

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a virtual meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, January 18, 2021. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Josh Johnson, Joe Martin, John Stauter and Jim Wise. Absent: Christine Wilen.

Also attending 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, Police Chief Alex Chavira, Deputy Fire Chief Michael Dettman and City Clerk Teri Sathoff.

City Manager Shumard, Police Chief Chavira and City Clerk Sathoff were present in the council chambers, everyone else attended via Zoom. The meeting was recorded and will be kept on the city hard drive. All members in attendance could hear the other members in attendance.

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

- A. Approval of Minutes.
- B. Approval of Bills and Payroll.
- C. Proclamation for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Motion seconded by Alderman Stauter. Alderman Stauter questioned the replacement of playground equipment, Public Works superintendent Schrader advised that it was a swing and brackets and as soon as weather was conducive it will be installed. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Stauter, Martin, Johnson and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve A Memorandum of Understanding with IAFF Local #2301; seconded by Alderman Johnson. City Manager Shumard stated that in December of 2020 the city spent \$89,000 in overtime alone. With the vast amount of overtime, this benefits the City and the firefighters fiscally and physically. Deputy Chief Dettman advised the council that the firefighters have been working a lot of extended hours, he stated that he is concerned about the safety of the staff. Mayor Lee thanked Deputy Chief Dettman for bringing this resolution to the City as well as being an advocate for the staff at the fire department. Alderman Stauter inquired if there was a new firefighter on the list. Dettman stated that the new candidate has his Firefighter II certification as well as having his EMT-B, therefore, he will be able to be an immediate benefit to the department. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Johnson and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the bid from 06 Environmental Services with option one, in the amount of \$163,500 and not to exceed \$190,000 for the hazardous waste removal services at 1 First Avenue; seconded by Alderman Wise. City Manager Shumard noted that the low bid came from Tradebe, however they had exceptions in their bid including indemnifications that would hold the City liable for any issues that may come up. Tradebe would also be using two subcontractors for the work where the other companies would be conducting the work themselves. Another concern City Manager Shumard had was the multiple open EPA and OSHA violations they have. Sterling Environmental reached out the Tradebe for clarification on the exceptions and they have not responded. Alderman Martin inquired if there was an original estimate, Shumard stated that by going with Sterling Environmental the City was able to save quite a bit of money, however, they did not provide an estimate. Alderman Stauter asked if there would be a requirement on inspections, Shumard stated that Sterling Environmental would be performing on-site inspections. Alderman Wise asked where the funding for this project would be coming from, he was told the funds will come from the capital fund. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Johnson and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Cindy Von Holten advised the staff and Council that after the next meeting the budget study sessions will begin.

Chief Chavira announced that two new officers were hired on January 13, 2021. Jamie Russell and Bronson Russell. They are siblings and will be reporting to the Police Training Institute on January 24, 2021.

City Manager Shumard advised the Council that there is progress on the new website, staff will be in training on January 19, 2021. On Friday there will be a follow up call with Stanley National regarding cleanup of the site.

Alderman Wise requested that an additional \$100,000 in funds be released into the COVID relief fund. Mayor Lee advised that the funds are still available for businesses that would like to apply. Alderman Wise requested that the City rerelease that information to make it known to the businesses that funds are available.

Alderman Elston thanked Amanda, Brad, Scott, and Chief Chavira for taking care of the issues she had with cars not being moved.

Alderman Stauter thanked Deputy Chief Dettman for all he has done with the Fire Department.

Mayor Lee thanked Alderman Wise for dropping off a care package to both Alderman Martin's family as well as the Mayor's family during their issues with the COVID-19 virus. Mayor Lee stated that Alderman Wise did so out of the kindness of his heart and not for political gain. Lee thanked Wise for his devotion to his colleagues.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59pm.

Teri Sathoff  
City Clerk