

Monday, December 21, 2015
City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm

CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Council Chambers - First Floor
212 Third Avenue

1. Meeting Opening

Subject : A. Call to Order
Meeting : Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type : Procedural

1. Meeting Opening

Subject : B. Roll Call
Meeting : Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type : Procedural

1. Meeting Opening

Subject : C. Pledge of Allegiance
Meeting : Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type : Procedural

2. Communication from Visitors

Subject : A. Public Comment
Meeting : Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type : Information

File Attachments

[public comment policy.pdf \(75 KB\)](#)

3. Consent Agenda

Subject : A. Approval of Minutes
Meeting : Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type : Action (Consent)
Recommended Action : Approval of Minutes as presented

Public Content

Approval of Minutes from the regular meeting of December 7, 2015 and the study session of December 14, 2015.

File Attachments

[studysession121415.pdf \(104 KB\)](#)
[cc120715.pdf \(138 KB\)](#)

Consent

Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Robert's Rules, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through Board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Board members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member.

3. Consent Agenda

Subject :	B. Approval of Bills and Payroll
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Approval of Bills and Payroll as presented

Public Content

File Attachments

[11-30-15 Budget Performance Report.pdf \(360 KB\)](#)
[apsummary12-21-15.pdf \(974 KB\)](#)
[Accounts Payable 12-21-15.pdf \(200 KB\)](#)

Consent

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3. Consent Agenda

Subject :	C. Approve Partial Pay Request #2 to Civil Constructors for the 2015 Street Project, Contract #1 in the amount of \$111,460.40
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Approve Partial Pay Request #2 for the 2015 Street Project, Contract #1 to Civil Constructors in the amount of \$111,460.40

Public Content

Street Contract #1 is for 7thAvenue from 2ndStreet to 4thStreet. There is concrete removal involved and because of the Manahan museum, the engineers have recommended an enhanced base to support extra potential traffic including buses.

File Attachments

[PPR2-2015cont1.pdf \(56 KB\)](#)

Consent

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3. Consent Agenda

Subject :	D. Approval of Resolution #R2015-12-28 Authorizing the Sale of 902 Fourth Avenue, a single-family dwelling
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	It is the recommendaiton of Staff that the City Council approve Resolution #2015-12-28 as prepared by the City Attorney, authorizing the sale of certain residential property.

Public Content

During June of 2013, the City of Sterling took possession of certain property at 902 4th Avenue, by means of a Judicial Deed, through the abandonment process. The house and detached garage were demolished during July of 2013.

Using a combination of NSP2 and National Foreclosure Settlement (NFS) funds, a new single-family house and detached garage were constructed. The NSP2 program dictates that upon completion of the rehabilitation or redevelopment of properties, the properties are sold to qualified homebuyers. The City of Sterling has received an offer on the property at 902 4th Avenue from Emily A. Hammett.

In accordance with Illinois State Statutes, staff is requesting authorization to sell the afore mentioned property as outlined in the attached resolution.

File Attachments

[R2015-12-28 sell 902 4th Ave.pdf \(81 KB\)](#)

Consent

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3. Consent Agenda

Subject :	E. Resolution No. R2015-12-29 providing for the abatement of certain taxes levied against real property for the Special Service Area Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 1998 Greenridge
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Approve Resolution No. R2015-12-29 abating the property tax levy for the years 2015 through 2018 in the annual amount of \$38,080.07 for the Special Service Area Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 1998 Greenridge

Public Content

The attached resolution abates a portion of the property tax levy for the Greenridge bonds issued in August 1998. The bond ordinance requires that each year taxes will be levied to pay for the upcoming years principal and interest unless there is sufficient money on deposit in the Fund to provide for such payment. The bonds were acquired in lieu of foreclosure during FY16, therefore we will be able to abate the levy for the years 2015 through 2018.

File Attachments

[R2015-12-29 Greenridge tax abate.pdf \(7 KB\)](#)

Consent

Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Robert's Rules, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through Board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Board members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member.

3. Consent Agenda

Subject :	F. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution #R2015-12-30 for Maintenance of Streets and Highways from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	It is the recommendation of City Staff and our consulting engineers, Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc. that the City Council approve the attached resolution for Maintenance of

Streets and Highways in the amount of \$265,000.00.

Public Content

Each year the City Council approves a Resolution for the maintenance of streets and highways as required by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The Resolution covers maintenance supplies, labor and equipment reimbursement costs for the year beginning January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. By passing of this Resolution the City Council is committing \$265,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax allotment for the purpose of maintaining streets and highways in the City of Sterling. Further, passing the Resolution will allow the City to solicit bids for maintenance materials for the calendar year 2016.

Maintenance supplies purchased with these funds include: road rock, sand, salt for snow and ice control, crack filler, bituminous hot mix and cold patch. We also reimburse our eligible labor and equipment costs as well as a substantial portion of our street lighting cost.

File Attachments

[R2015-12-30 MFT GM.pdf \(47 KB\)](#)

Consent

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5. Recommended Personnel Action

Subject :	A. Presentation of Certificate of Promotion to Lieutenant Jeff Mohr
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Presentation, Recognition

Public Content

Lieutenant Mohr was promoted to Lieutenant on 25 November 2015. He came to us in June of 1997 after 5 years service with the Washington D.C. Police Department. Prior to that Lt. Mohr was an officer with U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Security and spent 3 years as a military police officer in the U.S. Army. Lt. Mohr has an Associates degree in Criminal Justice from Sauk Valley Community College. He has spent time as a designated officer in charge, field training officer and school resource officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in February of 2013 and during his career has twice received the Optimist Officer of the Year award.

Please congratulate Lt. Mohr.

8. Business Items

Subject :	A. Ordinance #2015-12-20 Establishing a Municipal Utility Tax
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm

Type :

Action

Recommended Action :

Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance #2015-12-20
Establishing a Municipal Utility Tax

Public Content

The increasing costs of liability, workers compensation and health insurance, coupled with flat revenues, have forced the City to examine cuts and tax increases to maintain current levels of service. The City made a number of cuts following the Great Recession of 2008. After reviewing the cuts that would be necessary to balance the budget, they were deemed too severe to be able to maintain the services citizens expect. Implementation of a utility tax will put us on par with our neighboring communities and avoid a mass layoff across all departments.

File Attachments

[2015-12-20 Establishing Municipal Utility Tax.pdf \(151 KB\)](#)

8. Business Items

Subject :	B. Ordinance No. 2015-12-19 setting out the 2015 Tax Levy for the City of Sterling
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action
Recommended Action :	Consider Ordinance No 2015-12-19 and approve if acceptable

Public Content

Attached is the 2015 Tax Levy Ordinance in the amount of \$4,349,149. This figure represents a 18.76% increase over last year. A truth in taxation hearing was held as required by law.

A copy of the 2015 Tax Levy Ordinance is attached for your review.

File Attachments

[2015-12-19 Tax Levy.pdf \(107 KB\)](#)

8. Business Items

Subject :	C. Resolution No. R2015-12-31 Urging the General Assembly to Adopt Reforms to Police and Fire Pensions
Meeting :	Dec 21, 2015 - City Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
Type :	Action
Recommended Action :	If acceptable, please pass Resolution No. R2015-12-31 Urging the General Assembly to Adopt Reforms to Police and Fire Pensions

Public Content

The City's largest expense increases have been for fire and police pensions. The State controls every aspect of the pension programs through Statute. Cities have no control over the benefits or plan design and are left to fund what the State mandates. From 2005 to 2015, the estimated tax levy increased \$2,066,677, or 91%. \$1,399,885, or 68% of the increase, is for fire and police pensions. Because the State has no cost associated with the benefits it offers, it has no motive to actively seek change. This has forced an undue burden on local property tax payers. This resolution is to help put the spotlight on those burdens the State has created on our residents.

File Attachments

[R2015-12-31 Pension Reform.pdf \(72 KB\)](#)