

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 3, 2020. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Josh Johnson, Joe Martin, John Stauter, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no Communications from Visitors.

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

- A) Minutes of January 20, 2020
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,407,533.74
- C) Plan Commission Minutes of December 5, 2019, December 19, 2019, and January 16, 2020
- D) Pay Request #2 for Northland Mall Detention Pond to Martin & Company Excavating in the amount of \$156,233.70

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

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve the contract for Administrative Hearing Services with Tim Slavin ADR Services; seconded by Alderman Elston. Municipal Court has been running over ten years and Slavin continues to do a decent job. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Johnson, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wilen made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2020-02-04 Annexing Certain Territory Contiguous to the City of Sterling (Steelton Subdivision – Group 2)**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Johnson, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2020-02-03 referring consideration to annex certain territory contiguous to the City of Sterling (Steelton Subdivision – Group 3)** to the Plan Commission for a public hearing on

February 20, 2020; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Johnson, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2020-02-05 Annexing Certain Territory Contiguous to the City of Sterling along Oak Grove Avenue and East Lynn Boulevard (PIN #11-17-454-016, 11-15-251-017 and 11-15-251-011) and approve annexation agreement with Farmer's National Bank as Trustee of the John H. Cassens Trust (PIN #11-15-251-011)**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Attorney Zollinger described the properties as a City-owned lot on Oak Grove Avenue, one lot at the southeast corner of 16th Avenue and Lynn Boulevard, and the third property lying east of the lot at the corner on Lynn Boulevard. Annexation of these lots on Lynn Boulevard will create another group of properties surrounded by the City, which will be annexed in the future.

Clerk Rombouts announced her retirement date of June 10, 2020.

Director Von Holten announced bond refinancing is complete. The City will be saving \$528,725 on the Coliseum bonds. Refinancing the TIF bonds at Kohl's and Petsmart will save \$827,138, which will be passed on to the Developer. The interest rate on the New Project Bonds will be 1.899%. Bob Vail with Bernardi Securities reported rates have not been this low since the 1950's. Von Holten stated the tentative closing date is February 13.

Alderman Elston confirmed the next two meetings for Council as next Monday with Main Street and the Chamber. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, because Monday is President's Day.

Alderman Wise thanked the first responders for their work at the house fire in the 500 block of Fifth Avenue.

Meeting adjourned to a budget study session at 6:47 pm.

Manager Shumard reviewed the following funds:

- Northwestern Steel & Wire – established during bankruptcy, CGH still contributes funds annually based on savings made from City-issued bond. Best Cobb building was moved. Three Bench swings have been installed and more will be installed.
- MFT – great increase with additional taxes

- Sterling Industrial Development Commission – This cover the Meadowlands Business Park and the Incubator. Revolving Loan Fund was closed. Special Events Fund is still available.
- Civil Defense – remains steady
- TIF CBD West – expires at the end of this fiscal year
- CGH Bonds – a pass through account because City qualified for better rates
- Special Service Areas – Greenridge is closed. Tori Pines has a balance to help with roads to be rebuilt in the next five years.
- Trust Committee – for a future Veteran’s Park, possibly on the riverfront

Manager Shumard noted the stumbling blocks have been removed from the riverfront. We are no longer waiting on EPA or the transfer of the National Stanley Building. Mayor Lee suggested a drone to take photos of the area showing the City’s accomplishments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk