tom Brackemeyer accompanied the Council on their tour of the riverfront and realizes what a big project lies ahead. The major problem is funding. Brackemeyer understands the shortage of funds because he has been looking for sidewalks to be replaced on the north side of LeFevre between Fourth and Sixth Avenues. He has approached the School Board twice and they have referred him to the City for this concern.

Mayor Lee removed Item #D from the Consent Agenda.

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

- A) Minutes from September 18, 2017
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$414,394.55
- C) Resolution #R2017-10-20 to close streets for Twin Cities Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 18**
- E) Sterling High School Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 6, 2017 at 3:30 pm
- F) Petition from J. Herzog & Sons, Inc. requesting a subdivide to 2900 E Lincolnway
- G) Christ Lutheran School Annual 5K on October 14, 2017
- H) Partial Pay Request #4 for 2016/2017 Street Program to Civil Constructors in the amount of \$12,588.71

- I) Partial Pay Request #3 for the Reconstruction of East 16th Street to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$19,470.83
- J) Partial Pay Request #1 for 2017 ADA Project to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$113,847.28

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

Item #D from the Consent Agenda was removed so that Tree Lighting times could be adjusted in the Resolution. Clerk Rombouts explained the times have been changed from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm for the Tree Lighting. Janna Groharing with Sterling Main Street asked that we wait for responses from the Chamber Board to determine the time. Alderman Elston made a motion to table **Resolution #R2017-10-21 to close streets for the Downtown Walk and Tree Lighting**; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring October 8 – 14, 2017 as Fire Prevention Week; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record and presented it to Chief Cook. Chief Cook relayed a story from the surrounding area to emphasize the importance of having a home fire escape plan.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring October 2, 2017 as Stock Up Our Local Food Pantries Day; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Change Order for the Coliseum Parking Lot Lighting in the amount of \$26,488; seconded by Alderman Wilen. Manager Shumard explained this is additional work. The conduit was covered under the current contract; this would run electricity through the conduit and provide electrical boxes at the trees for future lighting. Alderman Wise asked if this is over the budget. Shumard stated that it is. Wise understands the advantage now since the contractor is on-site; however, he would like it set aside because it is over budget and he prefers a local contractor. Alderman Stauter asked if there is a price for a later date. Superintendent Schmidt informed Council that is unknown. Alderman Martin would prefer the lighting at the riverfront eventually instead of at City Hall. Voting: Ayes – None. Nays – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Motion failed.

Alderman Martin made a motion to accept the April 30, 2017 Audited Financial Statements and place them on file; seconded by Alderman Elston. Mayor Lee introduced Jerry Funk with WIPFLi to present the Annual Audited Financial Statement

for FY 2016/2017. Funk reported there were no difficulties or disagreements during this audit. There were no big changes in accounting standards for this report. A clean opinion has been issued. Funk recommends reviewing the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 4 – 13 for a summary. Funk thanked City staff for their cooperation. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Conklin reminded everyone of fire safety and commented how it goes along with the rental safety inspections he would like to review.

Alderman Wilen stated that Illinois Municipal League was well worth it. She had a session about downtowns and those Mayors did not believe that two-way streets were a necessity in the downtown.

Alderman Martin reported a session he attended on dilapidated buildings and receivership. Another session with Comptroller Mendoza ended shortly with her leaving the podium because she was unaware of how far the state is behind on payments.

Alderman Elston conveyed the good time she had at the wine walk downtown and the upcoming Hops on the Rock Fest on October 14. She thanked Code Enforcement for the removal of the house of East Fourth Street. Elston asked Superintendent Schrader about the sign at the Public Works building.

Alderman Stauter enjoyed the IML and attended a session, Council Roundtable. Discussions centered on video gaming, chickens, and cats. He also listened to a session on Economic Development. He will share notes later on his sessions.

Alderman Wise stated he had prepared a listing of code concerns pertaining to Code Enforcement. He will forward to the Council and looks forward to the presentation on Code Enforcement at the October 16 meeting.

Alderman Conklin thanked Manager Shumard for the tour of the riverfront. It was very insightful.

Mayor Lee emphasized Chief Cook's comments on having a home fire escape plan and updating smoke detectors. Mayor Lee is grateful to be in Sterling with mass shootings happening across the country but clarified that it can happen anywhere.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Marie Rombouts, City Clerk