
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2002**

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

Don Phelps, Pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church and Sycamore Fire Department Chaplain, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg moved Consideration A. – Presentation by Ruth Anne Tobias- to after Public Hearings.

Motion

Alderperson Paulsen 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.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Michael McVey, 833 Ridge, DeKalb, asked for the resignation or impeachment of Mayor Swedberg and Alderperson Stowe in order to restore public trust in the City's government.

Chuck Criswell, Route 23 North of Sycamore, thanked the City for their cooperation in support of the Turning Back Time Car Show and asked to hold next year's show on July 27, 2003. Mr. Criswell introduced the committee members Tom Taylor, Les Gibbons, Guy Stone, and Martin Pearson (not present). Mr. Criswell gave \$1500 to June Ehrler for the Fizz Ehrler Scholarship Fund and gave Chief Thomas \$4000 for the D.A.R.E. program. Mayor Swedberg commended the group for a great car show featuring 400 cars.

Grace Adee, 1469 Longwood, thanked the City for the recent meetings held at the elementary schools. Ms. Adee said that crowded schools and small town atmosphere were recurring concerns at those meetings. Ms. Adee asked Council to control the growth and reminded them that the developers were in business to make money.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 15, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for August 5, 2002 in the amount of \$571,622.04.

Aldersperson Bauer noted that the time of Aldersperson Paulsen's arrival should be 7:35 p.m. and Clerk Smith said she would make that change.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction to the minutes and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Aldersperson Bauer inquired about the Hirschbein Trophy bill and Mr. Nicklas said that it was for a plaque to replace the map on the front of the Municipal building recognizing the Maria Ridulph kidnapping story. Mr. Nicklas said that there would be a presentation of the plaque at the August 19 meeting.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

Mayor Swedberg reminded Council that Speaker Hastert's mobile office would be in Sycamore August 15, 2002 from 11:00 a.m. until noon. Mayor informed Council he and the City Clerk would be meeting with the A T & T Broadband representative to discuss an upgrade in service. Mayor Swedberg announced that Pastor Massey of the Glad Tidings Church was putting together a September 11th remembrance ceremony at NIU's new Convocation Center.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas thanked Chuck Criswell and his crew for a fine car show. Mr. Nicklas thanked Superintendent Smith for working with Public Works to repair a water main break. Mr. Nicklas commented on an editorial in the Daily Chronicle referring to a matter regarding the disclosure of disciplinary action for a City employee. Mr. Nicklas explained that state law dictates that personnel matters can be released with written notice to employees or their union, but City Council does not release that information; they allow other legal processes to disclose this sensitive information. Mr. Nicklas said that the innuendo of the editorial was that the City did not want to do the right thing. Mr. Nicklas said that he was reminded of Joseph Pulitzer who over a hundred years ago made his reputation by stirring sensational information to increase circulation and wondered if we were hearing the echo of Mr. Pulitzer.

Engineer – John Brady reported that microsurfacing would begin August 12th for two weeks and resurfacing would begin August 19th for two weeks.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 24 building permits: 3 single-family residential, 14 miscellaneous residential, and 7 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy – no report

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle reported that in the past two weeks they had received 68 calls: 40 EMS, 23 Non Fire/Mutual Aid, and 5 fire with \$6100 fire loss. Chief Riddle also reported that on September 11th the International Chiefs are requesting firehouses to pull rigs out of buildings and rings bells at the time the tower collapsed.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported since the last meeting they had received 549 calls for service, made 153 traffic stops, issued 61 tickets, made 38 arrests, handled 17 accidents, and written 163 reports. Chief Thomas thanked Lt. Cary Singer for his work with the car show and also thanked the committee for the \$4000 gift.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse said his item was on the agenda.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that work was proceeding at well #5 with a lot of water and sand being pumped.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report

Ordinance – Chairperson Maness reported that the committee had met before the Council meeting and they would bring back an ordinance addressing serving alcohol in an outdoors area associated with a restaurant for review at the August 19 Council meeting.

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – Chairperson Bauer welcomed Superintendent Fred Busse back to work.

Streets & Walks –no report

PUBLIC HEARING

None

Consideration 13A.

A. Consideration of a Presentation by Ruth Anne Tobias of the DeKalb County Public Policy Committee Regarding the Committee's Legislative Agenda.

Ruth Anne Tobias, County Board Member, said that the Public Policy Committee served to advise the County Board in intergovernmental relations, legislative agenda, and customer services. Ms. Tobias said they worked to increase understanding and knowledge of what DeKalb County does. Ms. Tobias gave the address of DeKalb County Web Site as www.dekalbcounty.org.

ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance No. 2002.10—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of B&B Development LP, an Illinois Limited Partnership, as Developer, and Fisk Farm Partnership, an Illinois Partnership, as Owner, for Approval of an Annexation Agreement for a Planned Unit Development Known as Sycamore Creek with Zoning Classifications of “R-1” One Family Residence District and “R-3” Multiple Family Residence District in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that this matter was back before Council after first reading June 17, 2002. He said that the concern at that time was the impact on the park and the schools. The Council chose to postpone action until the School Board voted on B & B's proposal to dedicate an elementary school site and to self impose additional school impact fees. Mr. Nicklas said that the annexation agreement that would be recorded would reflect that understanding.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.10 with the insertion of the guidelines and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Bauer said that since the dedicated school site eliminated land dedicated for commercial use, he would like to dedicate commercial area north of the site. Mr. Nicklas said that was not part of the developers' parcel and Aldersperson Bauer said it was a suggestion for the new land use map.

Aldersperson Paulsen inquired if the agreement included preliminary grading of the school site and B & B representative, Chuck Hanlon, said it would.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Alderspersons Tripp, Bauer, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, and Mayor Swedberg. Motion carried 6 – 0.

- B. Ordinance No. 2002.11--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of B&B Development LP, an Illinois Limited Partnership, as Developer, and Fisk Farm Partnership, an Illinois Partnership, as Owner, for Approval of the Preliminary Plan and Plat for a Planned Unit Development Known as Sycamore Creek in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said there was a revised chart of land uses and a reduction in number of homes from 381 to 352 reducing the density to 1.63 units per acre. Mr. Nicklas said that otherwise the plan was unchanged.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.11 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

- C. Ordinance No. 2002.12--An Ordinance of Annexation for Property Known as Sycamore Creek in DeKalb County, Illinois. Second Reading.**

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.12 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Those voting aye were Alderspersons Tripp, Bauer, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, and Mayor Swedberg. Motion carried 6 – 0.

- D. Ordinance No. 2002.29—An Ordinance Approving the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Brian Bemis Automotive Group for Economic Development in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that it was the intention of Brian Bemis to redevelop the Auto World site on DeKalb Avenue to feature a new sales facility with separate show rooms for Honda, Volvo and Mercedes Benz at a cost of \$2,000,000. Mr. Nicklas said the agreement would be a 50/50 sharing of the 1% auto sales tax for the additional dealerships. This agreement would take effect the first day of the first month of opening the new dealerships and continue for 10 years or until the 1.5 million dollar mark is reached.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.29 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 5 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.29 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 - 0.

E. Ordinance No. 2002.30—An Ordinance Approving an Amendment to the Curbside Refuse and Recycling Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Waste-Management-West. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that this amendment addressed issues that had arisen since the contract took effect January 1, 2002. Mr. Nicklas listed the changes as follows:

- a) Everyone in town gets a 96-gallon rolling cart. The present contractual rental of \$2 per month is eliminated from the contract. If you already have a rolling cart, you can get a new one or keep the old one.
- b) In addition to the 96-gallon rolling cart homeowners can continue to use 30-gallon containers for extra refuse so long as WMX drivers can lift them.

In exchange, the City would extend the following to WMX:

- a) A contract extension for three more years, with a cost-of-living increase in each of those years not to exceed 5%. From the City's perspective, this would be an improvement over the current contract which does not contain a cap on the CPI.
- b) An additional per-unit fee of 48 cents per month or \$5.76 per year for the balance of the current year. The current cost per unit to the City is \$12.50 per unit per month. This would increase the unit cost to \$12.98 and the base price for calculating the CPI in the following years.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.30 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 5 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.30 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Maness inquired if the seniors could keep the small carts and Waste Management Representative Tom Kleczewski said they could. Ms. Maness requested that letters should be mailed to the citizens stating container size and hours to set out garbage. Mr. Kleczewski said that they were creating a Sycamore specific brochure that they would mail to all residents.

Administrator Nicklas said that he had received calls from new homeowners inquiring if recycling bins would be provided by Waste Management. Mr. Nicklas also asked Mr. Kleczewski if a person sold their home and took their recycle bin with them, would Waste Management provide a recycle bin for the new purchaser of that home. Mr. Kleczewski said they would provide the bin for the new resident moving in.

Aldersperson Tripp requested that recycling instructions should be in the brochure.

Aldersperson Bauer said that he thought this was a good example of government working with private business.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 – 0.

F. Ordinance No. 2002.31—An Ordinance Amending Title 3, “Business and License Regulations,” Chapter 2, “Liquor Control,” Section 3-2-6, “Classification of Licenses; Fees; Hours; and Days,” to Create a New Class G License. First and Second Reading.

Mayor Swedberg said that this ordinance was in direct response to the Sycamore Chamber of Commerce request for an Outdoor Special Liquor Event for their Streetscape Celebration. Mayor said that dram shop insurance had greatly increased for liquor license holders and this would allow a not-for-profit organization to acquire that insurance at a much lesser cost.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.31 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 5 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.31 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 – 0.

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 414—Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the County of DeKalb Regarding the Consolidation of Dispatching Services in DeKalb County.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the City’s dispatch center was understaffed and technologically backward. He said that Chief Thomas and Chief Riddle were involved in the committee that researched the

feasibility of consolidating with the County services and their recommendation was to consolidate with the County. Mr. Nicklas highlighted the agreement terms as:

- Locates the consolidated dispatch center in the County Sheriff's department;
- Confirms that the necessary new hires will be interviewed and hired by the County Merit Commission;
- Requires the County to afford an opportunity for Sycamore's current Telecommunicators to test for the additional positions that will be established in the expanded County center;
- Establishes July 1, 2003 as the probable starting date. If the center is operational before that time, or if the City is unable to staff its present center up to that time, the City can transfer its communication center to the County at a cost of \$40,000 per month;
- Establishes an annual cost of \$494,000 for the City's participation in the first year, plus a one-time capital cost of up to \$75,000 for the City's share of the new consoles and expanded telecommunication equipment;
- Establishes a "Users Committee" to assure efficiency and periodically explore new technologies;
- Establishes an ad hoc committee to resolve disputes over the annual costing of ongoing services.
- Sets a five-year term, automatically renewable for successive five-year terms, unless one of the parties notifies the other in writing of its intent to withdraw.

Alderperson Stowe said that his first response was to keep control of our dispatch, but he would bend to the expertise of the Police and Fire Chiefs.

Mayor Swedberg asked for comments from the audience.

Abby Yacoben, Illinois FOP Labor Council Representative, said that she felt they could reduce some of the costs through scheduling and asked that before a decision was made if she could have time to discuss cost reduction ideas with the Police Chief. Administrator Nicklas said personnel was only part of the issue, that capital expenditures to upgrade would be difficult to fund. Chief Thomas said that if the contract with Genoa were not renewed, the City would lose over \$100,000.

Sarah Erickson, 204 W. Hortense, Kirkland, said that she had worked as a City of Sycamore Dispatcher for two years, loved the job, and would be willing to change her work schedule if that would help save the City's dispatch center. Ms. Erickson said that she felt Sycamore Dispatchers gave the residents a more personal approach. She expressed concern that there would only be a phone in the Police Department lobby after 4:00 p.m. and asked Council to reconsider any decision to consolidate with the County.

Laurie Williams, Liberty Lane, Sycamore Dispatcher, said she was concerned about losing her job as well as concerned about the City losing a familiar point of contact. Ms. Williams said that the Sycamore dispatchers provide a personal touch to their jobs.

Jodi Kaalaas, Kirkland, Sycamore Dispatcher, said she was proud of the job she does. Ms. Kaalaas said there was no doubt that the equipment was outdated and inquired why the upgrades had not been ongoing. Ms. Kaalaas said that even if they would be hired at the County, seniority status and benefits would be lost. Ms. Kaalaas asked Council to reconsider voting to consolidate dispatch with the County.

Sharesa Rogers, 1317 Adams Way, DeKalb, Sycamore Dispatcher, said that she loved her job and felt Sycamore Dispatchers were part of a close-knit community who knew the callers and hated to see the City give that up.

Motion

Alderson Maness moved to adopt Resolution 414 and Alderson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Aldersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 – 0. Mayor Swedberg thanked the dispatchers for their work with the City and wished them the best of luck.

B. Resolution No. 415—Awarding the Contract for the Purchase of a Self-Contained Leaf Machine to ODB Municipal Products in the Amount of \$27,270.10.

Superintendent Fred Busse thanked Bob Ray and Roger Haeffner for their work on this project during his absence. Supt. Busse said that the machine would increase leaf pickup efficiency and requested approval of ODB Municipal Products' bid in the amount \$27,270.10.

Motion

Alderson Tripp moved to adopt Resolution 415 and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Aldersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 – 0.

CONSIDERATIONS

B. Consideration of an Engineering Department Recommendation to Award a Contract for the Replacement of the Roofing on the Street Division Garages.

Engineer Brady said that four bids had been received for replacing 7400 sq. ft. of the 10,000 sq. ft roof and recommended awarding the contract to Carlson Roofing for \$49,800.

Motion

Alderson Maness moved to award the contract for the replacement of the roofing on the Street Division garages to Carlson Roofing in the amount of \$49,800.00 and Alderson Stowe seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Aldersons present voted aye. Motion carried 5 – 0.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg made an appointment before going into closed session. Mayor Swedberg appointed Chief Don Thomas to the DeKalb County Ad Hoc Committee to look into a new County Jail.

Motion

Alderson Bauer moved to accept the appointment and Alderson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to go into Closed Session at 9:30 p.m. and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to return to Open Session at 10:00 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 5 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith