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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 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, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe and Janice Tripp.

**INVOCATION**

Father Frank Timar of St. Mary's Catholic Church gave the invocation

**SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY APPOINTED ALDERPERSON FOR THE THIRD WARD**

Mayor Swedberg appointed Barbara Leach as 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Alderperson to fill Michael Chambon's vacancy until the end of his term April 7, 2003.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the appointment and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

Clerk Smith swore in Alderperson Leach. The Council welcomed Alderperson Leach as she took her seat as 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Alderperson.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Paulsen 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 December 2, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for December 16, 2002 in the amount of \$ 577,078.01.
- C. Plan Commission Minutes of the Meeting of November 11, 2002.

## **Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Aldersperson Larson 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. Swearing-in of Steven Cook as Sergeant**

Chief Thomas introduced Steven Cook and his wife Carol and daughters Emily and Amanda. Chief Thomas said that Steve Cook had been with the Police Department for 12 years: first as a dispatcher, then police officer, detective, and now sergeant. He said he was well respected by all the police officers. Clerk Smith swore-in Steven Cook as Sergeant.

### **B. Appointment of Don Phelps as a paid-on-call firefighter.**

Chief Bill Riddle explained that he wanted to formalize the appointment of Don Phelps as a paid-on-call firefighter because, as the department's chaplain, he attended the scene of emergencies and needed to be covered by the City's insurance.

### **C. Recognition of Les Johnson for his 40 years of service as an on-call firefighter.**

Chief Bill Riddle formally recognized Les as a member of the Sycamore Fire Department since 1962. Chief Riddle said it was an honor and a privilege to present Les to the Council and the Community. Chief Riddle said he was not involved in active firefighting but responds to the station to take care of things behind the scenes as well as acting as ambassador for the department.

### **D. Presentation of Service Awards.**

Administrator Nicklas thanked Human Resource Director Jean Tritle for organizing the awards. Mr. Nicklas and Ms. Tritle handed out the certificates, plaques, and a gift. Those receiving the awards were:

5 YEAR CERTIFICATE - Alan Bauer (City Council) – 4/15/97

10 YEAR CERTIFICATE - Daniel Berres (Police) - 12/1/92, Steven Cook (Police)- Telecommunicator 2/18/91; Officer 3/19/92, Jerry Lane (Administration) – 7/27/92, Cheryl Maness (City Council) – 3/23/92, and Daniel Marcinkowski (Fire) – 10/5/92

15 YEAR CERTIFICATE - J.C. Roach (Treatment Plant) - 12/8/87, Michael Schulz (Public Works) – 5/1/87, Donald Smith, Jr. (Water) – 10/1/87, and Michael Swedberg (Water) – 10/1/87

20 YEAR PLAQUES - Julie Rhodes (Administration) – 10/1/82 and Fred Ruthe (Public Works) – 10/16/82

25 YEAR (PLUS) AWARDS - John Brady (30 years) Engineering- 2/1/72, Lester Johnson (40 years) Fire – 10/23/62, and Alice Bennett (33 years) – Police Crossing Guard – 5/1/69.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator – Bill Nicklas said that he had circulated posters to invite public participation in the Image Preference Survey on January 7, 2003 and the Charrette on January 11, 2003. Mr. Nicklas thanked Public Works for the work exposing walls and clearing out unwanted partitions at the Henderson Building

Engineer – John Brady - no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that Ordinance 2002.64 on the agenda still needed work regarding the elevator amendment and asked that Council delete that portion. Commissioner Lyle said that it was imperative to pass the ordinance according to the ISO's deadline.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy – no report

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle – no report

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that Pat Solar's last day was Friday and Tom Scott replaced him as lieutenant and Steve Cook became sergeant and a new officer, Patrick Lozeau, would begin work the next day to replace Steve Cook.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – no report

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance –no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – Chairperson Bauer reported that the Committee had met earlier and made two recommendations: 1. to bring the water fee for Edgebrook Mobile Home into line with single-family households over the next three years and 2. to move towards an actual cost for meter replacement.

Streets & Walks –no report

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **A. Public Hearing on the 2002-2003 Corporate Levy.**

Administrator Nicklas said this was the second and final opportunity for the public to voice opinions on the proposed Corporate Levy. Mr. Nicklas explained that the Corporate Levy totaled \$2,689,866 a 6.18% or \$156,512 increase over the 2001 Corporate Levy. He said the City's portion was \$2,134,108 and the Library's portion was \$555,758.

With no public comment, Mayor Swedberg closed the hearing.

## **ORDINANCES**

### **A. Ordinance No. 2002.54—An Ordinance Levying Taxes for the Corporate Purposes of the City of Sycamore for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2002 and Ending April 30, 2003. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas repeated that this ordinance would approve the Corporate Levy for \$2,689,866 a 6.18% increase over last year. Mr. Nicklas noted that this was the lowest City rate since 1970 partly because of the steady growth in the EAV.

Aldersperson Bauer said that he could not vote in favor of the levy, because, although he supported the Library, he did not think they had worked hard enough to lower their levy amount. Mr. Bauer said that he was pleased with the City's portion of the Levy, but could not vote for the Library's portion.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.54 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. Seven Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Bauer voting nay. Motion carried 7 - 1.

**B. Ordinance No. 2002.55—An Ordinance Partially Abating Certain Debt Service Levied for a General Obligation Bond Issue for the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained this ordinance would partially abate the debt service on the 1996 general obligation bond for 2002 levy year. He said that the FY02-03 debt service obligation was \$423,383 and the City will levy \$155,000 and abate \$268,383 that will be paid out of other funds.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.55 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**C. Ordinance No. 2002.56—An Ordinance Abating Certain Debt Service for a General Obligation Bond Issue for the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this would abate \$156,513 debt obligation for the 1999 refunding bond that refinanced a portion of the 1996 bond series. The debt service will be paid from a transfer from the 1996 bond fund that gets its revenue from transfers from the General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Motor Fuel Tax Fund and the Road & Bridge Fund.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2002.56 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.

**D. Ordinance No. 2002.57—An Ordinance Abating Certain Debt Service for a General Obligation Bond Issue for the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this ordinance would totally abate the debt service on the more recent 2002 general obligation bond in the amount of \$301,153 which will be paid with the Restaurant & Bar tax.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2002.57 and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**E. Ordinance No. 2002.58—An Ordinance Abating Certain Real Estate Revenue Due for Property Owned by Sycamore Ford/Mazda/Hyundai in the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003. Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this was the second of a three-year abatement program with Sycamore Ford/Mazda/Hyundai.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.58 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. Seven Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Blickem voting nay. Motion carried 7 - 1.

**F. Ordinance No. 2002.59--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Jim and Guyla Yagen For a Special Use Permit to Subdivide a Duplex Lot at 1142 and 1144 Penny Lane to Create Two Attached Single Family Dwellings. First and Second Reading.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2002.59 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinance 2002.59 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**G. Ordinance No. 2002.60--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Wiseman-Hughes, Inc. for Approval of a**

**Final Plat for Phase I of the Reston Ponds Planned Unit Development. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said the proposed final plat, covering about ¼ of the subdivision, satisfied the provisions of the annexation agreement and the City Code. Mr. Nicklas noted that Plan Commissioner McBride suggested and the Commissioners agreed, that out of respect for recently deceased former Commissioner Gary Stapleton park space in Reston Ponds might be dedicated in his name. Mr. Nicklas said since that meeting more requests have been received and he would sort through them and bring them back for discussion.

Aldersperson Paulsen inquired why the commercial area was not on the final plat and Administrator Nicklas said that would be platted separately once interest was shown. Aldersperson Paulsen expressed concern that lots 147 & 148 were platted and should not be sold until interest was shown in the commercial area.

Larry Vaupel, representing Wiseman-Hughes Enterprises, explained that the current owners, the Jahns, were retaining the commercial area.

Administrator Nicklas said that the Council could amend the ordinance to state that lots 147 and 148 would not be conveyed and Mr. Vaupel said they would note that on the plat.

Aldersperson Bauer asked when the retention ponds would be functioning and Engineer Brady said it would be in the spring.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.60 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinance 2002.60 with the amendment that lots 147 & 148 would not be conveyed 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.

**H. Ordinance No. 2002.61--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of B&B Development for Approval of an Amendment to the Preliminary Plat and Annexation Agreement for the Heron Creek Planned Unit Development. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said the proposal was a happy resolution after months of discussion about this issue that the developer brought to the staff's attention. Mr. Nicklas explained that as the engineering progressed, they realized the extraordinary amount of hardwood trees on sight that they had not been aware of earlier. Mr. Nicklas said that their engineer, John Wills of Christopher Burke Engineering, found

40 trees that would need to be removed for the road and about 400 for the retention pond. Mr. Nicklas said they were proposing the rerouted road and redesigned retention pond in order to preserve the trees.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to hear Ordinance 2002.61 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2002.61 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Administrator Nicklas said there was one condition the Plan Commission made in their recommendation and that was the need for clear-cut language for a clear walking path for school children.

Mayor Swedberg asked Alderspersons Bauer and Larson if they wanted to include the condition in the motion and they said yes.

**Voice Vote**

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

**I. Ordinance No. 2002.62--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of B&B Development, Inc. for Approval of a Final Plat for Phase I of the Heron Creek Estate Lots. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Plan Commission unanimously recommended approval provided that the condition for the walking path for school children was included.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2002.62 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinance 2002.62 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**J. Ordinance No. 2002.63—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of B&B Development for Approval of a Final Plat for a Three-Lot Subdivision on the Northeast and Northwest Corners of Peace Road and Frantum Road. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the three-lot resubdivision created a Lot 1, which encompassed the Stonegate townhouse development, Lot 2 consisted of the 3.324-acre site dedicated to the City for public purposes, and Lot 3 was dedicated for retention and open space. Mr. Nicklas said that this final plat added orderly configuration to the subdivision.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.63 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.63 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**K. Ordinance No. 2002.64—An Ordinance Amending Title 9, "Building Regulations," Chapter 2, "Building Codes" Section 1, "Building Code," of the City Code of the City of Sycamore. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said that he appreciated Building Commissioner Lyle Doty's diligence to get this amendment before the Council because it will affect Sycamore's ISO insurance rate. Mr. Nicklas said that Mr. Doty had met with representatives of the DeKalb County Building and Development Association and Chuck Shepard was in the audience. Mr. Doty deleted the energy code until revised details were finalized and recommended reference to raising higher standards for the elevator code by deleting section 3001.4 of the ordinance.

Chuck Shepard of the DeKalb County Building Association recommended deferring the energy code until after January 20, 2003 when the revisions would be finalized.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.64 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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2002.64 with the amendments to delete section 3001.4 and to put the change into effect December 26, 2002 and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

None

**CONSIDERATIONS**

None

**APPOINTMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. and Aldersperson Tripp 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