

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 7, 2014. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, and Joe Martin. Absent: Aldermen Christopher Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Lt. Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- A) City Council minutes of March 17, 2014
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,490,653.09
- C) Plan Commission minutes of February 20, 2014
- D) Petition from St. Mary Catholic Church to form a pedestrian procession to carry a cross on Friday, April 18, 2014 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm
- E) **Resolution No. R2014-04-01 Supplemental MFT Resolution** for 2013 in the amount of \$72,100.00
- F) **Resolution No. R2014-04-02 to close streets** for Memorial Day activities at Grandon Civic Center on Monday, May 26, 2014
- G) **Resolution No. R2014-04-03 to close streets** for Movies in the Park at Grandon Civic Center throughout the summer
- H) **Resolution No. R2014-04-04 to close streets** for the 2014 concert season in Grandon Civic Center throughout the summer
- I) **Resolution No. R2014-04-05 Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement to hire an Alternate Hearing Officer for Code Enforcement**

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring April 13 – 19 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators' Week; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee presented the proclamation to Police Support Services Supervisor Claudia Garcia as Alderman Elston read the proclamation into the record.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring April 7 – 11 as the Week of the Young Child; seconded by Alderman Cox. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Alderman Martin made a motion to award the bid to Twin City Construction for the Fifth Avenue reconstruction project, concrete option, in the amount of \$490,409.93; seconded by Alderman Elston. Manager Shumard stated that the school would be contributing trees, decorative street lighting, and help with moving the storm water detention. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to set the public hearing for the proposed FY 2014-15 Annual Budget during the regular City Council meeting on Monday, April 21, 2014; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Development Agreement and Site Plan for **Ordinance No. 2013-07-21 vacating Reins Street**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Mayor Lee asked for any comments on this matter. There were none. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Pete Harkness approached the Council and expressed his disappointment that the vacation of Reins Street took nearly one year to be finalized.

Manager Shumard reported that IDOT will be taking bids this summer to reconstruct Fourth Street from 9th Avenue to 19th Avenue. The work on the Hey's Lift Station on 19th Street is proceeding. Woodburn Avenue reconstruction bids are due soon. The CEO program will be here on April 15 at 8:00 am.

Alderman Cox encouraged people to support Matt Anderson day at the Sterling Dairy Queen on April 12. He stated it is a situation that still needs the community's prayers and support.

Alderman Elston was glad to see the resolutions to close streets for the movies in the park and the band concerts. Elston was also glad to see Reins Street on the agenda so that Subway can proceed.

Alderman Cox made a motion to move to "closed session" at 7:00 pm to discuss employee evaluation or discipline for personnel as covered under subsection (1) of 5ILCS 120/2(c); seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Cox made a motion to reconvene the open meeting at 7:18 pm; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, and Martin. Nays – None. Motion carried.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned to a Study Session at 7:20 pm.

Manager Shumard announced the last fund to cover is the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant (IGIG) fund. This fund will be an in and out account for work done on the river front with the Mud to Parks grant money.

Manager Shumard asked for input on the two accounts covered earlier that need Council direction: storm water work and Coliseum personnel.

Alderman Cox is concerned about a utility fee because people are hurting for money. Alderman Martin would rather approach the ½% sales tax instead of the flat utility fee. The flat fee would require bonds and then need to inform people how many years it would take before their problem could be resolved. Martin believes we could make a strong case for the sales tax increase if handled like before with the streets. This problem cannot be kicked down the road. Alderman Elston supports the sale tax increase.

Manager Shumard reported that Rick Powers and Cory Bradshaw will be attending the County Comprehensive Plan meeting on Tuesday at 9:30 am to discuss how to handle field water run-off.

Discussion followed on Coliseum personnel with no definite answer.

The meeting closed at 7:52 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk