

**STERLING, COLORADO  
NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

**STATE OF COLORADO )  
COUNTY OF LOGAN )ss  
CITY OF STERLING )**

As required by the Colorado Sunshine Law, the meeting was posted timely in the City Hall lobby more than twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting.

Pastor Terry Krayenhaagen, Faith Cornerstone Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Desormeaux led the Pledge of Allegiance. The City Council of the City of Sterling, Colorado, met in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Mayor Desormeaux called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmembers present:

Mayor	Desormeaux
Councilmembers	Angell Blecha Delgado Haynie Janes Ritter

Also present:

City Manager	Blankenship
City Attorney	Richardson
City Clerk	Forbes
Fire Chief	Ritter
Police Chief	Kerr
Public Works Director	Good
Human Resources Director	Mentzel
Parks, Library and Recreation (PLR) Director	Gandee
Public Safety Communications (PSC) Director	Lybrand
Paralegal	Welsh

Citizens present: 14

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2023:**

Councilmember Delgado made a motion to approve the City Council minutes of November 14, 2023. Councilmember Blecha seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**COMMUNICATION AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF NON-SCHEDULED CITIZENS BEFORE THE COUNCIL:**

Present to address Council was Mr. Dean Haynes, 426 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Mr. Haynes advised he was here regarding the first reading of the Chicken Ordinance. He suggested page 2, item 2, if there is more than one dwelling unit, he felt there should also be approval from adjacent property owners. He also advised looking at enforcement of who would be the enforcement, who would take the calls, fines, etc.

Next to address Council was Mr. Terry Dowis, 431 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Mr. Dowis advised Council he was there regarding the dog bite issue. He suggested Council have a leash law to help take care of the animals at-large that are biting people. He asked if Council could put something on the agenda to start discussion of this.

Next to address Council was Ms. Dustin, 217 Platte Street. She was here regarding the homeless issue. She feels the City should work together with all the churches.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE NO. 17, SERIES OF 2023 – AN ORDINANCE MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX MILLION, SIX HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$6,601,597) AND REGULATING THE PAYMENT OF MONEY OUT OF THE CITY TREASURY, AND INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF THE REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2023 BY THREE HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$319,482):**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council this Ordinance relates to projects and revenues received in 2023 after the 2023 budget was completed. Increased expenses of \$6,601,597.00 and revenue of \$319,482.00.

Mayor Desormeaux opened the public hearing.

There were no comments.

Mayor Desormeaux closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Blecha made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 17, Series of 2023. Councilmember Janes seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

- Sales and Lodging Taxes – October 2023
- Water Production/Demand – October 2023
- Employee Christmas Lunch
- Christmas Parade of Lights
- Christmas events from the Parks, Library and Recreation Department

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FIRST READING – ORDINANCE NO. 18, SERIES OF 2023 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STERLING CITY CODE, CHAPTER 4, ANIMALS, BY THE ADDITION THERETO OF A NEW ARTICLE IV, CHICKENS:**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council at the election held on November 7, 2023, the voters of the City approved the ballot question permitting the keeping of chickens within the City limits upon such terms and conditions as the City Council may establish. This Ordinance sets forth terms and conditions for the raising of chickens in the City, by amending the City Code, Chapter 4, Animals, to add an Article IV, Chickens. The provisions of this Ordinance provide for an annual permit fee of \$50.00 for the keeping of laying chicken hens within the City.

Councilmember Ritter made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 18, Series of 2023. Councilmember Haynie seconded the motion. City Clerk read the Ordinance by title.

Councilmember Delgado asked if they could discuss Mr. Haynes items.

City Attorney Richardson advised the Ordinance can be amended on the first reading or it can be brought back later for discussion.

By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-4-23, SERIES OF 2023 - A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 11-6-22, SERIES OF 2022; AND ADOPTING A NEW CHARGES AND FEES POLICY; AND ESTABLISHING NEW CHARGES AND FEES AS REQUIRED IN NUMEROUS SECTIONS OF THE STERLING CITY CODE, AS SET FORTH HEREIN; AND USER CHARGES AND FEES NOT REQUIRED TO BE SET BY SPECIFIC SECTIONS OF THE STERLING CITY CODE:**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council this Resolution repeals Resolution No. 11-6-22, Series of 2022, and makes revisions to charges and fees of the City:

- Revisions have been made in Section I, Police Department, as more particularly reflected in the work sheet of the narrative.
- Revisions have been made in Section III, Public Works, as more particularly reflected in the work sheet of the narrative.
- Revisions have been made in Section IV, Parks, Library, and Recreation, as more particularly reflected in the work sheet of the narrative.

The proposed changes are intended to cover increased service costs or to comply with updated practices/regulations, and do not amount to any significant increase in revenue.

Councilmember Janes made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-4-23, Series of 2023. Councilmember Angell seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-5-23, SERIES OF 2023 – A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE RATES AS REQUIRED IN CITY CODE CHAPTER 16, SANITATION:**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council this Resolution increase the service charges under Sec. 16-30 of the City Code. Charges for single family residences, and multiple family residences per dwelling unit, have been increased by \$1.50 per month. The \$1.50 rate increase will result in an increase in revenue of approximately \$60,000.

Councilmember Haynie made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-5-23, Series of 2023. Councilmember Delgado seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-6-23, SERIES OF 2023 – A RESOLUTION BEFORE THE CITY OF STERLING, LOGAN COUNTY, COLORADO, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF LAND FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO, FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THE PURCHASE; AND APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS:**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council this Resolution approves the purchase of land from the State of Colorado, for the use and benefit of the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The acquisition of this additional land would provide for the furtherance of provision of traditional government services by the City. The purchase price of the subject real

estate is \$590,000.00. There are sufficient funds in the City's American Rescue Plan Act Fund for this purchase, and this transaction is an acceptable use of those funds.

Councilmember Angell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-6-23, Series of 2023. Councilmember Blecha seconded the motion.

Councilmember Delgado asked what the intended use of this building was. He was advised they have been having discussions regarding this.

Mayor Desormeaux advised this is the old Armory building. It has been discussed to possibly move the Police Department into the building.

By a six-yes and one-no vote, the motion was approved. Voting was as follows:

Angell	yes	Blecha	yes
Delgado	no	Desormeaux	yes
Haynie	yes	Janes	yes
Ritter	yes		

**MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

**MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – FOR DISCUSSION OF A PERSONNEL MATTER UNDER C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4)(f) AND NOT INVOLVING ANY SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE REQUESTED DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER IN OPEN SESSION; ANY MEMBER OF THIS BODY OR ANY ELECTED OFFICIAL; THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY PERSON TO FILL AN OFFICE OF THIS BODY OR OF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL; OR PERSONNEL POLICIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE DISCUSSION OF MATTERS PERSONAL TO PARTICULAR EMPLOYEES:**

Mayor Desormeaux made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees. Councilmember Janes seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

Council went into executive session at 6:10 p.m.

Council came out of executive session at 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Desormeaux advised the participants in the executive session were: City Council. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, she asked that they state their concerns for the record.

There was none.


**RESOLUTION NO. 11-7-23, SERIES OF 2023 - A RESOLUTION BEFORE THE CITY OF STERLING, LOGAN COUNTY, COLORADO, APPROVING A SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

City Manager Blankenship advised Council this Resolution approves a salary adjustment for the City Manager, in accordance with the 2020-2025 Salary Survey approved by City Council on August 28, 2020. The City Manager's present annual salary is \$142,023.44, and will increase to \$149,889.00.

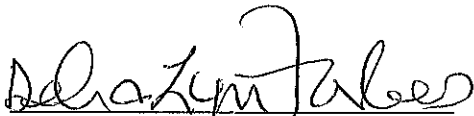
Councilmember Janes made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-7-23, Series of 2023. Councilmember Angell seconded the motion. By a seven-yes vote, the motion was approved.

**ADJOURMENT:**

There being no further business to come before Council the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK