
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Administrator Nicklas added Ordinance 2002.48 to amend the budget to provide escrow payment for acquisition of property and moved the audit presentation ahead of the ordinances. Mayor Swedberg suggested moving Ordinances 2002.47 and 2002.48 as first agenda items so the Henderson Family would not have to sit through the other items.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda with the changes 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 7 – 0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of October 7, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for October 21, 2002 in the amount of \$474,788.10.
- C. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of September 9, 2002.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Tripp 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.

Aldersperson Maness invited everyone to the Pumpkin Festival Cake Cutting Ceremony 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 23, 2002 on the Courthouse lawn.

Aldersperson Bauer asked the press to help get the information to the residents that when they rake leaves for the City to pickup, they should keep them on the parkway and not rake them onto the street.

Aldersperson Paulsen thanked the Public Works Department for getting the signs up in Winfield Meadows and Maple Terrace.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reported that he was finalizing the revised FY03 budget to reflect the audited numbers and said he would have the first draft of options for the annual levy at the November 4th meeting.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 16 permits: 2 single-family, 1 attached single-family unit, 10 miscellaneous residential, and 3 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the September financials were prepared and passed out and the annual Treasurer's report would be published in the Sycamore News Wednesday, October 23, 2002.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported that since the last meeting the Fire Department had received 62 calls: 40 EMS, 18 Non Fire Mutual Aid, 4 Fire. Chief Riddle recognized Firefighters Lyon, Hepker, and Pritchard for their work with school children during Fire Prevention Week.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that since the last meeting the Police Department had received 301 calls for service, issued 33 tickets, made 5 arrests, handled 8 accidents, and written 49 reports. Chief Thomas said that Officer Wig would be taking a few days off to help his wife with their new baby boy.

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse announced that two new laborers, Brad Dewey and Keith Fabrizius, had been hired and would be formally introduced at the next meeting. Superintendent Busse reported that leaf pickup would officially begin next week and that this week they would pickup on the parade route.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that the Water Department would continue flushing fire hydrants until Wednesday. Superintendent Smith thanked Superintendent Busse and the Police Department for their assistance with a large water main break on Main Street. Superintendent Smith also reported that they are in the process of GPSing the water service for each residence in the City and at the same time will update other new infrastructure.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire - no report

Streets & Walks –no report

Sewer & Water –Chairperson Alan Bauer said that the Committee would meet at 6:30 November 4, 2002. Chairperson Bauer asked for an update on Well #9 and Engineer Brady said that the report had been in Springfield for 6 to 8 weeks and hoped to hear something within the next two weeks.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

B. Consideration of the City of Sycamore’s Financial Statements for FY2001-2002, Including the Independent Auditor’s Report.

Carla Miller, Senior Manager, from Clifton Gunderson, gave an overview of the financial statements. Mr. Nicklas thanked Carla and her team for their extra time and effort and said he looked forward for the opportunity to work with them again.

ORDINANCES

F. Ordinance No. 2002.47—Approving the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Henderson Building Corporation for the Purchase of Certain Property Known as the Henderson Building and Parking Lot in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that acquiring the Henderson building and parking lot had been discussed in the media by design to inform the public and promote discussion. Mr. Nicklas said that he had received positive feedback. Mr. Nicklas said the agreement would allow the City to purchase the building for \$533,000 and the parking lot for \$265,000. Mr. Nicklas said that three generations of Henderson’s had managed the property and kept it in very good condition and that he appreciated Jerry Henderson’s forbearance and patience through this public process and urged the Council to approve the contract.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.47 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.47 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, Bauer, Blickem, and Larson voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

G. ORDINANCE 2002.48 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMBINED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002 TO 2003 IN THE CITY OF SYCAMORE, ILLINOIS

Administrator Nicklas said that this ordinance would set up a vehicle for paying the escrow payment plus the balance of the building, parking lot, and remodeling fees. Mr. Nicklas said that this action would transfer money from the general fund reserve to set up the new fund.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2002.48 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.48 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 7 - 0.

A. Ordinance No. 2002.42—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Ideal Industries for the Annexation of Property Located at 1020 West Prairie Drive In the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that Ideal requested annexing 6.484 acres with the intent to transfer ownership to a developer to build incubator buildings.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.42 on first and second reading 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 7 – 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.42 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, Bauer, Blickem, and Larson voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

B. Ordinance No. 2002.43—An Ordinance of Annexation for Property Known as 1020 West Prairie Drive in DeKalb County, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that this was a format desired by DeKalb County for recording purposes to annex the property.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.43 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.43 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 7 - 0.

- C. Ordinance No. 2002-44--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Ideal Industries For Certain Amendments to an Annexation Agreement Dated March 7, 1991 Relating to the Dedication of Borden Avenue and Permitted Encroachments Along the Street's Right-Of-Way. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that back in the nineties the agreement called for the removal of the appurtenances and this amendment acknowledged that the guardrail that Ideal installed was sufficient from the standpoint of public safety.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.44 on first and second reading 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 7 – 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Tripp moved to approve Ordinance 2002.44 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, Bauer, Blickem, and Larson voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

- D. Ordinance No. 2002.45--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Stonebreaker Builders, LLC for an Amendment to an Annexation Agreement Dated June 30, 1999 Between B&B Development and Others and the City of Sycamore to Permit the Development of Townhouse Units on Property Located on the North Side of Peace Road and West of Frantum Road. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that Plan Commission had reviewed this 14.83-acre development in an area annexed in 1999 as part of Heron Creek with a special use permit for attached townhomes. Mr. Nicklas said that the Plan Commission made the following additional recommendations:

- the continuation of the 10-foot wide bikepath along the west side of Frantum Road to connect bicyclists moving along Stonegate Drive with the intersection at Peace Road. From there, the bicyclist will be able to pick up the bikepath on the south side of Peace Road that B&B Development will be installing.
- a variation in the configuration of guest parking for the visitor's convenience. The Commission proposed perpendicular parking behind the sidewalks on the southern edge of the two park spaces in place of the parallel spaces shown on the private drive, resulting in the net gain of about 17 off-street parking spaces. In addition, another six perpendicular spaces are to be added along the Com Ed easement south of Stonegate Drive, and about six perpendicular spaces along the easement north of Stonegate Drive.
- the continuation of Stonegate Drive's right-of-way to the west property line to avoid a "spite strip."
- a reference on the plat that there will be a 3-foot landscaped berm established on the south property line of the development with a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees planted 12 feet on center according to specifications approved by the City Engineer.
- The restriction of on-street parking on Stonegate Drive on the north side only.
- The installation of one light pole with a double globe in each of the two park spaces.
- The installation of crosswalks on Stonegate drive and across the private drive near the perpendicular parking spaces at each park.

Mr. Nicklas said that City staff recommended approval with the additional conditions.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2002.45 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.45 with the additional stipulations and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Tripp, Bauer, Blickem, and Larson voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

E. Ordinance No. 2002.46--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of AMP Builders for Approval of a Final Plat for The Townhomes of Townsend Woods. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that this final plat conformed to the preliminary plat approved by the Council August 2000.

Aldersperson Blickem inquired about the density and Mr. Nicklas said it was 8.7 well under the zoning allowance.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.46 on first and second reading 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 7 – 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2002.46 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Bauer said that he was on the Plan Commission when Townsend Wood was approved and when this was first brought back and he did not think it was very well planned. Mr. Bauer said that he thought there should be a City street rather than two private streets for through traffic and he would vote against this again as he did from the beginning.

Aldersperson Paulsen asked if this had any bearing on Maplewood and Mt. Hunger improvements and Mr. Nicklas said that it did not. Mr. Nicklas said that since the preliminary plat was approved the final plat must be improved as long as it conformed.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. Six Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Bauer voting nay. Motion carried 6 - 1.

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 421—Adopting Specifications for Informational Signs in Public Rights of Way.

Administrator Nicklas explained that he had crafted what he thought was a fair representation of the State Guidelines with some local detail.

Aldersperson Blickem said that she thought the policy should include having the requester pay for the signs.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to adopt Resolution 421 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 7 - 0.

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of a Report on Recent Tourism Initiatives from Rose Trembl, Executive Director of the Sycamore Chamber of Commerce.

Sycamore Chamber Executive Director Rose Trembl’s report included the following tourism activities:

- Printed Brochures - 2nd edition of the Historic District Walking Tour and Experience Sycamore
- Audio enhancement and contracted for script for self-guided Historic District Walking Tour
- Poster inserts and maps for the Kiosk
- Downtown street banners
- Tourism assistant grant to Marlyn Majorettes
- Downtown coordinator matching funds
- Sycamoola promotion – encouraging people to shop in Sycamore
- 2nd Annual Celebration Party – which was successful despite to bad weather
- Upcoming Holiday Promotion with a “Stay Home for the Holidays” theme

Administrator Nicklas said that the City would welcome the Chambers ideas for decorating the Henderson building windows for the Holidays and Director Trembl said they would like to help with that.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired what was going into the building previously occupied by “It’s New To Me” and Mr. Nicklas said that it would be a shop that sells body piercing jewelry although there would be no actual piercing in the store.

Aldersperson Blickem inquired if the orange lights were going on the trees and Administrator Nicklas said that no lights would be on the downtown trees until after Pumpkin Fest in order to keep the cords protected from the crowds.

C. Consideration of a Public Works Department Recommendation to Purchase a New Snow Blower from Bonnell Industries in the Amount of \$51,825.

Superintendent Fred Busse provided a short video for the Council to witness the capabilities of the new snow blower compared to the old 1958 snow blower purchased used in 1979. Superintendent Busse said that two bids were submitted and because the Standard bid did not meet specifications he recommended accepting Bonnell Industries bid of \$51,825.00. Superintendent Busse explained that \$60,000 was budgeted for this item and the remaining \$8,000 would be used to equip the enloader with the necessary clip.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to accept Bonnell Industries’ bid in the amount of \$51,825.00 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

D. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation for a Closed Session to Discuss Personnel Matters.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to go into closed session at 9:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to return to Open Session at 9:14 p.m. and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg appointed Aldersperson Larson to fill Aldersperson Paulsen's vacancy on the Library Board and Luke Morton to replace Robert Heuber on the Police Pension Board.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to accept the appointments 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 7 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 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 7 - 0.

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith