
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2003**

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, Barbara Leach, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe and Janice Tripp.

INVOCATION

Pastor Steve Perrson of the First Baptist Church gave the invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg moved Appointments to before Presentation of Petitions, Communications, and Bills.

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 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 16, 2002;
- B. Payment of the Bills for January 6, 2003 in the amount of \$608,154.61.

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 voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg explained he had received Plan Commissioner Gene Endthoff's resignation and appointed Steve Doonan to replace him on the Plan Commission.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve the appointment and Aldersperson Bauer 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.**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reminded Council that the Image Preference Survey meeting would be the next evening at 7 p.m. at the Sycamore Library and the Charrette would be held Saturday, January 11 from 8 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at South Prairie School. Mr. Nicklas said there would be an Open House at the new Public Works building January 20, 2003 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Nicklas explained that the draft document passed out was preliminary revisions of the two chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Nicklas asked for Council direction regarding businesses purchasing downtown parking meters for a day by paying a fee approximately equal to the revenue that would be collected. He said that the idea was generally well received with only one dissenting voice. Aldersperson Bauer said he thought it was a good idea and Aldersperson Tripp said she did not think it should be limited to once per year per business. The consensus of Council was in support of allowing businesses to purchase parking meters.

Mayor Swedberg commented on the moderate spike in building permits in the Comp Plan revision as a result of low interest rates and asked the Council to think about whether they wanted to limit buildout rates.

Engineer – John Brady - No report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty said he would have year-end totals at the next Council meeting. Mayor Swedberg asked Mr. Doty to separate the commercial building permits.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that at the 67% benchmark the budget was running 74% revenues and under 67% in expenses. Treasurer Mundy said that state income tax and replacement tax revenues were running behind.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported that Firefighter Sean Penn who is currently serving in the Reserves in the Middle East was living in a tent with fourteen other soldiers continuing the war on terrorism. Chief Riddle encouraged everyone to keep him in their prayers.

Police Chief – Don Thomas – no report

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse reported that five workers from Public Works attended mosquito control training.

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 item 11A on the agenda reflected the committee's recommendation.

Streets & Walks –no report

PUBLIC HEARING

None

ORDINANCES

- A. **Ordinance No. 2002.65—An Ordinance Amending Title 8, “Water and Sewer,” Chapter 5, “Water and Sewer Rates,” Section 8-5-1, “Water Rates,” Paragraphs A, B, and C of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that the ordinance would establish three-year escalating flat rate for the Edgebrook mobile home park to bring the unit pricing in line with single-family home and establish a gradual increase for meter replacement fees. Mr. Nicklas said that the Sewer & Water Committee recommended this.

Alderspersion Tripp asked if the meter charge on the water bill could be a separate item and Administrator Nicklas said that the Water Department would be going to utility billing in order to satisfy the auditors and he thought it would be capable of that separation.

Alderspersion Bauer asked if the trailer park had been notified and Superintendent Smith said they had.

Motion

Alderspersion Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2002.65 on first and second reading and Alderspersion 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

Alderspersion Tripp moved to approve Ordinance 2002.65 and Alderspersion Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

- B. **Ordinance No. 2002.66—An Ordinance Pursuant to Article 65 ILCS 5/5-1-5 of the Illinois Consolidated Statutes Directing That the Question, “Shall the City of Sycamore, Illinois Adopt the Managerial Form of Municipal Government?” Be Placed On the Ballot for Determination by the Citizens of Sycamore, Illinois at the Next General Election. First and Second Reading.**

Mayor Swedberg said that the Ad Hoc Committee had met December 4, 2002 to discuss how to educate the public. Mayor explained that an ordinance needed to be passed and filed with the County Clerk before the end of January. Mayor said that the two questions needed on the ballot were "Shall the City of Sycamore, Illinois adopt the managerial form of Municipal Government?" and Shall the City of Sycamore, Illinois if it adopts the managerial form of municipal government, continue to elect aldermen from wards?"

Attorney Peter Smith said that the questions were taken directly from the state statutes and would keep in place all positions except change the position of administrator to manager.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to hear Ordinance 2002.66 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 Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2002.66 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.

C. Ordinance No. 2002.67—An Ordinance Amending Title 3, "Business and License Regulations," Chapters 1, 4, and 6 of the City Code to Require Applicants to Pay the Current Cost of Background Investigations to the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said that this ordinance would allow the City to recover costs for processing applications.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to hear Ordinance 2002.67 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 Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2002.67 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.

RESOLUTIONS

None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Report on a Proposed FY2003-2004 Budget Schedule.

Administrator Nicklas presented a preliminary schedule of thresholds in the annual budget process. Mr. Nicklas said this might be the City's most challenging year regarding revenue with the loss of \$150,000 due to K-Mart closing and a 7-8% drop in state share revenues. He said the City would be fighting to maintain services and personnel and he would propose options.

Aldersperson Stowe commented that he thought the budget schedule might be moved up so the existing Council would vote on it before the newly elected officials took office. Administrator Nicklas said he sends copies of the budget to the candidates and they generally attend the finance meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. 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.

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith