
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 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, Chuck Stowe, and Janice Tripp.

INVOCATION

Pastor Mike Massey of Glad Tidings Assembly of God gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg added Sharon Douglass, an A T & T Broadband representative to the agenda under Presentations.

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to approve the agenda with the addition 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.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of May 20, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for June 3, 2002 in the amount of \$185,654.99.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda 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.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

A. A T & T Broadband Update by Sharon Douglass, Government Relations Manager

Sharon Douglass, Government Relations Manager of A T & T Broadband presented Council with a local cable update and fielded their questions. Ms. Douglass said that A T & T Broadband had upgraded Sycamore's cable system to state of the art speed, launched internet service, added the FX channel, and created a toll free customer service number. Alderperson Chambon inquired about reinstating the

ENCORE Channel and Ms. Douglass said that the company had standardized that channel and said that Sycamore should be seeing additional channels in the fall. Alderperson Paulsen thanked Ms. Douglass for the FX channel, commented on the quality of the TBS station, and asked if any more news stations were slotted. Ms. Douglass said that she would check on the TBS station. Alderperson Stowe inquired about reinstating the FM radio stations and Ms. Douglass said the chances were slim. Administrator Nicklas said that the 15-year franchise would expire in 2005 and inquired if A T & T Broadband had any new features to offer. Ms. Douglass said that those talks would begin soon. Mayor Swedberg thanked Ms. Douglass for solving some earlier issues.

Alderperson Maness reported that she had received two calls regarding the downtown streetlights not going on until after 8:30 p.m. Alderperson Maness also reported that she had received several inquiries about returning the downtown planters. Mr. Nicklas said that Discover Sycamore had been in on the discussion to plant more trees and to eliminate the planters in front of the stores and that those merchants who had purchased the planters could be reimbursed.

Alderperson Blickem congratulated Tami Armstrong on her new position at Kishwaukee College and commended her for her work at the Sycamore Chamber of Commerce.

Alderperson Maness reported that she had received a call regarding how to handle raccoons. Police Chief Thomas said that a professional would need to be called, but the Police Department would step in if the raccoons were in someone's home because that would be a safety issue.

Alderperson Stowe said he had received a call from someone on Brian Street wanting to reduce the speed there. Chief Thomas said he would have the speed trailer placed there.

Alderperson Bauer asked for a status report on the Ottawa Street parking. Chief Thomas said he unable to schedule meeting date that all could attend and Mayor Swedberg suggested setting one and moving forward. Alderperson Bauer also brought up the issue of "snowbirds" paying garbage while away and Mr. Nicklas said that there was no way to police that and that the billing was set up with regard to all Sycamore households.

Alderperson Chambon expressed concern regarding Waste Management tagging waste cans as unacceptable. Mr. Chambon said that he specifically remembered a conversation with Waste Management representatives stating that nobody would be required to buy new trash cans. Mr. Nicklas said that he had asked Waste Management to discontinue tagging until the Council could review the issue. Mr. Nicklas said he would place this on the next agenda as a consideration.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reported that the July workshop topic would be Economic Development initiatives for the Downtown. Mr. Nicklas also reported that 500 Verizon customers, including City Hall, had been without phone service during the day because water leaked into the vaults at the Elm Street office. Mr. Nicklas thanked the Police and Fire Department for their efforts in working out contingencies to establish a dispatch center when the phones were down.

Engineer – John Brady said it was good to be back to work and thanked his coworkers who helped out in his absence. Mr. Brady said that bids for the rehabilitation of well #5 would be in June 10, 2002.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 19 building permits: 6 single-family residential, 12 miscellaneous residential, and 1 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the first disbursement of property tax had been received at the end of May. Mr. Mundy also reported that the Fire and Police Pension Fund audit should be completed by the next day.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle reported that the Fire Department had responded to 56 calls—32 EMS, 16 non-fire mutual aid, and 8 fire with a fire loss of \$6,100. Chief Riddle said that they had 44 requests so far for firefighter applications with a deadline of June 14, 2002. Chief Riddle stated that during the City's disaster drill two weeks ago part of the exercise was the failure of central dispatch. He said that exercise gave them insight for procedure when the phones were down earlier in the day. Chief Riddle also reported that recreational fires that were acceptable on occasion could get out of hand and warned the public to take precautions.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that since the last meeting the Police Department had received 522 calls for service, made 121 traffic stops, written 19 tickets, handled 7 accidents, and made 4 arrests.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – no report

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. 2002.07—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$17,000 to the Voluntary Action Center for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the City had supported VAC for the services it provides to the citizens of Sycamore.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.06 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2002.06 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

- B. Ordinance No. 2002.08—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$1,000 to the DeKalb County Community Foundation for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the \$1000 would help to defray the operating costs of the Foundation.

Motion

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to hear Ordinance 2002.07 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 Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.07 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

- C. Ordinance No. 2002.09—An Ordinance Rescinding Ordinance No. 98.01 To Restrict the Powers of Appointment of Police Officers to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this issue had been before Council as a consideration at a previous meeting and was being brought back in ordinance form.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.08 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Maness 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 2002.08 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution No. 411—Requesting Permission of the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Sacramento Street to Main Street from 7:00 A.M. Until 5:00 P.M. on July 28, 2002 to Allow for the “Fizz Ehrler” Memorial Car Show In Sycamore, Illinois.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Car Show Committee wanted to move the show from Elm Street to State Street. Mayor Swedberg said that the new streetscape would be a good backdrop for the event. Alderperson Paulsen inquired if the detour route could be changed to Elm Street and Chief Thomas said that Elm Street would be used to get the show cars in and out of State Street.

Motion

Alderperson Tripp moved to approve Resolution 411 and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of the Appointment of Paid On-Call Firefighters.

Administrator Nicklas listed the appointees as Ann Carlson, Rhonda Overton, and Gregory Schwartz.

Motion

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the appointees and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

B. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation for a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining and Personnel Matters.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to go into Closed Session at 8:40 p.m. and Alderperson Tripp 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 9:06 p.m. 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.

APPOINTMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.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