

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, May 5, 2014. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Christopher Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, 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 April 21, 2014
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,474,799.84
- C) 2014-15 MICA Insurance Renewal Premiums in the amount of \$651,587, a 16.6% increase
- D) Low bid from Triple W Properties to construct new single-family house at 606 Third Avenue for \$194,039.80, using NSP2 funds
- E) Plan Commission minutes from March 20, 2014
- F) Partial Pay Request #18 and #19 for City Hall remodeling project from Sjostrom & Sons in the amount of \$310,368.81

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Stauter asked if the insurance costs will continue to increase. Manager Shumard explained we are in an insurance pool not actual insurance so with the additional exposure of several worker's compensation cases and the wrecked fire truck, costs were destined to rise. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

The proclamation for Poppy Day (Item #8-B) will be handled at the next Council meeting.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring Saturday, May 10, 2014, as Letter Carrier Food Drive Day; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Alderman Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2014-5-6 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System Mutual Aid Agreement**; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Chief Potthoff stated this has been a valuable tool for the City. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2014-05-12, Establishing a Building Setback Overlay District**; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Superintendent Schmidt stated this should have been corrected years ago; owners in these areas have been unable to add on or improve the front of their homes. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an Employment Contract with the City of Rock Falls for Twin Cities Joint Fire Command Chief Gary Cook, including a 2% salary increase; seconded by Alderman Elston. Manager Shumard stated that Chief Cook has done a fine job. Voting: Ayes – Alderman Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Schmidt announced the City has received two grants and is looking for applicants to use the money. The first is for removal of lead paint and the second is for emergency home repairs.

Alderman Elston asked about the Clean and Green. Manager Shumard reported Public Works will have dumpsters available on May 16 and 17; no hazardous wastes or tires will be accepted.

Alderman Elston thanked Superintendent Schmidt and Attorney Coplan for their work on the abandoned property on 13th Avenue.

Alderman Stauter stated that the Prayer Breakfast went well last week and complimented the Mayor for his thoughts and prayers.

Manager Shumard reported the City received a thank you from the CEO class for the City's presentation on procedures to get a business up and running. Shumard announced that EPA was here last week at the Lawrence property and lobbying groups have asked support in voting down the 97,000 pound limit for trucks because of the wear and tear on local roadways.

Mayor Lee thanked Manager Shumard for his work on the CEO program. Mayor Lee wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day on Sunday. Mayor Lee announced there will be an executive session at the next meeting and encouraged Council members to return their assessments.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Marie Rombouts, City Clerk