

Mayor Lee called the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Tuesday July 5, 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 Mathew Keegan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader (Zoom), Police Chief Alex Chavira, Fire Chief Michael Dettman, 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. Resolution R2022-07-10 To Close Streets for Fiesta Parade on Saturday, September 17, 2022
- D. Pay Request to Strand Associates Inc. for Griswold Avenue Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$28,528.45
- E. Petition to Close Miller Road for the Sterling High Schools Boosters Back to School Jamboree

Motion seconded by Alderman Wilen. Alderman Martin asked about the road closure on Miller Road for the Sterling High School Boosters, Martin was concerned that if the entire block was not closed that traffic would have problems in the area. Chief Chavira and Superintendent of Public Works, Brad Schrader stated that there will be signage, the road will have to remain open for a private residence. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Johnson, Ekquist, Wilen and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Ordinance No 2022-07-21 Amending Chapter 18 Article III to Provide for updating Provisions Related to Testing of Applicants of Electrical Contractors; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt stated that this allows the Cities of Sterling, Rock Falls and Dixon to utilize a proctor to administer the test. Currently, the three cities take turns administering the test one day a year. The candidates will submit their fees directly to the testing company. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Ekquist made a motion to approve Agreement with CLEC Enterprises of Rolling Meadows to Distribute, Monitor, and Grade Electrical Contractors Licenses for Electrical Contractors doing business in the Tri-City; Seconded by Alderman Wise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve waiving the bid process and accepting a quote from Karl Chevrolet in the amount of \$59,201.99 for a 2023 Police Package Chevrolet Tahoe for the Sterling Fire Department; Seconded by Alderman Johnson. Chief Dettman explained that he had contacted several local agencies and none of them have been able to fulfill the request for this vehicle. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-07-20 amending the Zoning Map to reclassify property owned by Mark Joachim, along with contract purchaser Hoosier Care Properties from Single Family Residential (SR-4) to Multi Family (MR-6) with special use; Seconded by Alderman Wilen. Architect John Heimbach was in attendance to answer any questions the City Council may have. Mr. Heimbach advised the current facility does not meet the State of Illinois requirements, the new facility will be approximately 50,000 square feet and house the training facility. Construction should start next spring, as there are several regulatory hurdles with the State of Illinois. Mr. Heimbach stated they are not expecting any problems with the State. Alderman wise asked if the Council will see the final plans prior to construction, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt advised Alderman Wise that the building department will approve all plans, she stated she would forward the plans to the Council when her department receives them. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Ekquist made a motion to approve waiving the bid process and accepting the proposal from John Martin for complete kitchen remodel at main station in the amount of \$22,150.00; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Chief Dettman advised the Council that the kitchen has not been remodeled since it was built in 1969. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve the budget for the master plan under the Master Developer Agreement; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Ron Clewer from Gorman and Associates was present in the Council Chambers, Clewer stated they are making progress, the budget is the next step. A request for an earmark for preparing the site for future development has been sent to Senator Durbin, should the earmark go through the money budgeted for those items would be removed from the budget. Clewer stated they have requested to designate the City of Sterling as a River Edge community. The River Edge Redevelopment Zone Program (RERZ) helps revive and redevelop environmentally challenged properties adjacent to rivers in Illinois. The River Edge Redevelopment Zone Act authorizes the Illinois Department of Commerce to designate zones in five cities: Aurora, East St. Louis, Elgin, Peoria, and Rockford. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt informed the Council that a demolition permit has been requested for the portion of the Western Apartments that was damaged by fire. The demolition should begin in a few weeks.

City Manager Shumard, there will be a meeting of the Riverfront Commission on Friday, a preconstruction meeting with Com-Ed for Wallace Street is scheduled.

Alderman Wise stated that he has received several complaints about the illegal fireworks that have been set off in neighborhoods. Chief Chavira stated that between the dates of June 30, 2022, and July 4, 2022, the Police Department received ten complaints and all of those complied when confronted.

Alderman Elston said the Municipal band on Wednesday was excellent, she reminded everyone of the next Municipal band as well as the Pop-Up Market on July 14th.

Alderman Johnson thanked the Jaycees; he said the fireworks display was excellent.

Mayor Lee brought attention to the fact that the Council and several staff members were wearing shirts in support of Alderman Ekquist husband Bow, Mayor Lees told Alderman Ekquist that Bow's fight is our fight. Mayor Lee stated the fireworks were excellent, he watched them from the Sterling Market Place. Mayor Lee expressed his condolences to those who were injured in the Highland Park shooting, he asked that everyone be aware of your surroundings and to report any unusual incidents.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.

Teri Sathoff

City Clerk