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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF JULY 17, 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, and Chuck Stowe. Alderperson Pete Paulsen was absent.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Steve Best of Well Spring Chapel gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Alderperson Paulsen arrived at 7:04 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the 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 8 - 0.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS - None**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of July 3, 2006.
- B. Payment of the Bills for July 17, 2006 in the amount \$1,504,064.79.
- C. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of June 12, 2006.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Stowe 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.**

- A. Sycamore Economic Development Commission member Bill Nicklas will introduce Ken Wolowiec, the owner of Century Building Supply of 2175 Oakland Drive, who will describe his firm's goods and services.

Alderperson Bauer said he has previously brought up his concern about trucks on Somonauk Street and the damage they may cause to the street surface and asked if it had been investigated.

City Engineer Brady said Somonauk is a Class II street.

City Manager Nicklas said they would have to reroute traffic, take the Class II off, and enforce it.

Aldersperson Bauer said he was concerned about the overweight construction trucks that would tear up the street and the City will have to pay to repair it.

Mr. Nicklas said the County MPO has just conducted a truck traffic study and there are high counts of truck traffic at Somonauk and State Streets. He said that staff will talk about how they might assess the incidents and impact of the traffic.

Aldersperson Paulsen said he had a request for a traffic study at Maplewood & Kevin.

Mr. Nicklas said the City has done a study and looked at that at staff level and the issue is that the answer is not appreciated. He asked City Engineer Brady to voice the conclusion as public record.

City Engineer Brady said the traffic is nowhere near the warrants for a 4-way stop and will never meet the warrants.

Aldersperson Paulsen said he agreed and now it is officially public record and he hopes his constituents will encourage their neighbors to correct their driving habits.

Mayor Mundy said he has talked to some residents in that neighborhood and encouraged them to take the license plates of the offenders and turn them into the Police Department. He said that speeding is a chronic problem throughout the community and the solution is with all of us.

Mayor Mundy reported that Doug Scott, IEPA Director, presented the IEPA loan check to the City for the additions to Wells 6 & 8. He also noted that tourism has increased in the state and those dollars are very important to our local economy. He said that ComEd rate increases will increase in January and they are undertaking measures to soften the impact. Mayor Mundy related that 5 feral kittens were born under his porch and the Animal Shelter trapped them and their mother and took them to be de-wormed and neutered and for lack of other shelter returned them to him. He mentioned that the Car Show will take place the end of July and that Speaker Haster's Mobile station will be at the Sycamore Center August 2 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas said, for the record, that Mr. Wolowiec was not able to attend for his presentation. He reported that he and John Brady met with Fire Station II architects, FGM Architects, who will make a few modest changes in the site plan, revise the contract and bring it back to Council for consideration to take us to bidding in February 2007. He cautioned Council that the estimated cost has increased from \$175/square foot to \$205 to \$210/square foot. Mr. Nicklas informed Council that the interviewing for the executive secretary position started today.

Engineer – John Brady reported that Nicor was installing gas mains and Curran finished the bottom two lifts of the binder and will work on sidewalks and seeding for the Oakland, Dosen, Wirsing project.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty reported that permitting for dwelling units are down about 100 from 2005.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported that POC Volunteer Brian Baker recently moved to Rochelle after eight years of service. He also reported that a nearby county experienced a cell-phone caller that could not be located and said this should not happen in DeKalb County.

Aldersperson Stowe asked if only phone equipped with GPS could be located.

Chief Riddle said the calls are calculated from two separate cell towers and GPS is not in the mix.

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory reported that May & June financials are at the 16.5% benchmark with revenues at 20.5% and expenses at 13%.

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse said the sanitary sewer manhole installation project at Somonauk Street went well and the street was open by 2:00 p.m. He said they would have the project completed by Thursday. He also reported that the line-striping program is in progress and asked the public to report people disregarding the cone barricades.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that Well #5 is offline for motor repair, which is still under warranty, and should be back up mid-August. He said the radium removal construction is well under way. He said that Well #8 is back on line and the walls are up and the roof is on. He said that Well #6 went offline today and will be off through the summer because they are going to have to demolish the building before getting started on the building addition.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that Officer Stacy Safranek will be back from training and on the street by the next Council meeting. He identified cooling centers as the Library, Sycamore Center and the Public Safety Building. He encouraged the public to look out for family and friends.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance – Chairperson Bauer had no report but took the opportunity to compliment City employees for reducing injuries with no lost time during the second quarter.

Ordinance –no report

Police & Fire – no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

**PUBLIC HEARING** - None

**ORDINANCES** - None

**RESOLUTIONS** - None

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **A. Consideration of a Report from Tim Bronn of McMahon Associates Regarding the Facility Plan Update.**

City Manager Nicklas explained the Mr. Bronn, Superintendent Busse, Assistant Superintendent Roach, and Engineer Brady worked together to tackle solutions to the sludge problem and some processes now expected by the EPA which were not in place when this planning began. He said they are proposing some changes and identifying ultimate capacity in terms of the Land Use Plan.

Tim Bronn presented his information in conjunction with a power point designed by Superintendent Busse. He said the goal is to improve efficiency and energy consumption and to meet the new and changed limits imposed by the EPA while maximizing the use of the existing facility. He explained that Phase I addresses the solids handling and Phase II addresses gaining capacity and addressing the new and changed EPA limits. He

said there are some opportunities for savings on the estimated cost of \$7,691,514 for Phase I such as choosing a sludge storage building similar to the salt storage buildings.

Alderson Paulsen asked if the covered storage building would be large enough to handle all of the sludge and would that help with the odor.

Mr. Bronn said it would store 150 days at 5 million gallons per day and the digestion process should eliminate almost all of the odor.

Alderson Bauer asked if there were any environmental issues using the polymers.

Mr. Bronn said they are carbon-based and there is no impact on their disposal.

Alderson Stowe asked what the payback was for chlorinating vs. using the ultraviolet process.

Mr. Bronn said the ultraviolet process requires a lot of power, but the cost in the long run is not significantly different.

Mayor Mundy asked about the life expectancy of those existing parts of the facility.

Mr. Bronn said there will need to be concrete work on the existing aeration tanks, but otherwise they are looking to get another 20 years out of the equipment.

Alderson Kessler asked for clarification on the de-chlorination process.

Mr. Bronn said this process will not be used much maybe only once or twice per year. He said that in situations like that the State's position has been that the flow in the river is so high and there is so much debris in the river that it de-chlorinates itself very quickly reacting with organic matter in the river.

Mr. Nicklas said they will be working on how to deal with the labor-intensive removal of sludge to farm fields. He said that because they are moving from a Class B to a Class A sludge, the use of it will be less restrictive, but there is still the matter of removal.

Mr. Bronn said Sturgeon Bay, WI has an agreement with a local commercial nursery that provides trucks on site under the dewatering equipment and carry away the sludge.

Alderson Kessler asked about the timeline for Council action for getting the project started.

Mr. Nicklas said they need EPA approval before the bidding process begins.

Mr. Bronn said that getting the discharge permit approved is a long review period, but by phasing the project they should be able to move a little faster.

Superintendent Busse noted that they are going to maintain a couple of the sand drying beds for discharge from the Vactor.

Consensus of Council was to proceed with the two phase process.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. 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.

Approve:

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Mayor - Ken Mundy

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith