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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2009**

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**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ken Mundy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and City Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Grace Adee, Alan Bauer, Terry Kessler, Rich Neubauer, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, and Gregory Taylor. Alderperson Knuth was absent.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Steve Perrson of First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Mundy added a request for Closed Session to discuss Collective Bargaining.

**Motion**

Alderperson Neubauer moved to approve the agenda with the Closed Session added 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.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of December 15, 2008.
- B. Payment of the Bills for January 5, 2009 in the amount of \$3,156,596.56.
- C. December Budget Report.

**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 7 - 0.

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

Alderperson Paulsen said he received a follow-up email from someone in Alderperson Kessler's Ward who had issues about snow plowing until the driver talked to them and resolved the issue.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Manager – Bill Nicklas noted that the next meeting would be Tuesday, January 20 because City offices would be closed January 19 for Martin Luther King Day. He said at that meeting he would present revenue projections for the general fund and water and sewer funds. He said it is a remarkably darker outlook than he has seen in all the years he has been here. He said he was looking at a gap of \$437,000 between projected revenue and expenditures with zero increase in spending. He said he relocated salt costs to the

Motor Fuel Fund and said some expenditures from the Public Works Department would be charged to the Sewer and Water Funds because of the close work they do. He said he thought they would only fund essential training that is absolutely required to maintain licensure certification. He said there is a reserve which we are judicious about using that may need to be used to cover the gap. He said he would also offer options of cuts in service and personnel. He said the decision from the IAFF arbitrator was received today and it will complicate final decisions to be made for next year's budget.

Engineer – John Brady, Sycamore Municipal Engineering, said he was putting together bid specs for the water tower project that will come back before Council in the future.

Building & Zoning – Lyle Doty said his department performed another rough-in inspection for an additional quadrant of DeKalb Clinic. He also reported that the old Country School restaurant is being remodeled for a new coffee shop.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle said the office of the State Fire Marshall is urging residents to check their carbon monoxide detectors.

Treasurer/Asst. City Manager – Brian Gregory reported that the direct debit option for water and sewer billing has fully launched and enrollment forms are available on the City website.

Police Chief – Don Thomas said that Christy Haas started Police Academy today and will return in 3 months.

Public Works Director – Fred Busse noted that this past December was one of the wettest recorded with 32" of snow and 3" of rain. He said the Street Division is out filling potholes when the weather permits.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING** - None

## **ORDINANCES**

### **A. Ordinance No. 2008.65—An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget. First and Second Reading.**

City Manager Nicklas said this would be one of several budget amendments that would come before Council this month to make adjustments to clean up some shortfalls in the capital side.

#### **Motion**

Aldersperson Neubauer moved to hear Ordinance 2008.65 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 7 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Neubauer moved to approve Ordinance 2008.65 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Taylor voted aye. Motion carried 7 – 0.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Resolution No. 513—A Supplemental Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by the City of Sycamore Under the Illinois Highway Code from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.**

City Manager Nicklas said this resolution permits the City to use motor fuel tax funds to purchase salt.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Resolution 513 and Aldersperson Kessler seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Taylor asked why the salt price has doubled.

Public Works Director Busse said the increase is blamed on the fuel cost for transporting the salt.

Aldersperson Bauer said he would like to go to bid sooner for next year’s street maintenance project.

Sycamore Municipal Engineering Engineer Brady said he thought they could move that up a little bit. He said it is difficult to estimate the cost of the projects because of the price of asphalt, but those prices that have doubled are coming down a little.

Mr. Nicklas said a number of potholes are noticeable already and that generally alters the street maintenance priority list.

Aldersperson Neubauer asked why the amount of salt requested is up 20%.

Public Works Director Busse said that was in anticipation of the way the past few winters have been and also considered new subdivision streets, but because some of those new streets have not been constructed there could be a savings.

**Roll call vote**

Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Adee, Bauer, Kessler, Neubauer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Taylor voted aye. Motion carried 7 – 0.

**B. Resolution No. 514—A Resolution in Opposition to SB 3077 and the Amendment to SB 2083, Creating the Emergency Budget Act of Fiscal Year 2009, Which Propose to Divert Municipal Revenues for State Use.**

City Manager Nicklas said this is a reaction to a couple of measures that came on our wave length in the late fall. He said our concern is the State may raid shared funds which would have dramatic affect on all municipal revenues and it would mean around \$340,000 to Sycamore. He said he is asking Council to send a message to the state legislature from the corporate authorities.

Mayor Mundy said the state shared revenue is already down which will hurt local budgets, but this resolution is asking the state legislature not to take the municipal share.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Resolution 514 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**

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

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**B. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session for Discussion of Collective Bargaining**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Neubauer moved to go into Closed Session at 7:40 pm 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 7 - 0.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to return to Open Session at 7:50 pm and Aldersperson Neubauer seconded the motion.

**Voice vote**

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

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 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 7 - 0.

Approve:

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Mayor - Ken Mundy

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith