
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 6, 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, Andrew Larson, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, and Janice Tripp. Alderperson Michael Chambon was absent.

INVOCATION

Treasurer Ken Mundy gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderperson Michael Chambon arrived at 7:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg added Resolution 411 concerning the use of the Community Center by the Midwest Museum of Natural History to the agenda.

Motion

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

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Cliff Simonson, 154 Park Avenue, DeKalb expressed concern that development was threatening water infiltration into the soil as well as reducing food producing capabilities.

John McBride, 609 Cloverlane Drive, said that he wanted to clarify the school board's stand regarding development. Mr. McBride said that the schools were presently at 67% capacity with 3000 pupils and the School Board stood neutral toward development. He said the concern was for the potential rate of housing production.

Earl Gable, 327 Somonauk St., said he did not think that moving the parking to the north side would solve the problem they were experiencing.

Tami Armstrong, Sycamore Chamber of Commerce Director, was in the audience representing the Museum Board and endorsing the Community Center as the suitable place for the Midwest Museum of Natural History. Ms. Armstrong said that the Board was focusing on housing the museum in Sycamore and creating a long-term lease agreement with the City.

Kent Hoffman, 330 W. Ottawa, expressed concern about the parked cars on Ottawa between Somonauk and Park and suggested that restricted parking hours would be a good solution.

Randy Hughes, 325 W. Ottawa, expressed concern about the parked cars on Ottawa Street and asked that parking between Somonauk and Park be eliminated.

Phil James, 315 W. Ottawa Street, expressed concern about switching the parking to the North side of Ottawa and said that he agreed with restricted hours for parking.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 15, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for May 6, 2002 in the amount of \$362,092.08.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

- A. Proclamation Declaring the Week of May 6 through May 12 to be Public Service Recognition Week.

Mayor Swedberg read the proclamation.

- B. Presentation by Carlo Cavallaro, Director of Franchising and Government Affairs for AT&T Broadband, regarding a new cable channel featuring NASCAR racing.

Mr. Cavallaro was not in attendance.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas handed out a property tax rate table highlighting that Sycamore showed the largest rate of reduction of all the taxing bodies. Mr. Nicklas also reminded Council they were invited to the Memorial Day Service at the Vets Home at 10:00 a.m. Monday, May 27, 2002 with a parade immediately following.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 33 building permits: 11 single family detached, 2 duplex units, 17 miscellaneous residential, and 3 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy handed out the revised investment schedule for April 2002, reported that the statements of collateralization had been received from all the depositories stating that the funds were insured, and informed Council that the Police and Fire Pension funds were being audited. Treasurer Mundy said the police and fire funds looked better than the previous year, but had not yet fully recovered.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle reported that since the last meeting the Fire Department had received 69 calls: 46 EMS, 16 non-fire, and 7 fire calls totaling \$32,000 damage. Chief Riddle said that the firefighters have resumed a former Sycamore Jaycee project of filling sand boxes. He said the department would take orders to be delivered May 11, 2002 at a cost of \$2 per wheelbarrow.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that since last meeting the Police Department took 80 reports, handled 15 accidents, made 12 arrests, made 96 traffic stops, and issued 21 tickets. Chief Thomas also reported that the Cinco de Mayo celebration was a success. Chief Thomas stated that his survey of Ottawa Street aroused conflicting feelings regarding the parking issue.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse reported that the storm water problem on Page Street was fixed. Superintendent Busse said that his department had replaced 400 feet of line and installed four catch basins in one week.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that beginning May 13th the Water Department would be flushing hydrants for eight days.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report
Ordinance – no report
Police & Fire - no report
Sewer & Water –no report
Streets & Walks –no report

Mayor Swedberg extended an invitation to the Mayor's Breakfast 7:00 a.m. Monday 27, 2002 at Carls Fargo.

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. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that at the April 15th meeting the Council and staff concerns were storm water storage, assurance that the commercial corner could be converted back into residential if no commercial interest was evident in five years, and where the haul road would be. Mr. Nicklas said that the proposed development met or exceeded all of the City's codes and ordinances, in particular storm water management. Mr. Nicklas explained that this development would not only satisfy water management on

sight, but would solve the bottleneck downstream at Parkside Drive. He said the developer proposed they would reconfigure the piping and structures under the bridge on Parkside Drive if the City would pay one-third of the cost. Mr. Nicklas said that if Council approved the projects, plans would need to be approved by other governmental bodies such as the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Nicklas said that the haul road would be off Bethany Road.

Jim Hughes, partner of Wiseman-Hughes, stated that Administrator Nicklas and Engineer Brady had been clear with direction and professional to work with.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.75 and Alderperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Those Alderpersons voting aye were Blickem, Chambon, Larson, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, and Bauer. No Alderperson voted nay. Motion carried 8 – 0.

- 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. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas stated that the 25' setbacks needed to be changed on the plat.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.76 with its clean map and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

- 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. Second Reading.**

Motion

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.77 and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Those Alderpersons voting aye were Blickem, Chambon, Larson, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, and Bauer. No Alderperson voted nay. Motion carried 8 – 0.

- D. Ordinance No. 2002.01—An Ordinance Amending the City Code, Title 7, “Public Ways and Property,” Chapter 1, “Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Ways, General Provisions,” Section 7-1-15: “Snow Removal,” in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.01 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.01 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

E. Ordinance No. 2002.02—An Ordinance Amending the City Code, Title 6, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic,” Chapter 4, “Traffic Schedules,” Section 6-4-12, “No Parking Zones,” To Make the South Side of Ottawa Street a No Parking Zone from Somonauk Street to Park Avenue in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that although the ordinance was crafted with the best intention it did not resolve the issue, according to the testimonies heard earlier.

Aldersperson Bauer said that he supported restricting parking during the day and setting a weight limit.

Mayor Swedberg recommended hearing this ordinance on first reading only.

Aldersperson Maness inquired what percentage of the residents agreed to parking on the north side and Chief Thomas said that about two-thirds of the residents were in favor of the change. Chief Thomas said he would arrange a neighborhood meeting to discuss the issue more thoroughly.

F. Ordinance No. 2002.03—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Board of Zoning Appeals with Regard to the Petition of Dominick Tabone for a Variance from Section 8.02.7c of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Sycamore. First and Second Reading.

Zoning Officer Lyle Doty said that the request was for variance from the rear yard requirement. Mr. Doty said that Menard’s tall fence adjacent to the back yard and the positioning of the lot were instrumental in the Zoning Board’s unanimous approval of the variance.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.03 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.03 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 410—Concerning State Income Tax and Photoprocessing Tax Shared with Municipalities.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the State was proposing to reduce the amount of state income tax to municipalities and the photoprocessing shared tax collected by municipalities. Mr. Nicklas said this resolution asked the State not to use municipality revenue to solve the State budget problems.

Motion

Alderson Blickem moved to adopt Resolution No. 410 and Alderson Chambon seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

B. Resolution No. 411 –Resolution Concerning the Use of the Sycamore Community Center by the Midwest Museum of Natural History.

Mayor Swedberg explained that this resolution was the culmination of many meetings and thanked Joe Bussone, Tami Armstrong, Jim Dombek, Chuck Kaiser, Pam Blickem, and Bill Nicklas. Mayor Swedberg said that this was a positive action and he looked forward to good discussions in the future.

Motion

Alderson Larson moved to adopt Resolution No. 411 and Alderson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

Joe Bussone, 1725 Brock Circle, member of the Museum Board, commended the Mayor and the Council for passing the resolution. Mr. Bussone said that he felt this was the first step in a long line of cooperation between the City and a group of people dedicated to housing the Midwest Museum in the City of Sycamore.

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.

Administrator Nicklas said that the motion was on the table to override the Mayor's veto. Mr. Nicklas asked Attorney Smith to advise voting procedure. Attorney Smith said it was appropriate to have discussion and then vote.

Alderson Blickem inquired what funds would be used to pay for the repair and stated that she did not want property tax dollars used. Administrator Nicklas said that he would like direction regarding what fund to use. Alderson Stowe supported using surplus hotel/motel dollars or the UAF money. Alderson Bauer said that the hotel/motel tax seemed logical because eventually the museum would encourage tourism.

Motion (made April 1, 2002)

Alderson Maness moved to adopt the measure notwithstanding the veto and Alderson Bauer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Those Alderpersons voting aye were Blickem, Chambon, Larson, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, and Bauer. No Alderperson vote nay. Motion carried 8 – 0.

B. Consideration of a Recommendation from the City Engineer to Award a Contract for the Annual Crack Sealing Program to Midwest Tar Sealer Co. in the Amount of \$37,700.

Motion

Alderperson Stowe moved to award the Crack Sealing Contract to Midwest Tar Sealer Company in the amount of \$37,700 and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

C. Consideration of a Recommendation from the City Engineer to Award a Contract for the Annual Micro-Surfacing Program to AC Pavement Striping in the Amount of \$213,129.48.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to award the contract for Annual Micro-Surfacing to AC Pavement Striping in the amount of \$213,129.48 and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

Alderperson Bauer inquired if the coating could be used on concrete streets and Engineer Brady said they would prime the streets first.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

D. Consideration of a Recommendation from the City Engineer to Award a Contract for the Annual Bituminous Resurfacing Contract to Curran Contracting Company in the Amount of \$276,897.70.

Administrator Nicklas said that all three bids were within budget.

Motion

Alderperson Chambon moved to award the contract for Annual Bituminous Resurfacing to Curran Contracting Company in the amount of \$276,897.70 and Alderperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Alderperson Bauer inquired if the City would get reimbursed from Cortland for the 300' of Bethany Road east of Peace Road and Mr. Nicklas responded that we would.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 – 0.

E. Consideration of a Tree Trimming Agreement with Com Ed

Administrator Nicklas said that the model before them was an improvement over prior agreements. Mr. Nicklas voiced a few concerns about the agreement – 1. notice to customer and municipality had no time

frame, and 2. no clause saying the City would be held harmless for cutting done on public property, and 3. unknown qualifications of the Asplundh Tree Expert Company. Mr. Nicklas said he would contact Com Ed to get answers.

Before going into closed session, Alderperson Maness inquired about the enforcement of no skating on the downtown sidewalks. Chief Thomas said there were no signs and felt that some sort of signage was necessary to make bicyclists and skaters aware of the law. Mr. Nicklas said signposts were ordered and they would put those signs up when they arrived.

Treasurer Mundy said the Fire and Police Pension auditors would need the Council Chambers for their audit during the next couple of weeks. Mr. Mundy also thanked the Council and the Mayor for their cooperation with the Museum Board.

F. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation for a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to go into Closed Session at 9:25 p.m. and Alderperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Motion

Alderperson Chambon moved to return to Open Session at 10:00 p.m. and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg reappointed George Bridgewater and Bill Davey to the Plan Commission; Steve Loptien, Marilyn Looney, and Bob Armstrong to the Zoning Board of Appeals; and George Beasley to the Police and Fire Commission.

Motion

Alderperson Stowe moved to accept the appointments and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:01p.m. and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith