

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 2, 2020. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, John Stauter, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: Alderman Josh Johnson.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance 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 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 February 18, 2020
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$544,123.61
- C) Plan Commission Minutes of January 30, 2020

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

Alderman Elston made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract for Dusk to Dawn Street Lighting Energy Supply with Constellation at \$.02479 through \$.02484 for three years beginning August 2020; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard stated Rock River Energy suggested renewing early to lock in low prices. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract for Wastewater Pumping Energy Supply with AEP at \$.04059 through \$.04046 for three years beginning December 2021; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard stated these prices are worth locking in for next year. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wilen made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2020-03-06 Annexing Certain Territory Contiguous to the City of Sterling (Steelton Subdivision – Group 3)**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2020-03-04 Referring Consideration to Annex Certain Territory Contiguous to the City of Sterling (Steelton Subdivision – Group 4)**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2020-03-05 Referring Consideration to Annex Certain Territory Wholly Bounded by the City**; seconded by Alderman Wise. Attorney Zollinger stated two properties have been surrounded and the properties along 16th Avenue became surrounded after recent annexations. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lee asked Chief Cook about the smoke alarm with the ten-year battery. Chief Cook reported they become mandatory in 2021 or when an occupancy is changed. It will be the only type that can be purchased. Homeowners can contact the Fire Department to have one installed, but not for rental properties.

Alderman Martin asked when yard waste collection starts. April 1 is the date.

Alderman Elston thanked Code Enforcement for working with her and Jim Wise for talking to area residents with her.

Mayor Lee thanked Code Enforcement for working on a couple properties and City Council for working on Scott's evaluation. Lee reported they are finalizing the job description for the City Clerk's position and will get that to the Council for review. Lee believes we have a good deal on recycling because the market has really tanked.

Meeting adjourned to a budget study session at 6:49 pm.

Band Commission – donations have bounced back. Replacement tax is up. Pre-concert activities brought more people to concerts. Alan Lee reported the average cost per concert is \$2485. This covers about 62 band members for practices/concerts, programs, and pre-concert activities. Main Street has helped with promotions. A new sound system has been installed, now a new sound board is on the wish list. Lee thanked Mary McCormick and Cindy Von Holten for getting the Commission on track with the budget and purchasing. April 25 is the Spring Concert. The Commission is looking for a new member, preferably younger. Alderman Stauter stated the Band Commission has done a remarkable job and is glad to see the budget in the black.

Alderman Elston asked about the renovations at Grandon. Manager Shumard stated the architectural plans are complete. Hopefully, bids will go out this month.

IMRF – contributions are based on the calendar year. It has increased to 9.18%. A large fund balance remains.

Social Security – also has a large fund balance. Trying to draw down funds. With less tax levy used here, it frees up extra funding for the Police and Fire Pensions.

TIF Lincolnway/Lynn Boulevard – with reissuing bonds, the deficit will be paid off and save the developer money.

TIF Rock River – Bonds will be paid off in fiscal year 22-23. This TIF ends 12/31/2027. Manager Shumard has been checking with Rob LeSage about extending this TIF. With possession of the Stanley National building, the legal fees are greatly reduced. The City is addressing the water leak and the roof at the Stanley National Building.

Health Insurance – The City is self-insured with a third party administrator. If the year ends as it stands, premiums will be frozen for employees next year.

Budget Funds left to review are Library, Sewer, Capital, and Stormwater.

Attorney Zollinger reported the Library roof has been repaired. Repairs to the copper banding is out for bid. The project is estimated at \$160,000. Manager Shumard stated the City will make funds available for a no-interest loan after donations have been received.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk