

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor John Swedberg called the meeting to order and Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Alan Bauer, Terry Kessler, Andrew Larson, Barbara Leach, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe and Janice Tripp.

**INVOCATION**

Father Frank Timar of the Church of St. Mary gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Larson moved to approve the agenda 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 8 - 0.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Mike Stanton, 909 W. State Street, said his wife received a letter from the Building Department stating he could not park his truck at his residence. He said he had parked there for 18 years and said he is federally licensed and bonded and needed to park the truck in a safe place.

Mayor Swedberg said the address is not zoned for parking commercial vehicles and said he had received complaints about the fumes. Mayor Swedberg said there were areas in the City where commercial trucking is allowed.

Building Commissioner Lyle Doty said the letter was written in response to a complaint. He said the ordinance states a semi cannot be parked in a residential area and questioned what being federally licensed had to do with this issue. Building Commissioner Doty said that even though Mr. Stanton had been parking there for years, it is a violation of the City's Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Stanton gave Mayor Swedberg copies of his federal papers and Mayor Swedberg said he would review those with the City Attorney. Mr. Stanton said he had moved the truck to avoid the \$500 per day fine and Mayor Swedberg said he should keep the truck off his residence and should be looking for a place to legally park it. Mr. Stanton said he had spent a lot of money in Sycamore maintaining the truck and would no longer spend his money in Sycamore.

Sheila Stanton, Mr. Stanton's daughter, said she had researched the law and in the Federal Motor Carrier's green book it was stated that Federal government policies override City policies. Also, Ms. Stanton thought that sending the letter to her mother was rude and unprofessional and could be considered harassment. She said that prohibiting semis from parking in residential areas was harassment to truck drivers and should apply to commercial trucks and City vehicles.

Mayor Swedberg said there was no malice intended toward her mother and said there was just an ordinance passed prohibiting recreational vehicles and commercial vehicles over a certain size in residential areas.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of October 20, 2003;
- B. Payment of the Bills for November 3, 2003 in the amount of \$345,449.64.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe 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 present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

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

- A. Swearing-in of Sergeant Mike Anderson of the Sycamore Police Department.

Chief Don Thomas said a fourth police sergeant position was approved by Council in October and introduced Officer Mike Anderson as that new sergeant. Chief Thomas said Mike has been with Sycamore Police Department since 1991. Mike was a cadet with the St. Charles Police Department in High School, served in the MP Corp of the Army, and was hired by the City of Sycamore after his tour of duty. Chief Thomas said Anderson is a FTO, Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, Bike Officer, and has done outstanding work as a Patrol Officer and he looked forward to his doing an outstanding job as a Sergeant.

Sergeant Anderson introduced his family in attendance as his mom and dad, Elmer and Diane, children Cameron and Gavin Michael, and wife Sharon, a Sycamore Police Officer.

Sergeant Anderson's mother pinned on his badge and Clerk Smith swore him into office.

Mayor Swedberg thanked City staff for giving 110% effort for the Pumpkin Festival. Mayor Swedberg also thanked the Pumpkin Fest Committee with two Council members and non-profit organizations for their work.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas also thanked Public Works, Police, and Fire for their Pumpkin Festival efforts. Mr. Nicklas said the bids were out for remodeling the former Municipal Building now known as the Public Safety Building. He said there was a mandatory walk-through and the bids were due 11:00 a.m. November 21. Mr. Nicklas said Comcast would be broadcasting Illinois High School Association football playoffs November 28 and 29 on Channel 14.

Engineer – John Brady - no report

Building & Zoning –Lyle Doty – no report

Treasurer – Ken Mundy – no report

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle asked the Community to watch for Veteran’s Day events in Sycamore beginning the evening of November 10.

Police Chief – Don Thomas - no report

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith - no report

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance – no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire – no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

## **ORDINANCES**

- A. Ordinance No. 2003.61—An Ordinance Approving the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and the IMLRMA for Worker’s Compensation and Liability Coverage for City Employees. First and Second Reading.**

Manager Nicklas said this was the time of year to review insurance options and IMLRMA is the largest public risk pool operating in Illinois and can use their larger assets to offer lower insurance premiums.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2003.61 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 8 - 0.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2003.61 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Kessler asked Mr. Nicklas to describe services offered besides payment of claims. Mr. Nicklas said they provide many services like promoting wellness in the workplace, for example machinery operator safety seminars and they provide information regarding comp claims and suggest course of action.

Aldersperson Kessler asked if they provide legal representation at hearings at no charge and Mr. Nicklas said they do.

### **Voice Vote**

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

## RESOLUTIONS

None

## CONSIDERATIONS

### **A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Proceed With an Application for a Grant from the Illinois Brownfield Grant Redevelopment Program for the Former Harvester Square Complex.**

Manager Nicklas explained the City owns a 3-acre site on South Avenue that has a long industrial history in the Former Harvester Square Complex between Blumen Gardens and Blackhawk. He presented the history of acquiring the property then owned by Mr. DiNicola and the environmental issues of storage barrel acquired with it. Marlin Environmental's senior project manager, Tom Mangan, was hired to investigate grant assistance options with the IEPA. Mr. Nicklas said his recommendation was to proceed with the Illinois Brownfield Grant application and if the state provided 70% share the City's share would be \$48,345.00. Mr. Nicklas said there was not enough money in the TIF fund, but he would consider using UAF Funds.

Tom Mangan said he would be working with Kyle Webb, project manager with Marlin Environmental. Mr. Mangan explained that during Phase I, he worked with Superior Environmental, and the site had been turned into a cold storage area for plastics and drums of potential hazardous waste. He said more unknowns than knowns remained and the biggest cost of the initial grant was to identify chemicals of concern and figure the cost to clean them up. He said the goal was to identify the risk, put together a plan with the IEPA and regent 5, get additional Federal funds to help clean up, resulting in marketable property.

Mr. Mangan said Illinois Brownfield grants are available and they needed to have the grant completed by December 10 for January distribution. He said they would bring in a special company for drum sampling because of the danger. Mr. Mangan said he was not able to estimate a cost of completion at this time.

Aldersperson Bauer asked if the site was secure from vandalism and weather and Mr. Mangan said the areas where the drums are stored is sealed off with plywood and locks, but the roof is leaking. Mr. Nicklas said that Joel Barczak of Blumen Gardens has been a good neighbor by reporting vandalism and weather related problems.

The consensus of Council was to proceed with the contract.

### **B. Consideration of the Annual City Property Tax Levy.**

Manager Nicklas said this was a note to inform Council that he would propose options for consideration regarding annual City property taxes.

### **C. Consideration of a Joint Meeting of the Sycamore City Council and the Sycamore School Board on November 17 at 6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Swedberg said this joint meeting would allow the School District to present their fact-findings of future growth.

Manager Nicklas said in addition they would have other issues to lay out regarding growth issues such as abatement issues.

**D. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Closed Session Minutes.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to go into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Leach seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Kessler moved to return to Open Session at 8:06 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 7 - 0.

**APPOINTMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. and Aldersperson Kessler 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:

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Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk – Candy Smith