

Mayor Lee called the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday August 15, 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 (Zoom), 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. Pay Request #2 to Hibbard Builders in the Amount of \$52,604.13 for Central Memorial Park.
- D. Pay Request #10 to Martin and Company for Northland Mall Regional Detention Pond in the amount of \$12,146.75.
- E. Pay Request to JMI Masonry Contractors in the amount of \$61,000.00.
- F. Pay Request #2 to Martin and Company Excavating Inc in the amount of \$227,589.47.
- G. Refer to the Plan Commission for a Public Hearing, a Petition from Heather Sotelo SIDC to subdivide lots 9 and 10 of the Meadowlands Business Park to lots 109 and 110.
- H. Knights of Columbus to hold a bucket brigade on September 10, 2022.
- I. Sauk Valley Marines #913 to hold a bucket brigade on September 24, 2022.

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

Alderman Elston made a motion to Waive the Bid Process and accept a Quote from Ken Nelson in the Amount of \$115,580.00 for two 2023 Pickups with lightbars and plows; Seconded by Alderman Wise. Alderman Wise questioned the delivery date on the trucks, Schrader advised delivery is expected between two and six months from the date of ordering the. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to accept the recommendation from The Riverfront Commission accept its recommended priorities for the next phase of work along the riverfront area and appropriate funds for the priority projects as they develop to include;

1. Set-Up Projects estimated at **\$1,400,000**
 - a. The Previously Council approved \$299,525 for Master Planning, Historic Consultant for tax credits, Physical Needs Assessment, Building scanning, etc.
 - b. \$395,000 to begin grant applications, evaluate connection to Lawrence under the railroad and conduct a study to get a railroad quiet zone at the Avenue B crossing
 - c. \$705,475+/- for building lighting, securing Lawrence property, addressing the windows on the Lawrence building, roof repairs at National and interim programming on the riverfront
2. Stub Utilities from Wallace Street to the south during the Wallace Street reconstruction in preparation of future development (water, gas, electric, sewer) **\$150,000**
3. Pathway Lighting & Security Cameras **\$950,000**
4. Concession/Warming House/Restrooms including mechanicals for future ice ribbon and/or splash/water features **\$1,350,000**
5. Public plaza area with Spray feature **\$TBD**
6. Play area that also includes tot lot and ADA features **\$850,000**

Seconded by Alderman Martin. Alderman Wilen questioned the recommendation containing the top six priorities when the minutes from the Riverfront meeting requested the top three priorities to be approved. Alderman Johnson agreed that the top three priorities were intended to be approved, however, the Council will be asked to approve the other three as well. City Manager Shumard stated the Council will have to approve all expenditures as they come in. Alderman Johnson stated the top three priorities must be completed to start the project. Alderman Wise requested the Commission look at rebidding the lighting and security to include solar energy, Shumard advised the majority of the expense comes from running fiber optic from the riverfront to City Hall. Alderman Wise also questioned the Commissions intentions of asking for public and corporate funding. Johnson stated that was discussed at length and as soon as the ground work is laid with the top three priorities funding will be requested from public sources. Alderman Wilen stated she is in full support of this, this is something that will be enjoyed daily by future generations. Alderman Elston stated she is excited to see visual progress, monies that have been spent to date do not have a lot of visual return. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Wilen, Johnson, Ekquist and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Chief Chavira informed the Council that the squad cars that have been on back order are expected to be delivered this week. The Police Department is hiring, the deadline to apply is September 2, 2022. Deputy Chief Mohr tested the new incinerator, it will be a great asset to the evidence officer. Chief Chavira reminded everyone of the Citizens Police Academy starts September 13th please sign up by August 31st.

Chief Dettman stated the Fire Department will be holding an open house on September 10th to celebrate their 150th anniversary.

City Manager Shumard advised that the Stanley-National building tour will take place on August 25, 2022 during the Pop-Up Market. The response was overwhelming for the tour and the developer is looking to add another tour in the future. Shumard advised the lights have been ordered for the Council Chambers, as soon as they are installed the meetings will resume in there. Shumard also advised the Wallace Street construction will begin on Monday and the Rock River TIF will be completed on December 1, 2022.

Alderman Elston thanked the Police Department and Sterling Main Street for a successful Hot Dog Days. Elston reminded everyone to attend the Pop-Up Market on August 25th. Elston also reminded everyone that school is back in session please pay attention while driving, especially in school zones.

Alderman Wilen thanked Superintendent of Public Works, Brad Schrader for painting the curb as well as the school crossings in the area of Challand Middle School.

Janna Groharing, Executive Director at Sterling Main Street, stated the muralist will start the restoration work on Adelante this week. She also advised that work on the incubator buildings will begin on August 29, 2022.

Kris Noble, Executive Director of the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce congratulated Chief Chavira, Chavira was selected as the Grand Marshal for the Fiesta Day Parade

Mayor Lee asked the status of the elevator, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt said the technician should be here to work on it in the next week. Mayor Lee also advised the Council he is looking at updating language in the liquor code to require license holders that want to host large outdoor events on their property to have a preplan meeting with City Officials.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Teri Sathoff

City Clerk