
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2000**

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Steve Persson of the First Baptist Church gave invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Edwards reminded the Council that there would be a closed session at the end of the meeting.

Motion

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

1. Approval of the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of September 5, 2000.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the minutes of September 5, 2000 and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

2. Payment of Bills for September 18, 2000.

Motion

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the bills of September 18, 2000 in the amount of \$217,272.19 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.

3. Plan Commission Minutes for the meeting of August 14, 2000.

The Plan Commission Minutes for August 14, 2000 were accepted by the Council.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS

1. Proclamation declaring the week of October 8-14, 2000, as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Sycamore.

Mayor Edwards read the proclamation and declared the week of October 8-14, 2000, as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Sycamore.

NEW BUSINESS

Aldersperson Maness asked that the issue of no parking on the west side of Walnut Street(south of State Street) be considered and placed in the Street & Walks Committee.

She also asked if street lights could be place on Johnson Avenue. She said it is very dark on the road when leaving the high school following a football game. Engineer John Brady will report on the issue at the next meeting on October 2, 2000.

Aldersperson Smith inquired about a yellow curb at 123 West Exchange and wondered if the item could be placed in the Street & Walks committee. Administrator Nicklas responded that the item is an administrative matter and could be solved without placement in the committee.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator - Bill Nicklas - expressed thanks to Fred Busse and staff for the demonstration of the video camera trailer. He stated that new employees would be introduced by the Department Heads.

Clerk Nancy Marchiando introduced Deputy Clerk Karen Denecke and presented information about Karen and her family and her work experience.

Fire Chief Bill Riddle introduced Becky Hepker, who is now the full-time secretary for the Fire Department, and her family.

Fire Chief Bill Riddle introduced the Department's new firefighter, Brad Belanger, and his family. Brad

was sworn-in by Clerk Marchiando and his father presented the department pin to his son.

Engineer - John Brady - stated that Freehill Asphalt had completed the crack filling on the City Streets. He added that the Rt. 64 was near completion and at the present time driveways and sidewalks were being completed, along with Center Cross Street.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty - announced that a stop sign had been placed on Constance Lane by the contractor. He stated he had issued 8 permits since the last meeting: 4 miscellaneous commercial, 2 miscellaneous residential and 2 single family.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy - presented to the Council the financial data for August, 2000 and added that revenues were ahead of the benchmark and expenditures behind. He also gave the Council information regarding the Police and Fire Pensions funds. He informed the Council that he had recently attended the Municipal Treasurer's Institute and brought back information he will share with Administrator Nicklas.

Fire Chief - Bill Riddle - stated there were 62 incidents since the last meeting of which 33 were EMS calls, 29 Fire calls(with no dollar loss) and 24 patients were seen by the department.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - Alan Bauer - spoke of his request for a quarterly budget report and entertained the possibility of new accounting software so information may be better presented to the Council. Administrator Nicklas stated he welcomed the suggestion, but would like to wait until a new payroll clerk is hired to decide on a new software.

Ordinance - James Huntley - stated there was one ordinance, 2 resolutions and 2 considerations on the agenda.

Aldersperson Huntley thanked the Picnic Committee for the fine effort put forth on the Employee/Family picnic as he thought it was very nice. He asked who were members of the committee and Clerk Marchiando and Supt. Busse provided the names of Mike Swedberg, Luke Morton, Bill Nicklas, J.C. Roach, Fred & Nancy.

Streets & Walks - Cheryl Maness - requested that a committee meeting be scheduled at 7:00 p.m. prior to the next Council meeting on October 2, 2000.

Sewer & Water - Patrick Balentyne - stated that Supt. Busse would provide information later in the agenda..

Fire & Police - Keven Dahl - No report.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

ORDINANCES & AGREEMENTS

1. Ordinance No. 2000.32 - Approving execution of a 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. Second reading.

Administrator Nicklas reviewed information for the Council which had been discussed at the September 5, 2000 Council meeting and presented suggestions that had been made by both parties.

Motion

Aldersperson moved to approve the agreement and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

The voice vote was not clear and 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: Smith, Huntley, Chambon, Balentyne, Bauer and Maness. Those Alderspersons voting nay were: Dahl and Blickem. Six Alderspersons voted aye and two voted nay. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution No. 368 - Directing that the City initiate condemnation proceedings to obtain an easement on the so-called Jahns Farm property north of Bethany Road and east of Somonauk Road in DeKalb County, Illinois to provide drainage for the detention, retention, drainage flood control project the City is constructing on the Strong Farm property in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

Administrator Nicklas advised the Council of correspondence to the Jahns Family in June and August which stated that the City of Sycamore was interested in purchasing an easement on their property that is needed for the operation of the retention/detention pond on the Strong Family property that the City has purchased. He stated that no agreement was reached and now the City needs to proceed with condemnation of the property and he asked for the Council's support on the item.

Aldersperson Huntley inquired about how the pond would function during a summer with just an average rainfall and Engineer Brady responded that the pond would function all the time regardless of the amount of rainfall.

Aldersperson Maness asked if the condemnation for the easement would affect sidewalks being placed on Somonauk Street. Engineer Brady said no because the easement is well beyond the right of way, and it would cause no problems for the developer.

Aldersperson Dahl asked about the time frame for the condemnation proceedings. Attorney Peter Smith stated it could take anywhere from 3 months to 1 year and 3 months, but he did not expect it to take long because of the process the City has gone through to this point and how soon a trial date could be set.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Resolution No. 368 and Aldersperson Huntley seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Edwards called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye except Aldersperson Maness who voted nay. Motion carried.

2. Resolution No. 369 - Requesting permission of the Illinois Department of Transportation to close Illinois Route #64 from Governor Street to Sacramento Street from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on October 4, 2000, to allow for the Sycamore High School Homecoming Parade in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to approve Resolution No. 369 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.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Consideration of a recommendation from the City Engineer to award the contract for the construction of the Bethany Road Detention Pond.

Engineer Brady stated that 16 bids were received of which 13 were read (three had paperwork that was not complete) for the construction of the Bethany Road Detention Pond. The lowest bid was presented by Rockford Blacktop in the amount of \$1,285,295.95 and he recommended that the contract be awarded to Rockford Blacktop. Administrator Nicklas added that the bid was well within the estimate for the project.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the bid from Rockford Blacktop 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.

2. Consideration of a recommendation from the City Engineer to award the contract for the Fall Tree Planting Program.

Engineer Brady stated that one bid had been received from Stran's Lawn & Garden Center in the amount \$ 12, 075.00 for 65 shade trees and he recommended approval. Administrator Nicklas stated that \$30,000 had been budgeted in the Forestry department, therefore funds would be available for a spring planting.

Aldersperson Maness asked about the placement of the trees and Engineer Brady said the trees are to be planted in the parkway or front yard.

Motion

Aldersperson Dahl moved to approve the bid for the Fall Tree Planting Program 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.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to go into to closed session at 8:15 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.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion

Alderson Balentyne moved to return to open session at 9:24 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 unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Alderson Huntley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m. and Alderson Balentyne seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor - James S. Edwards

Attest:

City Clerk - Nancy S. Marchiando