

**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL**  
**AGENDA**  
**October 4, 2004**

**City Council Committee Meetings**

**No Meetings Are Scheduled**

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**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**At the Sycamore Center**  
**7:00 P.M.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INVOCATION**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 5. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**
- 6. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. Approval of the Minutes for the City Council Meeting of September 20, 2004;
  - B. Payment of the Bills for October 4, 2004.
- 7. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.**
  - A. Proclamation Declaring the week of October 3-October 9, 2004 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Sycamore.
  - B. Consideration of a Presentation by the Sycamore Economic Development Commission. Commissioner John Swedberg will introduce Karen Gashi, general manager of the Menard store in Sycamore, who will give a brief overview of the products and services of the store at 1825 Mercantile Drive.
- 8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

9. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

10. **PUBLIC HEARINGS--None**

11. **ORDINANCES**

**A. Ordinance No. 2004.47—An Ordinance Establishing and Fixing Compensation for Elected Officials of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Per the Council's direction of September 20, the attached ordinance was drafted to identify a proposed salary structure for Sycamore's elected officials for the four-year period beginning May 1, 2005:

Mayor:	\$18,000 per year
Liquor Commissioner:	\$2,000 per year
City Clerk:	\$45,900 per year
City Council Members:	\$400 per month

City Council action is recommended.

**B. Ordinance No. 2004.48—An Ordinance Approving a Non-Exclusive Cable Television Franchise Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Comcast of California/Colorado/Illinois/Indiana/Texas, Inc. First and Second Reading.**

At the City Council meeting of September 20, 2004, the Council reviewed a proposed non-exclusive franchise agreement with Comcast. The attached agreement has the following key provisions:

- a) A non-exclusive franchise. Although no competitor has expressed an interest in creating an alternative cable infrastructure or paying Comcast for use of its infrastructure, a different cable operator might someday appear and the City would not be precluded from negotiating a franchise agreement with that operator.
- b) A term of eight years from the effective date of the agreement;
- c) A franchise fee of 5% of annual gross revenues from the franchise area;
- d) a security fund to reimburse the City against out-of-pocket costs associated with damage to the City rights-of-way during service operations;
- e) Substantially increased insurance limits to indemnify the City against liability for bodily injury or property damage associated with the operation of the system. The adjustments are approximately ten times the current amounts (e.g. an increase from \$100,000 to \$1 million per occurrence, and from \$300,000 to \$3 million in the aggregate for bodily injury and property damage).
- f) The company will provide an Emergency Alert system at its own expense to override normal programming in case of severe weather or other emergencies.
- g) Considerable detail on federally-mandated installation and service standards that were missing from the current agreement;
- h) A thirty-day notice period for notifying customers of changes in programming or price;

- i) A government access channel will be provided at no charge to the City for non-commercial government access on the basic service tier, and will be available 24 hours a day. The cost of establishing the capacity to transmit government programming falls to the City. However, the operator will provide the necessary equipment to originate a link at the City’s request. In other words, if the City should ever decide to broadcast public meetings, the City would have a dedicated channel to do so, but the City would have to pay for the broadcast equipment and the labor needed to operate such a system.
- j) One free service connection at a City building. Such connection has been identified in the Sycamore Center.

In recent years, Comcast had made significant improvements in its programming options and service. The introduction of high-speed internet service throughout the Sycamore city limits has been a welcome business option. In addition, the incidence of complaints to City offices has decreased dramatically as the technical components of the system have been improved, and as company policy has changed to aspire to faster responses to service needs. The attached franchise agreement provides the features required by federal law, and some additional features as well (e.g. the provision of a government access channel). The proposed term of the agreement—8 years—is the shortest allowable term, which is important in view of the rapid pace of technological change.

City Council approval is recommended.

**C. Ordinance No. 2004.49—An Ordinance Amending Title 6, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic,” Chapter 5, “Pedestrians,” Section 6, “Roadway Solicitation,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

At the last regular meeting of September 20, the City Council’s Ordinance Committee also recommended revisions to the City’s regulations regarding street solicitations by non-profit organizations by a vote of 4-0. The revised language is as follows (**the changes are in bold type**):

6-5-6:           **ROADWAY SOLICITATION:** No person shall stand on a **City street** for the purpose of soliciting contributions from the occupant of any vehicle, except when all of the following conditions are complied with:

- A. Stop Intersection: Said solicitation shall occur only at intersections where all traffic is required by law to come to a full stop. **No solicitation may occur on IL Rt. 23, IL Rt. 64, or Peace Road.**
- B. Charitable Purposes: Said solicitation shall only be done by members of organizations registered with the Attorney General of the State under “An Act to Regulate Solicitations and Collection of Funds for Charitable Purposes.” **Applications for said solicitations must be submitted to the City Clerk at least seven days in advance of the planned solicitation.**
- C. Fund Raising: Said solicitation shall only be **undertaken by chapters, clubs, charities, or societies that have a Sycamore mailing address. Exception: When a chapter, club, charity or society may directly serve Sycamore citizens but**

**does not have a Sycamore mailing address, a solicitation permit may be issued at the discretion of the City Manager.**

- D. Liability: All persons engaging in said solicitations shall be liable for any injuries to any person or property during the solicitation, which is casually related to an act of ordinary negligence of said person or soliciting agent.
- E. Age limitation: **All persons engaging in said solicitation shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older.**
- F. **Vest: All persons engaging in such solicitation shall wear a high-visibility vest with iridescent markings.**
- G. **Time Limitation: All solicitations must occur during daylight hours.**
- H. Penalty: Notwithstanding any other applicable penalty under City ordinance to the contrary, the penalty for violation of this Section shall be as provided in Section 1-4-1 of this Code for each offense.

In order to provide a transition from present practice to the practices outlined in the attached ordinance, the effective date of the ordinance is deferred until January 1, 2005.

City Council approval is recommended.

**12. RESOLUTIONS--None**

**13. CONSIDERATIONS**

**A. Consideration of a Public Works Department Recommendation Regarding Bids for a New One-Ton Dump Truck.**

On Tuesday, September 28, the Public Works department opened bids for a one-ton dump truck that was included in the FY05 vehicle budget. As Superintendent Fred Busse explains in the attached memorandum, separate bids were invited for the truck chassis and body (the bid document for the body included the plow and spreader).

Sycamore Auto Center is the lowest responsible local bidder for the truck chassis under the local preference policy. Mr. Busse recommends their bid in the amount of \$27,974.74. Monroe Truck Center submitted the lowest bid for the 9-foot dump body, plow and spreader in the amount of \$27,495 and Mr. Busse recommends the award of the contract to Monroe Center for these components.

The total value of the two recommended bids is \$55,469.74. The budget for this purchase was \$55,000 (06-8625). The savings from the previous purchase of the skid loader for the Public Works department is more than enough to offset this difference. City Council approval of the Public Works department recommendation is requested.

**B. Consideration of an Engineering Department Recommendation Regarding Bids for Topsoil Removal and Excavation Relating to the Oakland Drive Extension.**

City Engineer John Brady has requested bids for several of the preliminary tasks associated with the extension of Oakland Drive from its present terminus eastward to Wirsing Parkway. These tasks include topsoil removal, excavation at the Com Ed transmission lines and former railroad embankment, and tree removal.

The bids will be opened on October 4 at 1:30 p.m. City Engineer John Brady will report on the bid results and be prepared to make a recommendation at the October 4 Council meeting.

**C. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining Matters.**

**14. APPOINTMENTS**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**