

Mayor Lee called the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday August 1, 2022. Roll call. Present: Mayor Lee, Aldermen Retha Elston, Josh Johnson, Joe Martin, Christine Wilen, Kaitlyn Ekquist (Zoom) 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, 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. Pay Request to Strand Associates Inc. for Griswold Avenue Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$35,443.61.
- D. Pay Request #9 for former National Training Building Demolition Renovation to Gehrke Construction in the amount of \$9,238.08.

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

Police Chief Chavira introduced Officer Shane Bland as the new Police Sergeant, Sergeant Bland has been with the department for 14 years. Chavira praised Bland for his involvement in police department activities. Bland was presented his badge by his father and his family was in attendance.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Mayor Lee's reappointment of Scott Wolber to the CGH Hospital Board; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to approve the Mayor Lee's reappointment of Colin Reynolds to the Police Pension Board; Seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Resolution recognizing Superintendent of Waste Water, Scott Howard's retirement; Seconded by Alderman Wilen. Mayor Lee thanked Scott for his dedication to the City of Sterling for 41 years. City Manager Shumard stated he has enjoyed working with Scott over the years, he has done an exceptional job. Mayor Lee read the resolution

and will present it to him at his retirement party. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lee presented Steve Munson with a plaque recognizing him for his years of service and dedication to the Plan Commission. Mayor Lee stated that Steve Served 23 years on the Plan Commission. Lee stated that Munson has contributed so many great things to the community, and he is an excellent example of a citizen. Steve Munson thanked Mayor Lee, he said he has learned a lot, he thanked Mike Wolber, Scott Shumard and the City Planner.

Alderman Johnson made a motion to approve a Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Sterling and Highlands Development, LLC for the Property at 2901 E. Lincolnway; Seconded by Alderman Martin. City Manager Shumard advised this has been a process that has been in the works for over a year, the TIF and BDD have been completed and the final step was to agree on the sales tax rebates. Chris Williams from Highlands Development was present via zoom. Williams stated this is a major step and will hopefully allow the site to be developed into something the City will be proud of. Alderman Wise thanked Mr. Williams and City Staff for the agreement. Alderman Wise requested that a front elevation of the property be shared with the public. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to Authorize \$1,500 in ARPA Funding for the PC's for People program conducted in conjunction with the Whiteside Area Career Center; Seconded by Alderman Wise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Abstained – Alderman Johnson. Motion carried.

Chief Chavira advised that the Police Department is currently hiring if you know of anyone that would be a good fit have them contact the Police Department. Chavira also stated National Night Out is Tuesday August 2nd. The group that organizes the local National Night out will not be doing anything this year. The notice was too short for the Police Department to organize the event. Chief Chavira asks that everyone participate by turning on their porch lights as a message of solidarity. The Police Department will organize an event next year.

City Manager Shumard stated the construction on Wallace Street was moved to August 22nd and there is a Riverfront Committee meeting August 10th.

Alderman Elston stated the Pop-up Market was a nice time, she reminded everyone to attend the Municipal Band on Wednesday night as well as Hot Dog Days on Friday August 5th. Elston thanked Attorney Zollinger and Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt for work that has been done on a problem property in her ward.

Alderman Wise congratulated Attorney Zollinger and Ward Murry Pace and Johnson on their 160th Anniversary.

Janna Groharing advised the deck on the Farmers Market is complete and looks incredible. Hot Dog Days will be 11:00am and 12:00pm in the downtown area, mural restoration will start August 16th, the incubator construction will start in September.

Chris Noble with the Sauk Valley Area Chamber stated the steak fry will be Thursday night.

Mayor Lee Congratulated firefighter Kurt Landis and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Nia Marie on July 5th.

Mayor Lee congratulated officer Bryce Stanley and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Scottie Lynn, born on July 8th.

Mayor Lee congratulated police detective Tanner Wilhelm on the birth of their son, Jett Thomas, born on July 21st.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Teri Sathoff

City Clerk