

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a virtual special meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 3:00 pm on Wednesday January 27, 2021. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Josh Johnson, Christine Wilen, Joe Martin, John Stauter, and Jim Wise. Absent: none.

Also attending, City Manager Scott Shumard Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt and City Clerk Teri Sathoff.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2021-1-1 Authorizing Entry into the Illinois Housing Development Authority Strong Communities Program Conditional Commitment Agreement**; seconded by Alderman Wilen. City Manager Shumard stated that The City of Sterling was awarded an IHDA Strong Communities Program grant in the amount of \$246,400 and the State of Illinois is requesting this commitment letter prior to awarding the grant.

Alderman Wilen questioned which properties would be included in the grant, she stated there is a property on East 15th that she would like to see included. Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt stated that the properties had to be owned by the City and that particular property is not a City owned property, she is optimistic that it will be included in future plans. Alderman Wilen questioned the time limit on the grant, Schmidt stated this a 2 year grant.

Superintendent Schmidt stated Mike Wolber requested \$250,000 and the City was awarded \$246,400, this was the first time the City has applied for this grant. The properties submitted in the grant are as follows; for demolition; 1110 7th Avenue, 1802 East 3rd Street, 1008 Ash Avenue, 1005 6th Avenue and 1407 16th Avenue, for renovation; 405 16th Avenue, 504 West 6th, 1308 Harvey and 1409 16th Avenue. Schmidt pointed out these properties were submitted to the State however substitutions can be made if necessary.

Alderman Elston asked if a property is renovated and sold, will the money need to go back into this grant program. Schmidt stated she would look into that and verify the answer.

Alderman Wise questioned the timeline for the completion of the work. Schmidt stated it depends on the acquisition of the properties, she sees no issue in getting the work done prior to June of 2022. Alderman Wise congratulated Schmidt on the grant and gave her best wishes on the use of it. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Johnson, Stauter, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.

Teri Sathoff
City Clerk