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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2002**

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**ROLL CALL**

Acting Mayor Pam Blickem called the meeting to order and Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Alan Bauer, Michael Chambon, Andrew Larson, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, and Janice Tripp. Mayor John Swedberg was absent.

**INVOCATION**

Steve Persson of the First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderson Stowe moved to approve the agenda and Alderson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Louis Schoenburg was sworn in to speak to Ordinance 2001.66, Restaurant & Bar Tax, when it came up on the agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 21, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for February 4, 2002, in the amount of \$262,726.35;
- C. Monthly Budget Report for January 2002.

Alderson Maness moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.**

- A. Honoring Those Firefighters Who Were Recently Certified as Paramedics.

Administrator Nicklas explained that through the support of Council the first class of Paramedic's have graduated. Fire Chief Bill Riddle introduced the graduates present as Firefighters Darren Hepker, Tom Pritchett, Kurt Mathey, Paul Rubeck, and Marc Doty. Firefighters Sean Penn and Todd Turner, paramedic graduates were absent. Chief Riddle said they were especially proud of the cooperative effort between Kishwaukee Hospital, the Administration and the IAFF to get the job done. Chief Riddle said the City was currently running a 24-hour paramedic service.

Aldersperson Larson congratulated the paramedics and thanked the Street Department for the snow removal effort.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator – Bill Nicklas thanked the Public Works and Police Departments for their snow removal efforts.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 8 building permits: 6 single-family residential and 2 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy had no treasurer report, but mentioned that he had been hearing that the Cable Service was less than satisfactory.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle encouraged the Community to use smoke detectors. Chief Riddle said there had been recent fire deaths in Chicago many because of the lack of smoke detectors.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that over the past two weeks the Police Department had taken 234 calls, written 80 reports, handle 17 accidents, made 26 arrests, made 30 traffic stops, and issued 36 tickets. Chief Thomas said that eight hours after the last snow fall 65 cars were parked on the streets, but between knocking on doors and phone calls most of the car owners complied and only a couple of tickets were issued. Chief Riddle presented the Golden Heart Award to Chief Riddle for winning the Battle of the Badges blood donation.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse thanked the Water Department and the Police Department for their cooperative efforts with the recent snow removal.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that Well #7 was repaired and would be tested and back in service the following week.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance – no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water –no report

Streets & Walks –no report

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

## **ORDINANCES**

**A. Ordinance No. 2001.66—An Ordinance Amending Title 3, “Business and License Regulations,” by Adding a New Chapter 17, “Restaurant, Bar and Package Liquor Sales Tax,” to the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2001.66 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.66 and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

Louis Schoenburg, 813 Somonauk, explained that he was the owner-operated of County Liquors in Sycamore. He asked the Council to reconsider taxing their constituents for eating out or buying liquor. Mr. Schoenburg said he felt Council was sneaking this tax through. He said he rehabbed a deserted building, built a good business over the years and doesn't want to lose that business because of this sales tax. Mr. Schoenburg asked Council to ask Mr. Nicklas to refigure the needs of the City without imposing the 2% Restaurant & Bar Tax.

Administrator Nicklas explained that this tax was for capital needs. Mr. Nicklas said that the City was at a point of needing to play catch up because of the conservative spending over the past few years. Mr. Nicklas said that revenue source alternatives to the Restaurant and Bar Tax were the Utility Tax and increased Home Rule Tax and he felt that those would put the whole City at a disadvantage.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**B. Ordinance No. 2001.68—An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Sycamore to Issue and the Mayor to Execute General Obligation Bonds, Series 2002, in the Amount of \$4,000,000 and Providing for the Levy and Collection of a Direct Annual Tax for the Payment of the Principal and Interest on the Bonds. First and Second Reading.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2001.68 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Administrator Nicklas explained that Ordinance 2001.67 was on the agenda as a consideration only because he felt it should go back to Plan Commission for a recommendation.

Administrator Nicklas said the Workshop earlier had addressed the uses of this bond and Mr. Nicklas said that Jeff Schupple of Mesirow Financial was in the audience. Mr. Nicklas said their best estimate for the cost of issuance was 3.4%.

Jeff Schupple, Mesirow Financial, said that in 1999 through the rating process the City received an A3 rating. Mr. Schupple said with the soundness of the City's finances they should be able to upgrade that rating.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.68 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

### **Roll Call Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a roll call vote. Those Alderspersons voting aye were: Larson, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, Bauer, Chambon and Blickem. Motion carried 8 - 0.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

None

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **A. Consideration of a Presentation from Waste Management Officials Concerning the Implementation of New Contract Provisions.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that since there were some changes in waste removal with the City's new refuse contract, he thought Waste Management should address how they will communicate the changes to the Community. Mr. Nicklas stated that Tom Kleczewski and Ron Mannis, Waste Management Representatives, were in the audience for comment.

Tom Kleczewski said that the revisions regarding container size and type and prohibition of loose plastic bags addressed safety issues for the drivers.

Acting Mayor Blickem inquired how they were going to notify the customers.

Ron Mannis said they would determine route by route how the customers were conforming to the new standards. Mr. Mannis said he would monitor who received the stickers with letters attached and he would consider on a case-by-case basis the chronic offenders. Mr. Mannis also said that they would instruct their call center with Sycamore-specific information.

Aldersperson Bauer said the letter and the agreement were inconsistent. Mr. Nicklas said that there was an error in the contract allowing plastic bags and that would be changed. Mr. Mannis said that as long as the cans were under 34 gallon and under 50 pounds filled they would empty them.

Aldersperson Paulsen said he would like to see the 64-gallon can and the 34-gallon can for seniors only mentioned in the letters. Mr. Kleczewski said the letter would only go to the chronic offenders. Aldersperson Maness inquired how the seniors would be made aware of the offer and Janice Tripp suggested a public notice in the newspaper. Mr. Mannis said he would be the City's direct representative.

**B. Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the County of DeKalb to Cooperate in a Regional Planning Commission.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the revised proposal mirrored the Sycamore Plan that Mr. Nicklas had previously composed. Mr. Nicklas recommended referring the matter to the Sycamore Plan Commission for review before bringing it before Council in Ordinance form on February 18, 2002

**C. Consideration of an Administration Report on a Joint Meeting of the Sycamore City Council, Sycamore School Board, and Sycamore Park Board at 6:00 P.M. on February 5.**

Administrator Nicklas placed this on the agenda to remind the Council about the special meeting to discuss the conceptual designs of a "community recreational center."

**D. Consideration of a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to go into closed session at 8:30 p.m. and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Chambon moved to come out of closed session at 8:55 p.m. and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Acting Mayor Blickem by direction of Mayor Swedberg appointed Tom Brotcke and Ken Campbell to the Sycamore Public Library Board and appointed Tom Brotcke as the Library Board liaison to the Plan Commission.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the appointments and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Acting Mayor Blickem called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Approve:

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Acting Mayor – Pam Blickem

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith