

Mayor Lee called the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday June 20, 2022. Roll call. Present: Mayor Lee, Aldermen Retha Elston, Josh Johnson, Joe Martin, Christine Wilen, Kaitlyn Ekquist and Jim Wise. Absent: None.

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, Fire Chief Michael Dettman, Assistant Superintendent of Wastewater Cory Bradshaw and City Clerk Teri Sathoff.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

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. Approval of Plan Commission Minutes
- D. Resolution No. R2021-06-16 Regarding the .02% Building and Maintenance Property Tax Levy for the Sterling Public Library
- E. Petition to close West 2nd Street between Avenue A and Avenue B
- F. Pay Request #1 to Martin and Company for Avenue D and E in the amount of \$87,462.32.
- G. Optimist Club of Sterling to hold a bucket brigade on July 16, 2022
- H. Sterling Rock Falls Jaycees Independence Day Celebration Donation Request

Motion seconded by Alderman Wilen. Alderman Elston questioned the decrease in the 911 billing, this is due to ARPA funding Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Johnson, Ekquist, Wilen and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the reappointments presented by Mayor Lee to the boards and commissions; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Chief Chavira introduced officer Maggie Ellmaker to the Council, Ellmaker is being promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Sergeant Ellmaker was presented her badge by her nephew, Knox Ellmaker.

Chief Dettman introduced firefighters Clark Liedberg and Alex Vlakancic, both are being promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Liedberg was pinned by his wife Alissa and Vlakancic was pinned by father Mark.

Alderman Ekquist made a motion to approve Resolution No. R2022-06-09 Transferring Jurisdiction and Control of Real Property to the Industrial Development Commission; Seconded by Alderman Elston. Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt stated these two properties have been demolished and the adjacent property owners are interested in purchasing

them. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve the Bid for Wallace Street Reconstruction Phase II to Gensini of Princeton, Illinois in the amount of \$3,051,451.70; Seconded by Alderman Wise. Alderman Johnson would like to approach the EPA about allowing walkable grass on the riverfront. As a condition of the grant prairie grass was required for ten years. Attorney Zollinger cautioned Alderman Johnson to have plan in mind before approaching the EPA. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

City Clerk Sathoff reminded the Council that there are two openings for the IML conference and please let her know if you are interested in attending.

Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt informed the Council that Margarita (Margie) Guersney has been hired to fill the front desk position. Matt Reglin will be moving into the position of Code Enforcement officer when Brad Alexander Retires. Margie and Matt are both training prior to Brad's retirement.

Chief Alex Chavira reported there is currently a vacancy and the Police Department is looking to hire a police officer, either off of the list or through lateral transfer. Mayor Lee commended Sara Young for the excellent video she made promoting the hiring.

City Manager Shumard reminded the Council to respond to his email in reference to Lincoln Park, as well as the Civic Pride workshop on Wednesday. Shumard advised he has a meeting scheduled with Winter Construction and Engle for the lights in the Council Chambers. Shumard stated the Developer from Highland would like to speak with the Council members either Thursday or Friday of this week.

Alderman Martin asked Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader about the progress on Avenue E, Schrader advised they will finish up in the next week and then move on to Avenue D. Alderman Martin commended the crews for the work that has been done installing the new curb.

Alderman Elston thanked Code Enforcement and Public Works for properties that have been mowed. Elston stated she was at the Farmers Market on Saturday and she met someone from Lost Lake, they drive every week to attend our Market. Elston reminded everyone about the Pop up Market on Thursday as well as the Municipal Band on Wednesday and Saturday.

Alderman Wise thanked Code Enforcement for the work that has been done on properties that needed to be mowed. Alderman Wise also thanked the Police Chief for the video that Sara Young made.

Mayor Lee thanked the Police Department for the hiring back extra patrol for the basketball tournament on very short notice.

At 7:09pm Alderman Martin made a motion to adjourn to executive session Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; Seconded by Alderman Wise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

At 7:42pm Alderman Martin made a motion to return to open session; Seconded by Alderman Johnson. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to amend the City Manager's compensation package by an additional 3.16% effective May 1, 2022 in addition to any underlying base increase the City employees received; Seconded by Alderman Wilen. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Teri Sathoff

City Clerk