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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2007**

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**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ken Mundy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. 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.

Mayor Mundy presented outgoing Alderpersons Cheryl Maness and Barbara Leach with plaques and recognized them for their service to the City.

**SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

City Clerk Candy Smith swore in newly elected Alderpersons Rich Neubauer, Chuck Stowe, Gregory Taylor, and Terry Kessler.

Alderperson Pete Paulsen arrived at 7:05 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Elder William Bridgewater of Israel of God Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Mundy moved Appointments up in the agenda to follow Presentations, Communications, and Bills.

**Motion**

Alderperson Stowe moved to approve the agenda as amended 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 April 16, 2007.
- B. Payment of the Bills for May 7, 2007 in the amount of \$1,540,753.47.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer 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 8 - 0.

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

- A. Swearing-in of new Fire lieutenants Jack Spartz and Tom Pritchett.

Assistant Chief Kessler introduced and congratulated Fire Lieutenants Jack Spartz with 30 plus years and Tom Pritchett with over 15 years on the department and had their wives pin on their lieutenant badges. City Clerk Smith swore them in.

Aldersperson Bauer thanked outgoing 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Aldersperson Cheryl Maness for her service and welcomed incoming Aldersperson Rich Neubauer.

Mayor Mundy said that Illinois has changed the procedure for signing up for organ donation at lifegoeson.com. Mayor Mundy also listed the Memorial Day ceremonies with an observance at Sycamore High School Friday, May 25 at 8:00 a.m., Breakfast with the Mayors at the Fargo Monday, May 28 at 6:00 a.m., Ceremony at the Vet's Home at 10:00 a.m., Memorial Day Parade at 11:00 with a remembrance ceremony at the rotunda at the end of the parade.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Mundy appointed Marvin Barnes (2009) and Chuck Stowe(2009) to Plan Commission and reappointed Lowell Evans (2009), Ken George (2009), Cindy Henderson (2009), and John Lewis(2009) to Plan Commission; reappointed Curt Behrens (2009), Dave Finney (2010), Marilyn Looney (2012), and Steve Loptien (2011) to Zoning Board of Appeals; appointed Greg Taylor (Open) to Architectural Review; and reappointed Samantha Dailey (2010) to Fire & Police Commission.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Kessler moved to approve the appointments 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.

Mayor Mundy reappointed Larry Forsberg (2009), Don Paulsen (2010), Pete Paulsen (2010), and Berni Schelkopf (2010) to Sycamore Economic Development Commission; appointed Tom Matya (2010) to Sycamore Economic Development Commission; reappointed Janice Anderson (2010), Mary Bauer (2011), Rev. Steve Persson (2011), Fr. Frank Timar (2011), and Leo Turner (2010) to Human Relations Commission; appointed Grace Adee (2009), Charles Larson (2010), and Amanda Peterson (2010) to the Library Board; and reappointed Bob Keil (2009) to Police Pension Board.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the appointments and Aldersperson Knuth seconded the motion.

### **Voice vote**

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

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas announced that the groundbreaking for Fire Station 2 will be May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:15. He also said that Police Officer Ann Carlson who is in Germany serving with her Nation Guard Unit has nominated the City of Sycamore for the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. He said the winners will be announced late summer.

Engineer – John Brady reported that the streetscape project for S. California Street is out to bid with bids due May 25<sup>th</sup> and he will have the results for the June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty said he has issued a permit for the 3<sup>rd</sup> 4-unit building on Hauser Ross Drive.

Asst. Fire Chief – Mark Kessler – no report

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory reported that the total Transfer Tax for the School District for FY07 was \$683,279.30.

Public Works Director – Fred Busse said, with the help of the second grade class at Cornerstone Christian Academy, they planted two trees at the Public Works area in observance of Arbor Day which covers the final requirement for certification of Tree City USA. He also reported that Ebe Smith is now Asst. Public Works Director.

Asst. P.W. Director – Ebe Smith reported that Well #6 will be reassembled this week and he hopes to have it on line next week in time to meet the EPA deadline for radium removal.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that this is Click It or Ticket month. He said that last year there were less traffic deaths than in 1924. He said there is 80% seatbelt compliance and the goal is 90% and he encouraged everyone to wear seatbelts.

Mayor Mundy offered the two new Alderpersons an opportunity for comment.

Alderperson Rich Neubauer said he was born and raised in Clinton, IA and met his wife, Jennifer Johnson who is from Sycamore, at DePaul University in Chicago. He said they moved to Sycamore 7 years ago, has two daughters, and works at NIU as a computer programmer. He said he wants to serve on City Council to manage growth.

Alderperson Greg Taylor said he moved to Sycamore over 10 years ago and they chose Sycamore because of the unique downtown character and the school district. He said he was born and raised in Ohio, spent 6 years in the Navy, and is currently working at Nicor in Sycamore. He said he wants to serve to keep Sycamore a place that people want to live and can effectively work.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Mayor Mundy appointed the Chairs of the Standing Committees as Alan Bauer – Finance, Chuck Stowe – Ordinance, Pete Paulsen – Fire & Police, Alan Bauer – Sewer & Water, and Terry Kessler – Streets & Walks.

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. 2007.01—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$10,000 to the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said the City has extended this grant to DCEDC for about 18 years to help defray organizational expenses. He said in 2005 the allocation was increased from \$7000 to \$10,000.

Roger Hopkins, Executive Director of DCEDC, said the goals of the organization are to attract and retain new industry, to make sure there is an adequate work force, to prepare the fundamental elements of the community to be in a position to address economic growth and take advantage of opportunities, and as a not-for-profit organization to raise enough money to keep in business.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear ordinances 2007.01, 2007.02, and 2007.03 in omnibus fashion 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.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear ordinances 2007.01, 2007.02, and 2007.03 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Taylor 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. Ordinance No. 2007.02—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$1,000 to the DeKalb County Community Foundation for Services to the Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

(taken in omnibus fashion with 2007.01 and 2007.03)

### **C. Ordinance No. 2007.03—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$17,000 to the Voluntary Action Center for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas explained that the DeKalb County Community Foundation was created in the early 1990's and seeded with \$4 million through the philanthropy of the Charles Roberts family and the endowment now is up to \$22 million. He said the purpose is to help fund not-for-profits and the annual disbursement has reached about \$1 million per year.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinances 2007.01, 2007.02, and 2007.03 and Aldersperson Adee seconded the motion.

#### **Roll call vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Knuth, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, Taylor, and Mayor Mundy voted aye. Motion carried 9 - 0.

**RESOLUTIONS - None**

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Extend the Deadline for the Completion of the FY07 Downtown Façade Grant Projects.**

City Manager Nicklas said he recommended a 90-day roll-over for the façade improvement on the Sycamore Winery at 322 W. State Street and the window replacement on the Paulsen/Cooper Jewelry buildings at 239, 245, 249, and 303 W. State Street.

Roger Janakus of the Door & Window Store explained that the delay on the window replacement was their fault and not Swedberg & Associates fault. He said the templates have been sent to Marvin and because this is so specialized he thought they would need longer than 90 days.

Robert Fink of the Door & Window Store said they would work to get the project completed, but they are at the mercy of Marvin.

Mr. Nicklas asked if they would be willing to update the Council in 60 days.

Mr. Janakus and Mr. Fink said they would do that.

Steve Swedberg of Swedberg & Associates said he was more optimistic about the timeline and said Marvin has pushed this project to the front burner.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Knuth moved to proceed with the extension for the two grants and Aldersperson Adee seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Kessler, Knuth, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Taylor voted aye with Aldersperson Bauer voting nay. Motion carried 7 - 1.

**B. Consideration of Two Tourism Grant Applications for FY2008.**

City Manager Nicklas said the monies have been allocated, but it was proposed to bring this back as a separate item for approval.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve grants of \$10,000 each to the Sycamore Historical Society & Museum and the Midwest Museum of Natural History and Aldersperson Neubauer seconded the motion.

Chris Brodnicki, Executive Directory of the Midwest Museum, thanked the City for their support so far and said the museum is going strong and they foresee 20,000 to 30,000 visitors yearly from now on.

Rose Treml, Executive Director of the Sycamore Chamber of Commerce, spoke on behalf of both museums. She said the collaboration that occurs between the museums, schools, business community, Chamber, Discover Sycamore, Park District is wonderful and she urged Council for their support.

Michelle Donahoe, Executive Director of Sycamore Historical Society, said the Historical Society is important to the community and since she has been on board they have established a relationship with the schools and expanded their programming.

Aldersperson Kessler said she thought the Sycamore Historical Society and the Midwest Museum were all about education and how we look at where we come from and where we are going and she thought this was an appropriate way to spend Hotel/Motel tax dollars.

**Amended Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to amend the motion to vote for each of the two entities separately and Aldersperson Neubauer seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the amended motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Knuth, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Taylor voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Mayor Mundy said that 60% of the kids touring City Hall have visited the museums and he supports the grants for both entities.

Aldersperson Stowe said he thought the City should help these organizations get started, but did not think the City should help with continued operations.

Aldersperson Neubauer said that Hotel/Motel monies are tourism dollars and he is willing to support the two organizations with that money.

Aldersperson Adee said she did not think they should break them apart, that what they do for one they should do for the other.

Aldersperson Taylor said he recognizes that both organizations are an integral part of the identity of Sycamore and he supports the grants.

**Roll call vote on the Sycamore Historical Society & Museum Grant**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Knuth, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Taylor voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Aldersperson Stowe said he thought the City has done enough and he thought the Museum should be self-supporting.

Aldersperson Neubauer said in some sense it is self-supporting because it brings in tourism dollars.

**Roll call vote on the Midwest Museum of Natural History Grant**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Knuth, Neubauer, and Taylor voted aye with Alderspersons Paulsen and Stowe voting nay. Motion carried 6 - 2.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. and Aldersperson Kessler 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