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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 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 Adey, Terry Kessler, Darren Knuth, Barbara Leach, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, and Chuck Stowe. Alderperson Alan Bauer was absent.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Jim Elliott of Harvest Time Fellowship gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Mundy moved Appointments to before Reports of Officers.

**Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the agenda with the change and Alderperson 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.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Yvonne Johnson, 1726 Brock Circle, Midwest Museum of Natural History Board President, said she wanted to report on the Museum's progress since it opened February 2005. She said the City's support was invaluable in upgrading a building that had gone in disrepair. She said there have been 15,500 visitors from 223 communities, 40 states, and 15 foreign countries. She said the Museum is a success as a tourist attraction.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of June 5, 2006.
- B. Payment of the Bills for June 19, 2006 in the amount of \$676,531.56.
- C. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of May 8, 2006.

**Motion**

Alderperson Stowe moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Kessler seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

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

Alderperson Paulsen thanked the Chronicle for covering the story of the work being done at Larson Park in Maple Terrace. He also thanked the volunteers from Christ Community Church, Boy Scout Troop 40, residents of Maple Terrace and Windfield Meadows, Park District, Askeland Tree Service, and Joel Barczak for their work.

Mayor Mundy passed around pictures from Ed Kuhn of the work that has been done on Wally Thurow's home in Slidell, LA.

- A. Recognition of Assistant Fire Chief Cary Niewold for his 30 years of service to the City of Sycamore.

Chief Riddle said that Assistant Fire Chief Niewold will officially retire July 1, 2006 after 30 years of service. He said he was hired in 1976, promoted to lieutenant in 1984, and then promoted to Assistant Fire Chief in 2004. He said Cary would remain as POC Firefighter and assume some teaching duties for the KEC program. Chief Riddle said that Cary has the respect of the firefighters and is respectful of the organization and has served the City well.

City Manager Nicklas presented Assistant Chief Niewold with a watch as a token of appreciation for his service to the City.

- B. Recognition of Luke Morton for his 31 years of service to the City of Sycamore.

Chief Thomas said that Sergeant Luke Morton served in the Marines from 1967 to 1970, was hired by Sycamore Police Department part-time in 1972 and then full-time in 1975. He said he was promoted to sergeant in 1979 and left patrol to become the desk officer in 1998. He said Sergeant Morton knows everybody in town and thanked him for doing a good job at the Police Department.

City Manager Nicklas presented Sergeant Morton with a plaque in appreciation for his service.

- C. Sycamore Economic Development Commission member Jim Huntley will present Chuck Criswell, owner of Chuck's Auto Center at 1625 DeKalb Avenue, who will describe his firm's services and the upcoming "Turning Back Time" car show.

Mayor Mundy explained that Chuck Criswell was not feeling well this evening and his presentation would be rescheduled to a July meeting.

- D. Sycamore Economic Development Commission member Bill Nicklas will introduce Vic Graff, owner of Captain Vic's Fish and Seafood Market at 265 West Peace Road, who will describe the casual dining offered by his new market and restaurant.

Vic Graff said he moved to this area 12 years ago and has been in food service management for 16 years. He said he saw an opportunity and a need for a seafood restaurant and market in the area. He explained that the product he has is never out of the water for more than 2 days so it really is fresh. He said he has a fast, casual dining atmosphere with a variety of seafood products. He said they are going to add broasted chicken to the menu and eventually may start delivering. He said they have been warmly welcomed and anticipate becoming busier.

Mayor Mundy noted an article under Real Estate in the Business Connection by Roger Hopkins.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Mundy appointed Roger Hopkins to the Growth Management Ad Hoc Committee.

### **Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the appointment and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

## **Voice Vote**

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

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas thanked Human Resource Director Jean Tritle for her work in coordinating the presentations to employees. Mr. Nicklas reminded Council of the workshop meeting Tuesday, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. He also asked the media to remind the public that there is no bicycle riding, skateboarding, or roller-blading on the sidewalks in the downtown area.

Engineer – John Brady reported that the Oakland, Dosen, Wirsing project is going well. He said in two weeks the bottom two courses of bituminous surface should be on and then after Nicor completes the gas main there will be a little sidewalk work to complete.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty reported that last Thursday he and Plumbing Inspector Steve Senteney went to the Civic High Rise to see if they could help them improve their water quality. He said they did pinpoint some areas they could work on such as flushing the horizontal hot water tank.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle announced a coffee for Assistant Chief Niewold Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. He said this is National Safety Week and this year's topic is safe driving in response. He said they are also hosting a healthy heart class and a nutrition class for all City employees Friday morning. He also reported that Sycamore prohibits fireworks of any shape and form. He said that Firefighter Bill Reynolds is driving to Kansas City with KEC senior Mike Hardesty who will be competing in the National Skills USA finals.

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory said he is working on the annual newsletter which will be mailed later this summer and reported that the annual audit started today.

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse reported that the project on East Exchange Street is completed. He said they will be working on Sabin Street between Exchange and State to complete an upgrade.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – no report

Police Chief – Don Thomas thanked Fire Chief Riddle for his presentation on driving safety and safety zones at scenes. He said there have been 3 officers retire in the past 4 months who will be replaced with new faces. He invited Council to go on a brief ride-along to get to know the new officers.

## **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. 2006.10—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition from Dan Brown and TM Herst, Inc. for a Rezoning of the Properties at 503 Main Street and 525 N. Main Street from “M-1” Light Manufacturing District to “C-3” Highway Business District with the Approval of Existing Legal, Non-Conforming Yard Setbacks Where Applicable. First and Second Reading.**

City Manger Nicklas explained that these properties have long been put to commercial uses and they are more appropriate uses than the light manufacturing use.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to hear Ordinance 2006.10 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinance 2006.10 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**B. Ordinance No. 2006.11—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of from Rodney V. Oehlert and Martha S. Oehlert for an Amendment to the Annexation Agreement Dated December 11, 1995 and Subsequently Amended on February 7, 2000, to Permit the Construction of Two, Eight-Unit Apartment Buildings. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas explained that the Oehlert’s asked Council to table this matter for future consideration in order to reconsider and make adjustments to the petition.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Kessler moved to table Ordinance 2006.11 and Aldersperson Adee seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**C. Ordinance No. 2006.12—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to Proposed Text for the Airport Road Sub-Area Plan.**

City Manager Nicklas said April 2006 Council approved the Sub-Area Plan map which comprised about 675 acres and at the time it was indicated that some language was needed to explain the intention.

Aldersperson Adee expressed concern about the Mixed Use areas becoming a hodge-podge area.

Mr. Nicklas explained the Mixed Use has specific guidelines and any development that would go into this area would be a planned unit development and would need to go through a public hearing, Plan Commission, and Council.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2006.12 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 Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

**Motion**

Alderson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2006.12 and Alderson 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.

**D. Ordinance No. 2006.13—An Ordinance Approving an Economic Incentive Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Auto Meter Inc. for Economic Development in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said this ordinance is good for Sycamore because at the heart of it is two developments that are good for our downtown and our business base. He said that Auto Meter will be moving their Corporate Headquarters to Art Bingham’s building at 109-111 Somonauk Street. Mr. Nicklas said that Ken Alcott of Auto Meter and Art Bingham were in the audience to answer questions. He said it is proposed that the City participate in the renovation of the building. He said the terms of the agreement are as follows:

The City agrees:

- a) To provide Mr. Bingham a grant of \$150,000 to make public safety improvements at 109/111 Somonauk Street to meet code requirements for the new Auto Meter occupancy. These improvements include an elevator to make the principal floors accessible, a fire escape from the second story, and façade improvements (including the replacement of the over-sized plate glass windows with new windows resting on masonry knee walls allowing “kick” spaces).
- b) To allocate the grant monies only upon the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for Auto Meter at 109/111 Somonauk Street.

The Company agrees:

- a) That after reaching an agreement with Mr. Bingham over the terms of a long-term lease, it will relocate its corporate staff, product engineering, sales, marketing, customer and technical support, legal, information technology, and accounting teams to the new location at 109/111 Somonauk at such time as a certificate of occupancy is issued by the City of Sycamore.

The landlord (Mr. Bingham) agrees:

- a) Comply with all City fire protection and building code provisions in the remodeling of the building at 109/111 Somonauk Street.
- b) Pay prevailing wages to contractors who might be reimbursed by City grant funds.

**Motion**

Alderson Kessler moved to hear Ordinance 2006.13 on first and second reading and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Alderson Kessler moved to approve Ordinance 2006.13 and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Mr. Nicklas said there are two available parking spaces in the permitted parking aisle of Parking Lot #1, but the major parking will be the 12-hour spaces in Lot #2 which is across Elm Street. He proposed to reserve the southern most row of that Lot to be permitted to Auto Meter. He said the spaces would be open to the public after 6:00 p.m.

Aldersperson Kessler praised the work done by Mr. Bingham, Auto Meter, and Mr. Nicklas. She said that Auto Meter has been part of the community for 30 years and she was happy to see the building being utilized. She said this is a good investment of our citizens' dollars.

Mr. Nicklas interjected that DCEDC Director Roger Hopkins was also part of the negotiating team.

Mayor Mundy said that business retention is critical and expansion is great and this is the highest use of a building that might otherwise go unutilized.

### **Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Leach, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Adee, Kessler, and Knuth voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

### **E. Ordinance No. 2006.14—An Ordinance Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the Sycamore Community Unit School District No. 427 Regarding Transfer Tax Revenues. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said the agreement calls for the City to remit all the taxes collected, but will payout on a quarterly basis, but will keep any interest earned for administrative costs.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to hear Ordinance 2006.14 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

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

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2006.14 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

### **Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Leach, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Adee, Kessler, and Knuth voted aye. Motion carried 7 - 0.

### **RESOLUTIONS - None**

### **CONSIDERATIONS**

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

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Leach moved to go into Closed Session at 8:20 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

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

Before going into Closed Session, Alderperson Kessler informed the audience that there would be no new other business before adjournment.

**Motion**

Alderperson Stowe moved to return to Open Session at 8:24 p.m. and Alderperson Kessler seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Alderperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. and Alderperson Knuth 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