

Mayor Ted Aggen called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 7, 2007. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Adell, Cox, Elston, Lee, Martin and Viering.

Also present were City Manager Jay Wieland, City Attorney Ron Coplan, Assistant City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Fire Chief Arlyn Oetting, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, Director of Community Services Vern Gottel, Library Director Jennifer Slaney and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- 1) City Council Minutes of April 16, 2007
- 2) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,336,128.56

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Lee made a motion to pass Resolution No. R2007-05-06 Declaring the Results of the Consolidated Municipal Election on April 17, 2007; seconded by Alderman Adell. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Judge Stanley B. Steines administered the Oath of Office to Ward One Alderman Retha Elston, Ward Two Alderman Barry Cox, Ward Three Alderman Lucio Sotelo, Jr. and Ward Fourth Alderman Joseph Martin. Judge Steines then administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Amy Viering.

Mayor Viering read a Proclamation declaring Wednesday, May 9 as Ted Aggen Day.

Manager Wieland thanked Mayor Aggen for his great leadership on behalf of the City staff. Manager Wieland “told tales” of working with Mayor Aggen and how greatly he would be missed. “Courage” and “Beanie Weenie time” will not be heard regularly.

Mayor Aggen expressed his enjoyment of being able to lead the City of Sterling through the last twelve years. Mayor Aggen said that it could not have been done without the Council and staff that he has worked with. Mayor Aggen recognized his family that was in attendance.

Former Mayor Aggen passed the gavel to Mayor Amy Viering.

Alderman Cox made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The incoming Council will reconvene in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Amy Viering reconvened the meeting of the Sterling City Council at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, May 7, 2007. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Adell, Cox, Elston, Lee, Martin and Sotelo.

Also present were City Manager Jay Wieland, City Attorney Ron Coplan, Assistant City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Fire Chief Arlyn Oetting, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, Director of Community Services Vern Gottel, Library Director Jennifer Slaney and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- 1) Petition from Marine Corps League Toys for Tots Program to hold a fundraiser on Saturday, June 30th at the intersections of Third Street/First Avenue and Second Street/Second Avenue from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- 2) Petition from the Sterling American Legion Auxiliary to hold a fundraiser for poppies at business locations

The motion was seconded by Alderman Lee. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Lee made a motion to approve Mayor Viering's appointment of Fourth Ward Alderman Joe Martin as Vice Chairperson for a period of one year; seconded by Alderman Adell. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Adell, Cox, Elston, Lee, and Sotelo. Pass – Alderman Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Adell made a motion to approve the appointment of Retha Elston to the Liquor Commission, replacing Amy Viering who becomes the Liquor Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Adell, Cox, Lee, Martin and Sotelo. Pass – Alderman Elston. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to proclaim Saturday, May 12, 2007 as Letter Carrier Food Drive Day, seconded by Alderman Cox. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to proclaim May 2007 as Motorcycle Awareness Month in the City of Sterling; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to proclaim May 20 through 26, 2007 as National Public Works Week in Sterling, Illinois; seconded by Alderman Adell. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to proclaim May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week of May 13 – 19, 2007 as Peace Officers Week in Sterling, Illinois; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Viering read a proclamation into the record declaring Wednesday, May 9, 2007 as Ted Aggen Day in Sterling, Illinois. Alderman Adell made a motion to accept the proclamation as read; seconded by Alderman Lee. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Lee made a motion to approve the MICA insurance renewal for fiscal year 2007/2008 in the amount of \$427,073.00; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Wieland stated that staff did not request bids from the private market because of time constraints and the 8.5% increase was 6.5% lower than expected. With the City's recent history on workers' compensation and vehicular damage, Manager Wieland felt that the private market could not compare. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Adell made a motion to approve the write-off of uncollectible accounts totaling \$81,437.08 for fiscal years 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007; seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Lee asked if Boggotts could be held responsible for the SIDC loan to Brinkman Enterprises, Inc. Manager Wieland stated that the building was leased and the property owner has no responsibility. Wieland also noted the decrease in utility write-offs since the water company has handled the joint billing. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to award the bid for excavating and base installation for the 2007 Street Project Contract #1 to Stichter Construction Company in an amount not to exceed \$165,300.00; seconded by Alderman Adell. Manager Wieland stated there were three bids under the engineer's estimate. Stichter Construction has done work for the City before as a subcontractor; we are happy with his work. Staff hopes to expedite the project and save money by splitting the project into base work and paving. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Final Pay Request for the Lynn Boulevard Pipe Culvert Installation to Guerrieri Builders in the amount of \$4,563.50; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Adell made a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City and the future tenant of Lot #1 of Sterling Commons Shopping Center

Subdivision which will grant a variance to construct an 18 foot high fence around the perimeter of the storage area, including provisions that the business remove the fence structure in the event that they close or otherwise vacate the premises. The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Wieland stated this type of variance had been permitted before. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Ordinance #2007-05-14, Providing for an Extension of the Special Use Permit to Illinois Affordable Housing, NFP through March 31, 2008 for property located south of West 23rd Street, between Oak Grove and Girswold Avenues. The motion was seconded by Alderman Adell. Alderman Cox asked if the Plan Commission approved this extension. Attorney Coplan stated the Plan Commission had no problem with this extension. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Lee made a motion to approve the final plat of the Sterling Commons Shopping Center Subdivision; seconded by Alderman Martin. Jeff Maresh of First Rockford explained the one addition from the preliminary plat is an additional access granted by IDOT. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Arlyn Oetting welcomed Lou Sotelo to the City Council and offered a tour of the fire station at his convenience.

Manager Wieland passed out information on an upcoming tele-institute with the University of Illinois extension office. The tele-institute will be on TIF Districts on May 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Manager Wieland encouraged Alderman Sotelo to attend to learn about TIF Districts and other council members for a refresher.

Manager Wieland read a thank you note from the Newman High School Competition Squad for the Proclamation recognizing their cheering squad.

With no further business to discuss, Alderman Martin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Cox. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk