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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2002**

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**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, and Chuck Stowe. Alderpersons Michael Chambon, Pete Paulsen, and Janice Tripp were absent.

**INVOCATION**

Paul Rogers of the Evangelical Free Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Swedberg moved Consideration A. - Presentation by Don Falls - to after Committee Reports so Mr. Falls would not need to stay for the entire meeting.

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda with the change and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Alderperson Pete Paulsen arrived at 7:35 p.m.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Carolyn Watson, 1863 Kerrybrook Court, voiced her concern about building unnecessary subdivisions. Ms. Watson expressed concern for the water supply and quality, overburdening the treatment plant, traffic increase, and city services.

Erica Bishop, 153 Brian Street, asked for an update on the Brian Street speed study. Chief Thomas said that they had performed 4 studies, two hours each from unmarked cars and the results were that traffic traveled an average of 21 M.P.H. Chief Thomas said that he could not recommend a speed limit reduction at the present time. Ms. Bishop inquired if the City would place a 30 M.P.H. sign on the street and Chief Thomas dissuaded her by telling her that the sign might encourage the people to drive faster.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting of July 1, 2002;**
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 1, 2002;**
- C. Payment of the Bills for July 15, 2002 in the amount of \$323,345.74.**

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda 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 6 - 0.

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

Alderperson Paulsen expressed that maybe the "children playing" signs recently posted on Brian Street had slowed the traffic.

### **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reminded Council and the public that a second in a series of four open houses to invite opinion on the vision for the future of Sycamore would be held at Southeast School at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, July 18, 2002.

Engineer – John Brady reported that the Heron Creek interceptor work had begun and a portion of Brickville Road would be closed soon. The water main should also be completed through North School in time for school to open.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 9 building permits: 1 single-family residential, 7 miscellaneous residential, 1 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the June financials were at 16.66% benchmark with revenue running a little ahead and expenses running behind. Treasurer Mundy said that the Police and Fire Pension audit was complete and both funds were fine, but the minutes of the meetings needed more detail.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle reported that in the past two weeks they had received 45 call with 28 EMS, 10 Non Fire/Mutual Aid, and 7 fire with \$300 fire loss. Chief Riddle also reported that the department had received a \$500 grant from Walmart to promote a smoke detector awareness program.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported since the last meeting they had received 558 calls for service, made 107 traffic stops, issued 28 tickets, made 15 arrests, handled 3 accidents, and written 58 reports.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that drilling had started at well #5 and they should have information soon. Mr. Smith also reported that Superintendent Busse seemed to be doing well and was anxious to get back to work.

### **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance –no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks –no report

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **A. Public Hearing On a Proposal to Create a Plat Officer.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the proposal to create a Plat Officer would create authority for the administrative processing of certain limited re-subdivisions of land. Mr. Nicklas said that this would streamline the process of selling duplexes and townhouses in fee simple.

With no public comment, Mayor Swedberg closed the hearing.

### **B. Public Hearing On a Proposal to Annex a 1.83-Acre Parcel Located at 215 Plank Road.**

Administrator Nicklas said it was the intent of the petitioner to withdraw any action on this proposal, but since the City had published he felt the public hearing should take place.

Grace Adeo, 1469 Longwood Drive, inquired why the petitioner wanted to change the zoning from residential to commercial and Mr. Nicklas said it would be a natural change, since commercial zoning surrounded the property.

With no public comment, Mayor Swedberg closed the hearing.

## **ORDINANCES**

### **A. Ordinance No. 2002.21—An Ordinance Amending Title 1: “Administration,” Chapter 9, “Appointive City Officers,” by Adding Section 1-9-I: “Plat Officer,” in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that this ordinance would not create a new position; it would create administrative authority to permit the resubdivision of duplexes and townhouses to be sold in fee simple.

Mayor Swedberg said that as long as the requests met the City’s codes, the Plat Officer could streamline Plan Commission and Council meetings and he thought it should be approved.

Mr. Nicklas said it would be a convenience to the buyer and the seller of the properties.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired if the duplexes and townhouses would be completed before the resubdivision and Mr. Nicklas said it could happen a little earlier, but a survey would be needed for the process.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.21 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

#### **Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2002.21 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

#### **Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 – 0.

**B. Ordinance No. 2002.22--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From Yvonne Wolfenberger for Approval of an Annexation Agreement and Annexation Plat for the Property Located at 215 Plank Road, DeKalb County, Illinois with a Zoning Classification of "C-3" Highway Business District in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas informed the Council that he had received a letter from the petitioner's attorney earlier in the day asking to withdraw their request for any further action on this matter.

**C. Ordinance No. 2002.23--An Ordinance of Annexation for Property Known as 215 Plank Road in DeKalb County, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that the petitioner had also withdrawn this request for action to annex.

**D. Ordinance No. 2002.24—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From Dahlko, LLC for Approval of a Final Plat for Phase 1, Unit Four of the Townsend Woods Subdivision. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said the area had been annexed six years ago and the plat depicted a phase of the development that was in the approved preliminary plat. Mr. Nicklas said that the approval of this plat would trigger improvements on Mt. Hunger Road from Route 23 to the eastern most portion of the plat by late 2002.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired if the developer was aware of the road improvement requirements and Mr. Nicklas said he was.

Mayor Swedberg inquired about the status of the intersection of Maplewood and Route 23 and Engineer Brady said that the design work was hung up in Springfield and speculated that the traffic lights may not get in this year. Mayor Swedberg asked that a letter be written to District II to expedite the process. Mr. Nicklas said that the State Department had expanded their approval time.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.24 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.24 with the condition that it not be recorded until the street names were revised and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**E. Ordinance No. 2002.25—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From Milan Krpan for Approval of the Final Plats of**

**Units Two and Three of the Parkside Estates Planned Unit Development. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Plan Commission recommended approval with the condition that a roadway with curb and gutter and at least the first lift of asphalt was completed to Parkside Drive within 36 months, regardless of the number of house permits issued.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.25 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.25 with the condition that roadway with curb and gutter and at least the first lift of asphalt was completed to Parkside Drive within 36 months, regardless of the number of house permits issued and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**F. Ordinance No. 2002.26—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From William Olsen and James W. Yagen for Approval of the Final Plat for the Somonauk Gardens Townhome Project. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas reminded Council that this was a final plat for the planned development approved January 21, 2002. Mr. Nicklas said that this development would feature twenty townhomes with a .32 acre corner parcel zoned neighborhood commercial. Mr. Nicklas said that the Plan Commission had agreed to keep the neighborhood commercial zoning with a restricted list of acceptable businesses.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.26 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.26 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**G. Ordinance No. 2002.27—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From William Olsen and James W. Yagen for a Special Use Permit and Subdivision Plat for the property Known as Lot 96 in the Townsend Woods Subdivision to Create Lots 1 & 2 of the Olsen and Yagen Subdivision. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this type of issue would fall under the Plat Officer's authority. Mr. Nicklas said that the Plan Commission wanted a report from the Plat Officer to summarize activity.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.27 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.27 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**H. Ordinance No. 2002.28—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition From John L. Castle Builders, LLC to Approve the Final Plat for the Heron Creek Townhouse Development Located at the Northeast Corner of Heron Creek Drive and Charles Waite Street in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that Council had approved the townhouse development April 15, 2002 and the final plat conformed to City regulations.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.28 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.28 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Resolution No. 413—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and Shirlie Overton Granting an Easement in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

Administrator Nicklas said this was another easement required for the trunk sewer to be constructed later in the year.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to adopt Resolution 413 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### **A. Consideration of a Presentation by Don Falls of the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs Highlighting the City's Progress with the Competitive Communities Initiative.**

Mr. Falls explained that six years ago the city entered the Competitive Communities Initiative program, a self-help program for basic planning. He said the City had been very successful in their endeavors including Route 64, Route 23, and Downtown improvements. Mr. Falls presented the City with a plaque for reaching Stage 5 - graduate status in the CCI program.

### **B. Consideration of a Recommendation from the Plan Commission with Regard to the Request of Lance Klinger to Revise Section 9.03.01 of the Sycamore Zoning Code to Permit the Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in an Outdoors Area Associated with a Restaurant.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Plan Commission had approved the revision, but chose to leave the details for the Ordinance Committee to decide and ultimately for the Council and Liquor Commissioner. Mr. Nicklas listed a few of the Plan Commission's suggestions as:

- That the outdoor consumption of alcoholic beverages should be restricted to licensed restaurants;
- That no alcohol should be served except with food from the restaurant's menu;
- That the hours of operation should be limited to around 9:00 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday and 11:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday;
- That special attention should be given to the interests of adjoining property owners and tenants, especially with regard to noise, debris, etc.;
- That all outdoor dining areas in proximity to a public way should afford adequate pedestrian passageways and should be sufficiently remote from any vehicular traffic to afford maximum safety for the customers as well as the passersby;
- That such outdoor uses should be restricted to either "C-2" Central Business District zoning or "C-3" Highway Business District zoning. There was some disagreement about whether such uses could be allowed in "C-1" Neighborhood Business Districts, but the consensus was behind the restriction to "C-2" and "C-3" areas.

Aldersperson Blickem explained that as the Plan Commission representative those suggestions were not formal recommendations from the Plan Commission as a group.

Mayor Swedberg sent the issue to Ordinance Committee for one month to discuss appearance and control issues. Mayor Swedberg said that he was opposed to outdoor drinking, but was not opposed to outdoor dining and drinking.

Aldersperson Larson said that he would like to omit any reference that alcohol must be served with food, because he felt it was the business's responsibility to maintain control. Aldersperson Maness said that she also wanted to remove the alcohol with food and she said she did not want to get too restrictive with the design. Ms. Maness asked if Mr. Nicklas could have something put together for review by the August 5<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and the Ordinance Committee would meet after the Workshop.

Lance Klinger, 1001 W. State, owner of Ski's All American Pub, said that he wanted to create an appealing look for an outdoor dining area.

Mayor Swedberg asked Ordinance Committee Chair Maness to work with Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer Lyle Doty regarding building and zoning requirements and asked to be invited to sit in on the meeting.

**C. Consideration of a Proposal from Waste Management to Address Concerns About the Types of Approved Refuse Containers.**

Administrator Nicklas said that this consideration was to formalize an earlier discussion regarding options for approved garbage containers. Mr. Nicklas said that the contract eliminated the use of free standing plastic bags. He said that any container larger than 30 gallon needed to be able to be hooked by Waste Management trucks. Mr. Nicklas said that if the Council approved the proposal every household in town would receive a 96-gallon container from Waste Management at no cost to the consumer. The City would absorb the additional cost and in future years the City would decide whether to pass that cost on the customers through the garbage charge on the water bill. Mr. Nicklas said that Waste Management was asking for a contract extension for three additional years with a cost of living increase not to exceed 5%.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired if the 30-gallon containers would still be picked up and Tom Kleczewski, Waste Management Government Affairs Representative said that the drivers could lift the 30 to 32 gallon containers. Mr. Kleczewski explained that the 40 to 45 gallon containers were a problem, because many injuries were incurred emptying those.

Mayor Swedberg asked if the seniors could keep their smaller totes and Mr. Kleczewski said they could.

Mr. Nicklas asked when this could go into effect and Mr. Kleczewski said they could have the carts in place thirty days after approval. Mr. Nicklas said that he was not looking for action from the Council; he was hoping the media would pick this up for public awareness. Mayor Swedberg suggested a news release. Mr. Kleczewski said that they would create a brochure specific to Sycamore that they would hand out when they delivered the carts.

Aldersperson Larson said he was not comfortable with the three-year contract extension and Mr. Kleczewski said they needed that to absorb the cost of the 96-gallon containers.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired if refunds would be given to those who had already paid for their carts and Mr. Kleczewski said they would.

Aldersperson Maness asked the citizens to be reminded that the hours to set garbage out. Ms. Maness said that garbage was not to be set out before 6:00 p.m. the evening before collection and empty containers must be removed from the curb by 6:00 p.m. the day of collection.

**D. Consideration of a Public Works Department Recommendation to Award a Contract for a Medium Duty Plow Truck, Plow, and Spreader.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that Assistant Superintendent Bob Ray had opened the bids and recommended accepting Prairie International's low bid of \$69,510.

Aldersperson Bauer said that since the budget process they had purchased an ambulance, a tractor, squad cars, and now this snowplow. Mr. Bauer wanted to make sure that the City was committed to fixing the

streets. Mr. Nicklas explained that the street maintenance program for the year was 5 times more aggressive than previous years.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to accept Prairie International bid of \$69,510 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 – 0.

**E. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation for a Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters and Land Acquisition.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to go into Closed Session at 9:35 p.m. and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to return to Open Session at 10:32 p.m. and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 p.m. and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Approve:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk – Candy Smith