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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2006**

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**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ken Mundy called the meeting to order and Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Grace Adee, Alan Bauer, Terry Kessler, Darren Knuth, Barbara Leach, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, and Chuck Stowe.

**INVOCATION**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Leach moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Adee seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of February 20, 2006.
- B. Payment of the Bills for March 6, 2006 in the amount of \$269,709.90.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

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

Alderperson Leach gave a Library Board report highlighting that the roof restoration project is moving forward, circulation is up and an average of 119 new patrons per month are using the library, a new brochure is being created and translated into Spanish, and a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Block Party is being planned.

Mayor Mundy said he participated in a WLBK radio program, along with Pastor Steve Perrson, Pastor Leroy Mitchell, Mayor Van Buer, and "Citizen Mike" regarding the racial history of DeKalb County – where we've been and where we hoped to go.

Mayor Mundy said he received 2 letters in support of some kind of smoking regulation.

Alderperson Paulsen thanked the Explorer group for their help with North Elementary fund raiser.

- A. The Sycamore Economic Development Commission will spotlight Rich's Tire Service on North Maple Street. Mayor Mundy will introduce the owner, Richard Perales, who will describe the services his company provides.

Rich Perales said he started his business in Big Rock, moved to Hinckley after 4 months, 9 years later moved to DeKalb and 2 years later opened Rich's Tire Service in the former Punk's building at 122 N. Maple Street in Sycamore. He said he is finding the people of Sycamore are loyal to keeping their business in town. Mr. Perales said they are the only business in DeKalb County that goes out to service farm tractors, emergency equipment, and earth moving machinery. He said besides tires, they service all automotive car care.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas said he had distributed the bid summary for demolition of Harvestore Square, the Citizens for Education pamphlet for the Real Estate Transfer Tax, a copy of the FY07 budget to Council, and a revised copy of Ordinance 2005.90.

Engineer – John Brady said next Monday he would release the plans for Wells 6 & 8 project with bids due April 13, 2006 and he would bring the bid summary to the April 17 Council meeting.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty said he is expecting plans for three more office warehouse buildings in Sycamore Prairie Business Park next week.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle – no report

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory said he is working on putting all the new policies and practices into an accounting manual that will update the new GASB standards and will have that for Council's review in April. He said interest rates are on the rise and Illinois Funds yielded 4.361% in February.

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse said they have started pruning the downtown trees and over the last month they have been jetting all the sewers in the older portion of town.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith read a commendation from the Illinois Department of Health for Sycamore's perfect compliance of fluoridation over the past 12 month. He said they have received this award the past 6 years and 9 out of the past 10 years.

Police Lieutenant – Darrell Johnson reported there have been 650 events in the past 2 weeks. He thanked Council for authorizing the hiring of replacement officer Rudi Ziegler who started work today.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance – Chairperson Alan Bauer said a meeting date is on the agenda.

Ordinance –no report

Police & Fire – no report

Sewer & Water – Chairperson Cheryl Maness commented that an article on the internet noted that those people drinking bottled water are not getting the fluoride needed.

Streets & Walks – no report

**PUBLIC HEARING** - None

## **ORDINANCES**

**A. Ordinance No. 2005.87—An Ordinance Approving a Lease Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the Sycamore Historical Society and Museum. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas explained this is a short-term lease until the Historical Society finds a permanent home.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Kessler moved to hear Ordinance 2005.87 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Leach seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2005.87 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Kessler noted that the Community Room would still be available for community groups.

**Voice Vote**

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

**B. Ordinance No. 2005.88—An Ordinance Amending Title 8, “Water and Sewer,” Chapter 2, “Water Use and Service,” Section 2, “Connections” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore to Revise the Water Impact Fees. First Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said this and the next ordinance are presented on first reading. He said the increase in the Water Impact Fee is tied to the revised and updated estimates of the costs of a water tower and a well.

**C. Ordinance No. 2005.89—An Ordinance Amending Title 8, “Water and Sewer,” Chapter 4, “Sewer Use and Service,” Section 2, “Sewer Connection Charges,” Subsection C, “Connection Fees and Unit Charges for Sewage Treatment Plant,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore to Revise the Sewer Impact Fee. First Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said the City is currently conducting an analysis of the cost of expansion needs for the treatment plant.

**D. Ordinance No. 2005.90—An Ordinance Amending Title 3, “Business and License Regulation,” Chapter 2, “Liquor Control,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore Update and Modernize the Liquor Code in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas explained that this ordinance would update language and application as follows:

- The archaic prohibition of dancing in a licensed establishment will be removed.
- The liquor district will be eliminated. Presently, each time a new license is issued the liquor district’s boundaries must be changed. Since licenses can only be issued for locations that conform with the City’s zoning regulations for such business, and since the proposed revision retains the prohibition of licenses within 100 feet of any church, school, hospital, etc., the purpose of a liquor “district” appears to be no longer relevant.
- Licensees or their managers would no longer be required to be residents. Although a convenience, this restriction has never been a determining factor in defining the integrity of the business operation. Moreover, it could discourage new business from relocating to Sycamore from another community.

Aldersperson Stowe asked for clarification regarding the 100 foot from churches clause. He said it looked like a church could come in and nullify a liquor license.

City Attorney Keith Foster said he would clean up that language.

Mayor Mundy said the Liquor Commissioner has a lot of latitude for denying a license. He said the spirit and intent of the changes is to allow chain restaurants to obtain liquor licenses. He said he would hold this on first reading and have the attorney review the language.

**RESOLUTIONS** - None

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation Regarding Bids for the Demolition of Additional Structures at the Former Harvester Square Facility on South Avenue.**

City Manager Nicklas said March 2 bids were opened for the demolition of approximately an acre of super structure still standing on the portion of the Harvester Square complex the City owns. He said because there was a significant gap in the amounts of the 4 bids received, he called the lowest bidder and got a list of references. He said the difference is explained by their having an active salvage operation as part of their company. He said he placed in the specs that special care be given in pulling away from common walls.

Aldersperson Bauer asked if the bid included hauling away the debris with assurance that we won't own any environmental problems in another location.

Mr. Nicklas said that was in the bid specifications.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve the bid of \$62,500 from DMD Services and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**B. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Schedule Committee Meetings to Review the Proposed FY2006-2007 City Budget.**

City Manager Nicklas proposed March 22 and March 23 for budget review meetings.

Aldersperson Kessler said she thought this should be a mandated meeting.

Mayor Mundy asked if any Aldersperson would not be able to attend the meeting and he received consensus from all that they would attend.

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Kessler moved to go into Closed Session at 7:55 p.m. and Aldersperson Knuth seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

(Aldersperson Kessler left the Closed Session before the IAFF Collective Bargaining discussion.)

**Motion**

Aldersperson Knuth moved to return to Open Session at 8:22 p.m. and Aldersperson Leach seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**APPOINTMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. and Aldersperson Leach seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

Approve:

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Mayor - Ken Mundy

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith