

Vice-Mayor Joe Martin called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2011. Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Skip Lee, Linda Marley, and Lou Sotelo. Absent: Mayor Amy Viering.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Director of Financial Services Cindy Von Holten, Interim Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no communication from Visitors.

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

- A) City Council Minutes of March 21, 2011
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$900,627.37
- C) Plan Commission minutes of February 17, 2011
- D) Send a letter of objection to Whiteside County Planning and Zoning petition from Martin Capp and John Schmitt Partnership requesting a Special Use for property at 3818 John Wayne Road
- E) Petition from the American Red Cross Lincoln Land Branch to hold a bucket brigade fundraiser on Saturday, April 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Second Avenue/Second Street, Second Avenue/Fourth Street and First Avenue/Third Street
- F) Petition from Kiwanis Club of Sterling to solicit donations for peanuts on Saturday, May 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Second Avenue/Second Street, Second Avenue/Fourth Street and First Avenue/Third Street

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

Alderman Lee made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring April 10 – 16, 2011 as the Week of the Young Child; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring April 11 – 16 as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week; seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Lee read the proclamation into the record. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried. Vice-Mayor Martin presented the proclamation to two telecommunicators from Twin Com Communications Center.

Alderman Lee made a motion to pass **Ordinance #2011-04-04 Authoring the Issuance of \$9,900,000 Principal Amount of Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series 2011 (CGH Medical Center) of the City of Sterling, Illinois for CGH Medical Center; Authorizing and Approving all documents, instruments, actions and matters necessary or appropriate for, or pertaining to, the issuance, sale and delivery of the Series 2011 Bonds, and making certain covenants relating thereto**; seconded by Alderman Sotelo.

Ed Andersen, CEO of CGH Medical Center, reported these bonds were being used to increase cash reserves. The increase in cash reserves would help keep the hospital's BBB bond rating. Standard & Poor ideally likes to see 150 days in cash reserves. One day of operations costs \$500,000. A bond issue can be up to \$10 million in tax exempt funds for one year. CGH will obtain the loan through Morton Community Bank with a ten year amortization, an interest rate of 4.32%, and no prepayment penalty.

Voting on the CGH Bond Issue: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Marley made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2011-04-05 Providing for Public Signage** with a Special Use Permit for Community Unit School District #5 to erect two permanent directional signs in the public right-of-way; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to accept the low bid of Hopkins & Associates to provide audit services for fiscal years ending 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 at a cost of \$21,000 for each year; seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Cox asked if we need to bid this out for four years and was concerned about hiring a local company. Manager Shumard stated that we do not need to stay with this company for four years but their bid was at least 15% lower than other bids. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Lee, Marley, Sotelo, and Vice-Mayor Martin. Nays – Alderman Cox. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to purchase a 2011 model HD ¾ ton 4WD 4-door pickup truck from Pete Harkness Ford in Sterling as low bidder in the amount of \$28,945, which includes a trade in allowance for Squad 1, Squad 2 and utility vehicle 10 from the Fire Department; seconded by Alderman Lee. Interim Chief Cook explained the Fire Department needs a reliable vehicle and trading in three out-of-service vehicles will reduce overhead and maintenance. Manager Shumard thanked the 2% board for their cooperation in purchasing this vehicle. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to award the bid for the 2011 Street Project Contract #1 to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$77,745.21; seconded by Alderman Marley. Contract #1 is the reconstruction of the GSDC parking lot. Manager Shumard stated

that this will bring the lot into compliance with ADA requirements. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Lee made a motion to set Monday, April 28, 2011, at 6:35 p.m. as the date and time for the public hearing on the proposed FY 2011-12 Annual Budget; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to approve the Final Plat of Garland Subdivision; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Clerk Rombouts encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow.

Alderman Cox reported that he received an anonymous complaint letter. He stressed that he is happy to speak with anyone about their complaints. He asked the media to let constituents know that he will act on a complaint when he is given a name and contact information so he can contact them with progress reports.

With no further business to discuss, Alderman Sotelo made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Cox. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk