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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2000**

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James Edwards called the meeting to order and Clerk Nancy Marchiando called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Patrick Balentyne, Candy Smith, Pam Blickem, Michael Chambon, Alan Bauer, Keven Dahl, Cheryl Maness and James Huntley.

INVOCATION

Father Frank Timar of St. Mary's Church gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Edwards announced that Item 10G would be omitted from the agenda.

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda as amended and Alderperson Smith seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Michael McVey - 143 North Avenue, congratulated the City on a successful and well-run Pumpkinfest parade. He addressed the issue of the tax levy and stated that if the City does not need the money and are able to meet the demand at the current level then the tax levy should not be raised as the taxpayers need the money.

Ray Puentes, 1003 Meadow Lane, expressed his concerns about the public address system in the Council Chambers saying that it has needed replacing for quite some time and suggested that a new system be purchased.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of October 16, 2000.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Huntley moved to approve the minutes of October 16, 2000, and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

2. Payment of bills for November 6, 2000.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve payment of the bills for November 6, 2000, in the amount of \$412,993.47 and Aldersperson Smith seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Accept monthly budget report.

The report was accepted by the Council.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS**

**NEW BUSINESS AND OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

John McBride, Library Board Member, in the absence of Board President Anita Turner spoke to the Council regarding the Library tax levy. He addressed the issue of replacement cost for full time staff members, retirement of the mortgage in 2001 and presented a comparison of the DeKalb and Sycamore libraries.

Aldersperson Dahl asked about the hiring of a new Library Director and if the Library budget gave consideration to the director's salary. Mr. McBride said they had budgeted an amount of \$50,000 for the position, but had hopes of not spending the entire amount. Mayor Edwards asked how many staff members were employed at the library. Mr. McBride replied that when the library is fully staffed there are 6 full-time and 17 part-time employees.

Aldersperson Huntley asked if volunteers were used at the library and Mr. McBride stated the only

volunteer group was the Friends of the Library, but that possibly volunteers could be used for cleaning of the building.

Administrator - Bill Nicklas - stated he had distributed copies of the revised FY 00-01 Budget to the Council.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty - reported that he had issued 18 permits, 8 single-family, 9 miscellaneous residential and 1 miscellaneous commercial. He announced that Menards was open for business.

Fire Chief Bill Riddle - reported that the Fire Department was able to use houses located on East Exchange Street that being demolished by DeKalb County for fire fighter training. He further announced that members of the Fire Department are participating in a daily fitness program at the Community Center. He said that an old fire hose from Sycamore had been donated and was now being used by the Filmore, IL Fire Department.

Police Chief Roy Garcia - noted that two officers of the Sycamore Police Department had received recognition for their involvement in the community. He reported that Tom Scott received recognition from the DCPSAFE organization and Cary Singer received recognition from Safe Passage.

He reported that all went well with Pumpkin Festival and thanked the Fire and Street departments for their assistance.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - Alan Bauer - no report.

Ordinance - James Huntley - reported all ordinances, resolutions and considerations were on the agenda. He congratulated the Department Heads for a job well-done on Pumpkin Festival and stated he has received good reports on the Police Bicycle Patrol.

Streets & Walks - Cheryl Maness - scheduled a meeting for the committee on Monday, November 20, 2000.

Sewer & Water - Patrick Balentyne - no report.

Police & Fire - Keven Dahl - scheduled a meeting for the committee on Monday, November 20, 2000. He stated he heard good reports regarding the many trash containers set up around the City during the Pumpkin Festival.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

## ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance No. 2000.40 - An Ordinance amending Title 6, Motor Vehicle and Traffic, Chapter 2, Parking Regulations of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois by adding restrictions on the Parking of Motor Vehicles and Trailers in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second reading.

Administrator Nicklas recommended approval.

Aldersperson Dahl asked about existing gravel driveways and Administrator Nicklas stated that existing gravel driveways will be grandfathered in and as long as they are not expanded they are okay, but if they are expanded they must meet the ordinance requirements.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.40 and Aldersperson seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Ordinance No. 2000.41 - An Ordinance establishing the position of Accounting Supervisor in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.
3. Ordinance No. 2000.42 - An Ordinance approving the execution of a side letter agreement between the City and the AFSCME Local # 3957 to recognize the position of Accounting Supervisor and modify the wage schedule to include the Accounting Supervisor position, all effective November 1, 2000, in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance No. 2000.41 and No. 2000.42 and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.41 and Ordinance No. 2000.42 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Ordinance No. 2000.43 - An Ordinance approving the execution of an agreement between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and IMLRMA for Worker's Compensation and Liability Coverage for City employees. First and second reading.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Huntley moved to have a first and second reading on Ordinance No. 2000.43 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Huntley moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.43 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Ordinance No. 2000.44 - An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Sycamore and the Sycamore Fire Protection District for Fire Protection Services in the Fire District. First and second reading.
6. Ordinance No. 2000.45 - An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Sycamore and the Sycamore Fire Protection District for ambulance and emergency medical services in the Fire District. First and second reading.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinances No. 2000.44 and No. 2000.45 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.44 and Ordinance No. 2000.45 with the necessary adjustments regarding cost volume. Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Ordinance No. 2000.46 - An Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Dick Anderson. First and second reading.

Item G was deleted from the agenda.

2. Ordinance No. 2000.47 - An Ordinance concerning an amendment to Title 8: Chapter 2: Water Use and Service, prohibiting the installation and maintaining of private wells in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.

Administrator Nicklas stated the ordinance was a “housekeeping matter” which states that an existing well can be maintained but no new wells can be drilled or existing wells expanded.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to have a first and second reading on Ordinance No. 2000.47 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.47 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution No. 370 - For improvement by the City of Sycamore of certain Illinois marked routes under the Illinois Highway Code.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Resolution No. 370 and Aldersperson Dahl seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Consideration of an administration report on City Property Tax Levy options for the 2000 tax year.

Administrator Nicklas stated the Council could take one of several actions regarding the Tax Levy and addressed items of the tax levy. He said that in the background material he had outlined four options which would result in a reduction of the City tax rate, but that he recommend Option #2. Mayor Edwards stated the levy rate had decreased in the last 3-4 years and yet there is an increase in the overall revenues. He felt this should send a message to other taxing bodies and added that Sycamore has been behind the eight-ball and still is, but we continuing to improve.

Aldersperson Bauer stated that the levy is just a portion of all revenues for the City and asked if the sales tax revenue had been considered. He asked about a flat levy and inquired if that had been considered.

Administrator Nicklas stated that even with the proposed increase in sales tax nothing is booming and it does not take much of a change to take away an edge. Mayor Edwards asked each Aldersperson which option they would favor. Aldersperson Bauer & Dahl said they would choose Option #1, Balentyne - Option #2, Maness - Option #2, Smith - Option #2, Chambon - Option #2 and Huntley - Option #2 and Blickem - Option #2. Administrator Nicklas will prepare the levy under that direction.

Administrator Nicklas announced that a Public Hearing would be held on Monday, November 20, 2000.

2. Consideration of a Police Department request to hire two (2) full-time telecommunicators to fill vacancies in the Communication Division.

Chief Garcia stated that the Communication Division was down two dispatchers and were desperately needed.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the consideration and Aldersperson Huntley seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration of a Fire Department request to hire four(4) Paid-on-Call Fire Fighters to fill vacancies in the P.O.C. ranks.

Chief Riddle stated that the Paid-on-Call roster had fallen below 18 and requested permission to hire four additional P.O.C.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the hiring of four Paid-on-Call for the Fire Department and Aldersperson Balentyne seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve:

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Mayor - James S. Edwards

Attest:

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City Clerk - Nancy S. Marchiando