

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 6, 2014. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, City Management Intern Kevin Smith, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Building and Zoning Superintendent Amanda Schmidt, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Dettman, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

Cub Scout Packs 305 and 321 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rod Kleckler, president of the Sauk Valley Landlords Association, stated the City has not been notifying landlords in a timely manner regarding past due sewer and garbage bills from previous tenants. Kleckler asked for a meeting with the City Manager and Finance Director to discuss this matter. Kleckler stated the Association's attorney will file a law suit in 90 days if a resolution cannot be reached. Attorney Coplan stated that with the threat of legal action, a conversation will not be started.

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

A) City Council Minutes of September 15, 2014

B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$592,040.05

C) Resolution #R2014-10-12 Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Real Property at 401 Broadway through NSP2 Funds

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

Deputy Chief Dettman introduced Alex Vlakancic, a new probationary firefighter. Vlakancic is from Plainfield and graduated from Northern Illinois University. Vlakancic and his wife, Melissa, will be relocating to Sterling in the future. He has his Firefighter II certification and is an EMT.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation of Gonzalo Steven Reyes's appointment to the Band Commission with a term expiring June 30, 2019; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Proclamation designating October 5 – 11, 2014 as Fire Prevention Week; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Deputy Chief Dettman explained that Fire Prevention Week was established

after the Great Chicago Fire. A different theme is used each year. Mayor Lee also reminded residents of the importance of checking carbon monoxide detectors as we approach the heating season. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Joel Hopkins with Hopkins & Associates presented the annual audit findings. He noted it was a pleasure to work Cindy Von Holten and her staff. Hopkins acknowledged all Independent Auditor's Reports were clean, with no significant findings. He encouraged Council members to read the summary on pages 6 through 15.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to accept the April 30, 2014 Audited Financial Statements and place them on file; seconded by Alderman Schuchard. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee thanked Cindy Von Holten for everything she has done.

Deputy Chief Dettman noted the Fire Department has a new ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating. The rating has been lowered from 4 to 3. This means better insurance rates for our district.

Mayor Lee read a letter from the Lawless family. In August, their son was playing in the yard with his fire turn-out gear. One of the fire trucks stopped and made his day. The family truly appreciated the crew for taking their time to talk with their son.

Mayor Lee commended the PADS Shelter for the Operation Stand Down to put individuals in touch with services available. Halloween hours will be set at the next Council meeting.

Manager Shumard recognized Cindy Von Holten for her work with the auditors and Chief Potthoff and his assistant, Sara Young, for their work with the police union arbitration.

Alderman Stauter acknowledged Joel Hopkins and Cindy Von Holten for their work on the audit.

Alderman Schuchard recommended that drivers use caution with Fourth Street under construction.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk