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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2008**

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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, Rich Neubauer, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe and Gregory Taylor.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Jim Elliott of Harvest Time Fellowship gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Kessler moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Taylor 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**

Mayor Mundy welcomed Representative Robert Pritchard for a few comments.

Representative Bob Pritchard said the discussion on the budget dealt only with spending and not revenues. He said the budget did not address the backlog in Medicaid payments, did not fully fund the pensions, plus the shortage of revenue budgeted in 2008. He said this all adds up to about \$5 million dollars in debt. He said the Governor has asked agency heads to look at freezes openings and to cut discretionary spending and if their mission does not deal with education and healthcare then they must cut back on spending. He said that our state is in for tough sledding until at least 2010 when we might get new leadership. He said he appreciates feedback from his newsletters because that is what he looks at and advocates. He said the word impeachment has been mentioned and he thought the House would entertain issuing articles of impeachment, but he did not think the senate would pass it.

Mayor Mundy asked Rep. Pritchard to advocate for the State Shared Revenue that municipalities count on. Mayor Mundy introduced Boy Scout Troop 18 from Sycamore Sportsman's Club who were in the audience.

Mike Fogelsanger, 845 Sunset Lane, said he does not want tax dollars spent on the Engh Farm nor on any programs not directly related to the City's functions.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of June 2, 2008.
- B. Payment of the Bills for June 16, 2008 in the amount of \$2,349,316.78.

**Motion**

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

Mayor Mundy said Sunday at the High School there was a going away ceremony for several soldiers from A BTRY, 2/122 Field Artillery, Illinois Army National Guard located in Sycamore who will be deploying to Ft. Bragg in late June and then later to Afghanistan. Mayor Mundy asked residents to shop locally and drive carefully.

Alderperson Paulsen asked Public Works Director Busse if the City was picking up branches after the storm.

Public Works Director Busse said they started picking up early Friday and borrowed a chipper from the Park District to have two going throughout town. He said they would be picking up through Friday.

Alderperson Neubauer noted that the street crews were out in the middle of the night dealing with downed trees to clear the streets.

Mayor Mundy announced that the June 26 issue of the Sycamore Journal would be the last leaving Sycamore without a newspaper for the first time in 150 years.

### **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas commended Public Works for their work clearing downed trees. He said the final draft of the Comp Plan revision would go to Plan Commission in July and then back to Council for approval at the July 21 meeting.

Engineer – John Brady, Sycamore Municipal Engineering, said that bids on the water tower will be due July 10 and he will bring the bid results to Council July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty noted a few of the new businesses coming to town as the Cash Store and a construction company on Foxpointe Drive, an internal medicine doctor building out on Hauser Ross Drive, and Dunkin Donuts on DeKalb Avenue.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle thanked those who visited the new fire station.

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory said the benchmark for the budget is 8.33% with revenues at 8% and expenditures at 3.85%. He said that some funds from the proceeds of the 2007 Bonds were invested in a CD that matured and he is going to keep those liquid in a money market account for projects this summer.

Police Chief – Don Thomas said his department will be wearing a special sesquicentennial commemorative badge that the officers paid for themselves.

Public Works Director – Fred Busse said we were fortunate as storms go. He said the City lost about 15 trees in the parkways and trees fell on two houses and at least five cars.

Assistant Public Works Director – Ebe Smith reported that the Water Department is cleaning up after the winter watermain breaks and putting a plan together to get hydrants painted.

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report  
Public Safety – no report  
Public Works – no report

**PUBLIC HEARING** - None

**ORDINANCES** - None

**RESOLUTIONS**

**CONSIDERATIONS**

### **A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Adopt New General Purchasing Guidelines**

City Manager Nicklas said this updates the purchasing manual adopted in the late 1990s. He said this has been expanded to outline finance, purchasing, and accounting functions.

Aldersperson Bauer said he thought it was a great document and said every business operation should have a document like this that sets the groundwork for levels of authority and gives good financial control of a budget.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to adopt the new general purchasing guidelines and Aldersperson Taylor 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, and Taylor voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

### **B. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation To Create a New (Seventh) Lieutenant Position.**

City Manager Nicklas explained that there are presently 6 lieutenants and 20 firefighters with two of those acting as “swing” firefighters. He said that because of vacations, sick days, and/or injuries there is a need for a 7<sup>th</sup> “swing” lieutenant leaving only 1 “swing” firefighter. He said that Assistant City Manager/Treasurer Gregory and Fire Chief Riddle have calculated that this would create no additional cost in regular pay and may save approximately \$12,000 in overtime during the next three months as a result of “fill” assignments covering the shift opening created by an injured lieutenant. Mr. Nicklas asked for Council’s support.

Assistant City Manager/Treasurer Gregory said this was an unfunded position in the budget and it would not create a new hire. He said that given the work injury for one lieutenant at this point, the funding for this position comes from a savings for replacing that person.

Mr. Nicklas said there would be no change recommended in the Fire budget.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve the seventh Fire Lieutenant position 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.

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to go into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. 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.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Taylor moved to return to Open Session at 8:08 p.m. 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.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. 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.

Approve:

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Mayor - Ken Mundy

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith