
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2004

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, and Chuck Stowe. Alderperson Janice Tripp was absent.

INVOCATION

Pastor Mike Massey of Glad Tidings Assembly of God gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Leach 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

Steve Kuhn, 430 S. Main Street, brought in a water sample from his home and said he realized Well #9 would help, but he felt they should look at the water lines. Manager Nicklas said the sample was certainly unacceptable and asked Mr. Kuhn to discuss this with Water Superintendent Ebe Smith when this type of water is drawn from his home.

Jesus Romero, Taxco Restaurant owner, asked Council for permission to close Maple Street from State Street and Exchange Street for the Cinco de Mayo celebration. Mayor Swedberg said he should include the alley in the closure and said he would like to see the festival grow and supported the request.

Motion

Alderperson Paulsen moved to approve closing the 100 block of North Maple Street and the alley and Alderperson Stowe 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.

Barbara Hudson, 2319 Fairland Drive - Apt. 3, said that in 1996 she discovered something in government and since then has done government studies. She said she is coming to the meetings to observe.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the City Council Meeting of April 5, 2004;
- B. Payment of the Bills for April 19, 2004 in the amount of \$308,765.98;
- C. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of March 8, 2004.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Maness asked Clerk Smith to change 4 – 3 to 3 – 4 on a failed motion on page 8 and Clerk Smith said she would make the change.

Aldersperson Bauer asked Clerk Smith to change removed to moved on page 2 paragraph 2 and Clerk Smith said she would make the change.

Aldersperson Kessler asked Clerk Smith to change Chief Riddle's responses on page 5 to "no additional training required" and on page 9 "no additional equipment other than what was transferred or in the bid" and Clerk Smith said she would have to check her note.

Voice Vote

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

A. Consideration of a Presentation by the Sycamore Economic Development Commission.

Sycamore Economic Development Commission member Rod Schairer introduced Don Paulsen of Paulsen Appliance & Electronics at 245 West State Street to give a brief overview of his firm's range of products and services.

Don Paulsen said his dad John Paulsen started the business in 1977 as a service shop in DeKalb. He said that G.E. contacted his dad and asked him to sell appliances. In 1979, after an appeal from Mayor Red Johnson, they moved the business to Sycamore and in 1983 they moved to their current location. Don said in 1998 his dad retired and turned the business over to his sister, Lonnie, and himself. In 2000 they expanded into the old Hallmark shop and expanded their product line. He said their main lines are G.E., Amana, Maytag, and Whirlpool. They are currently working on building their electronics department. Mr. Paulsen said he appreciates the City's help with alley improvements behind the store in order to unload trucks in the back. Also he said the streetscape project really improved the downtown and he is happy to see the City in the Sycamore Center.

B. Proclamation Declaring the Week of April 18-24, 2004 as "National Volunteer Week," with the Theme "Volunteers Inspire by Example."

Mayor Swedberg read the proclamation.

Mayor Swedberg recognized Boy Scout Troop 2 in the audience and said they are working on their Citizenship and Community Badge.

Mayor Swedberg read a letter submitted with the approval of the School Board regarding their reluctance for the City to hire an additional inspector because that would increase the pace of growth. Manager Nicklas said he heard a similar argument at the budget hearing and thought that concept was put to rest. He said their premise is mistaken because the hiring of an additional inspector is a matter of quality. He said the Building Department could have used more help five years ago, but the focus has been on public safety. Mr. Nicklas said the Building Department does more than new building permitting and the new position would help some with engineering tasks.

Aldersperson Larson asked who does the commercial and industrial fire inspections and reinspections and Mr. Nicklas said nobody. Mr. Nicklas said the new position does not necessarily mean those inspections will be done. Mayor Swedberg said Pastor Dan Stovall asked for inspection of old buildings after the St. John's Church fire.

Aldersperson Kessler said the City is doing good business protecting the citizens and buildings and paying attention to detail.

Aldersperson Kessler said Mr. Harlo of Townsend Street inquired about the 100-foot semi-alley. Ms. Kessler asked if the City would blacktop it or close it. Manager Nicklas said they would follow up on that. He said there is a platted alley with a little bit of drive on either end.

Aldersperson Paulsen said he received a request from a Heron Creek resident wanting 25 M.P.H. signs posted. He also asked for a light at Route 23 and Mt. Hunger Road. Mr. Paulsen said there is a group formed named HELP working on a 26-acre park in Maple Terrace.

Aldersperson Maness said she drove out to Lake Sycamore and there were many people enjoying the area. She said there are picnic tables and trash receptacles.

Aldersperson Larson received calls from residents on Meadow Creek and asked Chief Thomas to place the speed cart there. Mr. Larson also inquired about the stoplight at the Middle School and Engineer Brady said IDOT has the plan and it is out for bid.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Manager – Bill Nicklas said the final estimate for the City's EAV is higher than our estimate. He said the final estimate is \$241,500,000 and the City's portion of the tax rate is .91/\$100 EAV and the overall tax rate is \$8.80/\$100 EAV.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning –Lyle Doty – no report

Treasurer – Ken Mundy said the March financials are at the 93% benchmark revenues at about 82% and expenses a little behind that. Treasurer Mundy said the City tax rate is worth mentioning. He said the City's portion of a \$150,000 to \$200,000 home would be about \$600. He said they are shifting the revenues to consumption. Mr. Mundy said the City is stronger economically than ever which is unusual in these times. The lower loan rates speak well for the City's financial viability.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle – no report

Police Chief – Don Thomas – no report

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse - no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith said hydrant flushing began today and would run through next Wednesday. He said they would be flushing from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. each of those days. Also, Mr. Smith said the GPS mapping company would be in town the rest of this week to update. Manager Nicklas asked if the flushing was responsible for Mr. Kuhn's water and Mr. Smith said he had drawn his samples at 7:00 a.m. Aldersperson Bauer

asked if they would use signs in the flushing areas and Superintendent Smith said they would have signs on barricades.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report

Ordinance Chairperson Maness called a meeting for May 3 at 6:30.

Police & Fire – no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

PUBLIC HEARING

None

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2003.103--An Ordinance Concerning the Adoption of the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Manager Nicklas said they have had a Public Hearing and budget meetings so he did not feel the need to go into detail, but would answer questions.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2003.103 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 Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2003.103 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.

- B. Ordinance No. 2003.104—An Ordinance Amending Title 1, “Administration,” Chapter 10, “Personnel Rules,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois to Authorize Non-Elective Positions for the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Manager Nicklas explained that this ordinance “counts” heads of positions current and proposed for the fiscal year.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to hear Ordinance 2003.104 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Leach 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.

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2003.104 and Alderperson Leach 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.

C. Ordinance No. 2003.105—An Ordinance Establishing Offices and Fixing Compensation of Certain Appointed Officers of the City of Sycamore, County of DeKalb, State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the First Day of May, 2004 and Ending on the Thirtieth Day of April, 2005. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said the FY2005 City Budget assumes certain levels of compensation for exempt employees, which include management positions and a number of part-time positions. The attached ordinance displays these levels of compensation and related benefits. He said the Deputy Finance Director's compensation should read \$48,925.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2003.105 on first and second reading and Alderperson Larson 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.

Motion

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2003.105 with the change of title of Human Resource Director and salary of Deputy Finance Director and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

Alderperson Kessler took a moment to thank Mr. Nicklas for exceeding expectations as City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, Clerk Smith for her organization and timeliness, Superintendent Smith for getting Well #9 up and his leadership of employees, Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer Doty for his dedication and diligence, Engineer Brady for his skills, knowledge, and ability, Chief Thomas for working for the betterment of the officers and the citizens, Chief Riddle for working hard for his men and the people of Sycamore. Ms. Kessler thanked the employees and volunteers who work for the City. Also, Alderperson Kessler thanked Treasurer Mundy for his diligence and expertise with the pension funds.

Voice Vote

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

D. Ordinance No. 2003.106—An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Budget. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said this is a housekeeping item and will be revisited after the audit. He said the changes in the ordinances are as follows:

- 1) Capital Assistance Fund (Fund 6).
 - ◆ Line Item 8490 "Intergovernmental Agreement." The FY04 Budget shows \$210,000. This should be changed to "0" and \$210,000 should be budgeted for FY05. This is an estimate of the amount that is owed to the State of Illinois to close out the City's share of the Rt. 23/64 reconstruction project that was completed in 2001. The City has not been able to close its accounts on this project because IDOT has not settled with the General Contractor (Sjostrom). Until IDOT settles, we will not know the exact amount of our obligation.
- 2) Public Buildings Fund (Fund 11).
 - ◆ Line Item 8331 "Architectural/Engineering Services." The FY04 should be changed from \$0 to \$625 to reflect the cost of the environmental audit at 308 West State that was performed in the Spring of 2003.
 - ◆ Line Item 8348 "Buildings R&M NEC" should be changed from \$0 to \$50 to reflect a miscellaneous building repair.
- 3) 2002 Bond Proceeds Fund (Fund 24).

A number of line items should be revised to reflect unanticipated expenses. They are as follows:

 - ◆ Line Item 8285 "EDP Supplies" should be changed from \$0 to \$1,000 to reflect LOCIS costs associated with the installation of new water billing software at 308 West State Street.
 - ◆ Line Item 8497 "Contingencies" should be reduced from \$10,000 to \$2,000.
 - ◆ Line Item 8515 "EDP Equipment" should be increased from \$0 to \$15,000 for the update to the OSSI (central dispatch) software.
 - ◆ Line Item 8540 "Machinery/Major Tools" should be increased from \$0 to \$19,000 to account for Fire Department emergency rescue equipment (Amkus rescue tool and air bags).

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2003.106 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Stowe 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 2003.106 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.

E. Ordinance No. 2003.107—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Wiseman-Hughes Enterprises for a Final Plat for Unit 2 of the Reston Ponds Planned Unit Development. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said this plat depicts 101 single-family lots, about 5 acres of open space to be maintained by the homeowners' association, and Lot 399 which is 11 acres for park purposes. Mr. Nicklas said the Plan Commission proposed recommending to the developer to name the "hub park" after the late Gary Stapleton. He served on the Plan Commission and was instrumental in reserving that space for recreational use.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2003.107 on first and second reading 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.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2003.107 with the recommendation of naming the park "Gary Stapleton Memorial Park" 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.

F. Ordinance No. 2003.108--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of B&B Development, Inc. to Amend the Heron Creek Annexation Agreement to Convert the "R-3" Multiple Family Residence District in Unit 6 to "R-1" One Family Residence District. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said these 7.946 acres in the northeast quadrant of Heron Creek would be more compatible with the adjacent single-family lots as single-family lots.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2003.108 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 Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2003.108 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.

G. Ordinance No. 2003.109—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Lyle Hyatt and Company for a House Moving Permit. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas explained the house would be moved from a location east of Somonauk on Barber Greene Road to a point east of Airport Road on Bethany Road. He said the City's Building Department would be accountable for confirming that all utilities and law enforcement agencies affected have not contested the proposed move.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to hear Ordinance 2003.109 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Leach 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.

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2003.109 and Alderperson Leach 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.

H. Ordinance No. 2003.110--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of David Faganel for Approval of a Plat of Dedication for Luther Lowell Lane. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said this ordinance would memorialize for the City what is expected for public improvements at the future extension of Luther Lowell Drive from Plank Road to Phase Six of Heron Creek.

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to hear Ordinance 2003.110 on first and second reading 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.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2003.110 and Alderperson Larson 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.

I. Ordinance No. 2003.111--An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of the City Engineering Department for Approval of a Plat of Dedication for Oakland Drive, Dosen Drive, and Wirsing Parkway. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said this plat of dedication is for roadway and utility purposes. He said it will connect a link behind K-Mart to Peace Road. Mr. Nicklas said he contacted the late Representative Wirsing's family about naming the street and they said they would be proud to have the street named for Dave.

Motion

Alderperson Leach moved to hear Ordinance 2003.111 on first and second reading and Alderperson Larson 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.

Motion

Alderperson Leach moved to approve Ordinance 2003.111 and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Bauer asked if Dosen would connect and Mr. Nicklas said it would be developer driven.

Voice Vote

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

J. Ordinance No. 2003.112—An Ordinance Implementing the Provisions of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act of 2003, as Applicable to Local Governmental Bodies. First and Second Reading.

Manager Nicklas said there is a new framework for ethics law that can be enforced locally. He said the Gift Ban Act was never very successful. At this time he recommended they adopt the act, but rely on Attorney Foster for a later ruling on the ethics officer and commission. Mr. Nicklas said Council is required to pass this ordinance within 6 months of the State's passage.

Motion

Aldersperson Kessler moved to hear Ordinance 2003.112 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 Kessler moved to approve Ordinance 2003.112 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.

RESOLUTIONS

None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Report on Options for the Use of the City's Private Activity Bond Volume Cap for the Year 2004.

Manager Nicklas thanked Mayor Swedberg for his plea to the media to get this information to the public; he said he received responses from local bankers.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve the use of the City's Private Activity Bond Volume Cap for the Mortgage Credit program 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.

B. Consideration of a Recommendation from the City Engineer Regarding a Consultant Contract for the Design of Well #9.

City Engineer John Brady said he solicited proposals for a professional services contract to perform the design work for the construction of Well #9 and recommended the low bid of \$25,600 from Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.

Mayor Swedberg asked why the bids left so much on the table and Engineer Brady said he did a lot of the preliminary work and had anticipated they would be even lower.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to accept the bid of \$25,600 from Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. 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.

C. Consideration of a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining and Personnel Matters.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to go into Closed Session at 8:40 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 7 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to return to Open Session at 9:00 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.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg appointed Bill Davey to the Plan Commission, Jeffrey Gorman to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Phil Eubanks and Andrew Larson to the Library Board, and Samantha Dailey to the Police and Fire Commission.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the appointments 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Bauer 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.

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith