SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2002

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

Dan Stovall of the Sycamore Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7 – 0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Jesus Romero, owner of Taxco Restaurant, expressed concern regarding the $800 fee he paid the City for police presence last year for the Cinco de Mayo celebration. Mr. Romero explained that his focus for the event was on family and community. Mr. Romero said that he donates 15% of his gross sales to a non-profit organization and asked the City to reduce the $800 charge. Administrator Nicklas suggested Mr. Romero meet with the new Police Chief to discuss the matter. Lieutenant Solar, who was sitting in for Chief Thomas, said he would meet with Mr. Romero the next morning.

Kent Hoffman, 330 W. Ottawa, expressed concern regarding parked cars on Ottawa street. Mr. Hoffman said there was a van that was parked on the street and not moved for months at a time that created a visual hazard. He said that school buses and semis traveled the street and asked if Council would consider creating a no parking stipulation between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. for the three most western blocks of Ottawa Street.

Ray Puentes, 803 Meadow Lane, stated that he had witnessed the Council's 5 to 2 vote for accepting a bid for the roofing of the Community Center and said he was concerned about the Mayor's veto. Mr. Puentes said that the Midwest Museum was a rare and unique opportunity for Sycamore and would generate traffic and sales revenues as well as educate the public. Mr. Puentes said that the City owned the building and should take responsibility for its repair. Mr. Puentes asked for cooperation among the Chamber, the Museum Board, and the Council and Mayor.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 4, 2002;

B. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes for the City Council Meetings of April 16, 2001; May 3, 2001; May 7, 2001; June 4, 2001; June 18, 2001; July 16, 2001; August 6, 2001; August 20, 2001; October 1, 2001; October 15, 2001;
C. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of February 11, 2002.
D. Payment of the Bills for March 18, 2002 in the amount of $457,762.29.
E. Monthly Budget Report for the Period Ending February 28, 2002.

Motion
Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Chambon seconded the motion.
Voice Vote
Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

Mayor Swedberg announced that Nicor had finalized plans to open a call center September 2002, in the old Duplex building on Bethany Road. Mayor Swedberg welcomed Nicor and thanked Jerry Carter, Director of Real Estate for Monsanto, Joe Johnson of Nicor, Roger Hopkins of DCEDC and City Administrator Bill Nicklas for their combined efforts in bringing the facility to Sycamore.

Alderperson Bauer thanked Waste Management for remedying a problem in his ward.

Alderperson Chambon commended the Museum Committee, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Merchants for a job well done promoting the new Midwest Museum on Saturday, March 16 at the Community Center.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reported that the FY03 Budget Hearings would begin Tuesday, March 19, 2002 at 7:00 P.M. and continue Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 P.M.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that for the last four weeks he had written 33 permits: 9 single-family detached, 10 attached single-family (5 duplexes), 11 miscellaneous residential, and 2 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the February financials were at the 83% benchmark and most of the revenue sources were at or above the benchmark with state income tax, replacement tax, and permits trailing. Treasurer Mundy said that the disbursements were well under the benchmark with the exception of capital expenses. Mr. Mundy stated that the Fire and Police Pensions should see gains in equity by the end of April. Mr. Mundy also reported that a grant team visited the exhibit at the Schelkopf farm and were favorably impressed.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle - no report

Police Chief – Lieutenant Pat Solar – no report

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that the Water Department would be receiving an award from the Illinois Department of Public Health for maintaining fluoride levels. Superintendent Smith also displayed a new map that he had created with the new GIS system pinpointing the water mains and fire hydrants. Superintendent Smith said they had received all the ortho photos from the County updating the overheads through spring, 2001. Mr. Nicklas commented that the County was sharing a lot of expertise at no charge.

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. 2001.75—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Barbara Louis Messinger and Dan Jahns, co-Trustees of Trust No. 100, and Wiseman-Hughes Enterprises, Inc. for Approval of an Annexation Agreement for a Planned Unit Development Known as Reston Ponds at the Northeast Corner of Bethany Road and Somonauk Street with Zoning Classifications of "R-1" One Family Residence District and "C-1" Neighborhood Business District in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

B. **Ordinance No. 2001.76—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Barbara Louis Messinger and Dan Jahns, co-Trustees of Trust No. 100, and Wiseman-Hughes Enterprises, Inc. for Approval of the Preliminary Plan and Plat for the Planned Unit Development Known as Reston Ponds in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

C. **Ordinance No. 2001.77—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Barbara Louis Messinger and Dan Jahns, co-Trustees of Trust No. 100, and Wiseman-Hughes Enterprises, Inc. for Approval of the Annexation of the Planned Unit Development Known as Reston Ponds in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas recommended holding Ordinances 2001.75, 2001.76, and 2001.77 over until the April 15, 2002 meeting. Mr. Nicklas explained that the developer, petitioner, and attorney were not able to complete the changes recommended by the Plan Commission on March 11, 2002. Mr. Nicklas stated that the staff supported the petitioner's request for a postponement until April 15.

Motion
Alderperson Bauer moved to hold over Ordinances 2001.75, 2001.76, and 2001.77 and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.
Voice Vote
Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

RESOLUTIONS
None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of the Mayor's Veto of the Council's Motion to Approve Contractor Bids for the Sycamore Community Center Roof Replacement Project.

Mayor Swedberg asked Attorney Smith to give a summary of applicable law. Attorney Smith read from the State Statutes that the ordinance returned to the City Council by the Mayor shall be reconsidered at the next Council meeting following the Council meeting at which the City Council received the written objection. Attorney Smith said that a 2/3 vote of those Aldermen holding office was required to override the veto.

Alderperson Maness said that she felt it was the City's responsibility to maintain the Community Center. Ms. Maness said that if the City did not put a roof on the building or give the Museum Board time to raise the money needed for the building, we would be passing up a great opportunity to house the museum and add to the history of Sycamore.

Alderperson Larson said that in the one year he has been on Council, they have approved numerous subdivision bringing thousands of residents to the Community. Mr. Larson said that on the other hand they had seen little growth on the commercial and industrial side. Alderperson Larson said that he felt the Museum would create a great opportunity for attracting people to the community and said that it should be supported.

B. Consideration of the Preliminary FY2002-2003 City Budget.

Administrator Nicklas simply wanted to remind everybody that the Finance Committee budget meetings would take place Tuesday, March 19, 2002 and Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

C. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Pending Litigation.

Motion
Alderperson Chambon moved to go into Closed Session at 8:30 p.m. and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote
Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Paulsen, Stowe, Bauer, Blickem, Chambon, Larson, and Maness voted aye. No Alderperson voted nay. Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion
Alderperson Blickem moved to return to Open Session at 9:49 p.m. and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.
Voice Vote
Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

APPOINTMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion
Alderperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.
Voice Vote
Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

Approve:

_____
Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

_____
City Clerk – Candy Smith