
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2000**

ROLL CALL

Mayor James Edwards called the meeting to order and Clerk Nancy Marchiando called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Michael Chambon, Alan Bauer, Cheryl Maness, Candy Smith, Pam Blickem, Keven Dahl, Patrick Balentyne and James Huntley. Eight Alderperson were present and none were absent.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Treasurer Ken Mundy.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda as distributed and Alderperson Maness 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

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of August 21, 2000.

Alderperson Bauer noted a correction to the minutes regarding a motion where a name was missing. He thought it should be his name and Clerk Marchiando stated she would check the record and make the addition.

Motion

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the minutes with the correction and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

B. *Payment of bills for September 5, 2000.*

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the bills of September 5, 2000 in the amount of \$107,566.18 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.

C. *IDOT Audit of the receipt and disbursement of Motor Fuel Tax Funds by the City of Sycamore for the period 1-1-99 to 12-31-99.*

The Audit was accepted by the Council.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS

Mayor Edwards introduced 4-H member, Joel Balentyne, and congratulated him on his wood veneer project which he entered in the Illinois State Fair. There were 873 entries in the competition of which 58 were selected as finalists. Only 14 of the projects were selected to be on display in Washington, D.C. for one year. Joel is 10 years old and the son of Cindy and Patrick Balentyne.

NEW BUSINESS

Aldersperson Chambon asked for an item to be placed in the Street & Walks Committee regarding a request for a four-way stop at the intersection of Vaughan Court, Foxpointe Drive and Constance Drive.

Constance Drive is a private drive and it is the responsibility of the property owner. It was decided to ask the property owner, RonCon Corporation to place a stop sign on Constance Drive.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator Nicklas that the East Ottawa Street Neighborhood meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2000, at the Sycamore Library at 7:00 p.m.. He noted that the smaller size 35 gallon garbage can was on display in the hallway. He further stated that the WWTP would have a demonstration on the new video camera at the September 18, 2000 Council meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. and asked the Council to be present.

John Brady - Engineer - reported on the fall tree program and requested to go to bid with the proposal. He also reported that the detour would be changed for a day while work is completed on Elm Street between California and Sacramento Streets. In addition he stated that the road reconstruction of West State should be completed by the middle of October.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty - reported that he issue 21 permits, 5 single family, 10 miscellaneous residential and 6 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy - reported on the IDOT Audit for the Motor Fuel Tax monies and also stated that the actuarials were complete for the Fire and Police Pension funds. He reported that for each fund the return on investment was 16-19% which means that the property tax levy for the Police and Fire Pensions will be lowered by \$12-13,000. He stated each member would be receiving a pension statement.

Fire Chief - Bill Riddle - reported that the department had a total of 61 incidents, 39 EMS, 22 Fire, a dollar loss totaled \$80,000 for two fires and they saw 48 patients. He also reported on two major car accidents that occurred during the past two weeks.

Treatment Plant - Fred Busse - spoke regarding the demonstration of the video camera used to view the sewer system which will be held on Monday, September 18, 2000 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Council meeting.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - Alan Bauer - none.

Ordinance - James Huntley - stated there were three ordinances, two considerations on the agenda and resolutions related to the Pumpkin Festival activities.

Streets & Walks - Cheryl Manes - none.

Sewer & Water - Patrick Balentyne - none.

Fire & Police - Keven Dahl - none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

ORDINANCES AND AGREEMENTS

- A. *Ordinance No. 2000.30 - An Ordinance amending Chapter 11 of the City Code, "Development in Special Flood Areas," to regulate development in floodplain areas. Second Reading.*

Administrator Nicklas reported that the maps were received that week and Engineer Brady stated there were four maps which looked good and that the areas which data was filed for a change have been approved.

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.30 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.

Ordinance No. 2000.31 - Approving execution of a side letter agreement between the City and the IAFF Local 3046 to increase life insurance benefit to \$25,000 and increase the employee contribution to dependent group health insurance coverage to 15% effective September 1, 2000 in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance No. 2000.31 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.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance No. 2000.31 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.

Ordinance No. 2000.32 - Approving execution of development agreement between the City and James Felts, David Maire, and Felts/Maire Automotive, Inc. for renovation and improvement of certain real property in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.

Administrator Nicklas highlighted the major points of the agreement with emphasis placed on an equal rating for used and new cars.

Jim Felts and Dave Maire stated that after reviewing the agreement they were requesting that the monthly number of cars to be sold be changed from 60 to 50 and from 180 per quarter to 150 per quarter. They addressed the issue of the light poles stating that only the light poles needing to be replaced would be and others would be repaired or renovated.

Attorney Peter Smith asked why they wanted to change the number of cars being sold in the agreement and Mr. Felts and Mr. Maire stated they wanted to lower the amount to cover the slower months.

Administrator Nicklas responded by stating that the issue of the light poles was satisfactory and that it would be fine to calculate on a quarter basis as it would correspond with the taxes being paid to the City and that the numbers he used in the agreement were ones given by Mr. Felts and Mr. Maire previously and stated that there was not a problem with having a formula for prorating figures, but that there needs to be an incentive to produce sales.

Aldersperson Smith stated she thought that incentives were for bringing in new business and that since this business is already here she did not understand why the incentive was needed. Mr. Felts & Mr. Maire responded that they wished to stay in Sycamore as long as they can, that they like the City and plan to move here.

Aldersperson Blickem asked that without an incentive how long would they stay if it were not approved. Mr. Felts said that without the incentive the building would not be completed as they wish to do. Aldersperson Blickem asked for the total cost of the renovation and the level of City being money used for the renovation and the amount of personal money being put into the project. Mr. Maire stated the personal money being used was private information.

Administrator Nicklas stated that the information was private and reported that he had seen the financial information which needs to remain confidential and that a City incentive provides confidence to area lenders.

Aldersperson Chambon stated that if the City wishes to have growth in the tax base it needs to be competitive in offering incentives which will do more for the industrial tax base and he felt it was a good deal for the car dealership.

Aldersperson Blickem agreed that incentives should be offered and have been, but this is the first time for private property. She stated the incentive would improve the Tallitsch property and questioned what the owner was providing in the way of improvements.

Administrator Nicklas stated that a new roof was being placed on the building, which would be a substantial investment.

Aldersperson Huntley agreed with Aldersperson Chambon that incentives need to be provided because it is a constant battle trying to persuade business to come to Sycamore but also agree with the point made by Aldersperson Blickem.

Aldersperson Dahl asked Mr. Felts and Mr. Maire if they had applied for a tax abatement and they said no, but Administrator Nicklas stated he had discouraged it after outlining the program for them.

Mayor Edwards stated that it is not easy to start a business and a strong financial backing is needed and even though he is somewhat skeptical he felt that Mr. Felts and Mr. Maire have a good business reputation. He suggested that the car sales projection not be lowered. Dave Maire suggested that the sales figure be lowered for slow months and raised for busier months. Aldersperson Chambon asked if the request for lowering the number of sales was a seasonal issue and Mr. Maire responded yes.

Aldersperson Balentyne suggested a first reading only in order to factor a seasonal rate. Mr. Maire suggested that a quarterly objective be set at 180 cars and that be the only change.

Motion

Aldersperson Chambon moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance No. 2000.32 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote - the voice vote was not clear so Mayor Edwards requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Edwards asked for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Those Alderspersons voting aye were: Chambon, Maness and Smith. Those Aldersperson voting nay were: Bauer, Blickem, Dahl, Balentyne and Huntley. Three Alderspersons voted aye and five voted nay. Motion failed.

A first reading only was held for Ordinance No. 2000.32.

2. Ordinance No. 2000.33 - An Ordinance approving the execution of a lease agreement between the City and the Sycamore Pumpkin Festival Committee for the Lease of certain real estate for a carnival in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and second reading.

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance No. 2000.33 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.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution No. 365 - Declaring Wednesday, October 25, 2000, through Sunday, October 29, 2000, as Pumpkin Festival weekend in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve Resolution No. 365, No. 366 and No. 367 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.

CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration of a recommendation from the City Clerk regarding a replacement for the Deputy Clerk position.

City Clerk Nancy Marchiando stated that her recommendation for the position of Deputy City Clerk.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the recommendation 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.

3. Consideration of an administration request to fill a vacant Account Clerk position.

Administrator Nicklas announced that Sandy Haeffner would be resigning effective September 13, 2000.

Motion

Aldersperson Chambon moved to approve the consideration 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.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

Treasurer Mundy suggested a moment of silence for retired Police Officer Louie Bolt was passed away recently. He said a card was being distributed and asked that Louie be remembered in prayers.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Alderson Balentyne moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and Alderson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor - James S. Edwards

Attest:

City Clerk - Nancy S. Marchiando