
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2001**

ROLL CALL

Mayor John Swedberg called the meeting to order and Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Alan Bauer, Pam Blickem, Michael Chambon, Andrew Larson, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, and Janice Tripp.

INVOCATION

Christian Education Director, Yvette Roselieb, of the Sycamore United Methodist Church gave the invocation.

Mayor Swedberg asked everyone to remain standing to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg added 12C - Consideration for Police Vehicle Solicitation for Bid and 12D – Consideration for Fireworks for the Pumpkin Festival to the agenda. The Mayor asked Council's permission to make the Pledge of Allegiance an agenda item for each meeting.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the two Considerations and the permanent addition of the Pledge of Allegiance and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Michelle LePage, Discover Sycamore Coordinator, reminded Council about the Streetscape Celebration Saturday, September 22, 2001, starting at 1:00 P.M. with a kids parade, welcomes by Representative Dave Wirsing and Mayor John Swedberg, a community stage talent show, a "horse" auction, and ending with a band from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. Ms. LePage said that due to the events of last week, 50% of the proceeds from the horse auction would be given to the American Red Cross.

Bob Thornton of Northern Illinois Disposal, Rockford IL, stated that since the Administrator was recommending acceptance of the Waste Management Proposal, Northern Illinois Disposal would not divulge any prices or continue to pursue the garbage contract.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting of September 4, 2001;
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 4, 2001;
- C. Payment of the Bills for September 17, 2001 in the amount of \$742,269.48.
- D. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of August 13, 2001.

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

Alderperson Tripp received a phone call regarding the lack of attention drivers pay to a yield sign on the corner of Locust and Commercial Streets. Ms. Tripp asked the City Engineer John Brady to see if that corner warranted a stop sign.

Alderperson Larson received requests for stop signs at the two points where Bristol intersects with Hathaway.

Alderperson Chambon received a request for a stop sign at the corner of Bayberry and Pebblewood.

Alderperson Bauer requested communication to the County regarding the road striping on Peace Road at the Mercantile Drive intersection. He received complaints regarding speeding on Kishwaukee Drive and requested a review of Police and Fire impact fees before any more developments were approved.

Alderperson Maness received a call concerning lack of light at night at the entrance to McClaren Drive off Locust Street.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas thanked the City Clerk for her work organizing the City Employee Picnic last Saturday.

Engineer – John Brady reported that his item, accepting the lowest bid for the Public Works Building, was on the agenda.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that 28 permits had been issued since last report: 9 single-family residential, 1 duplex, 1 6-unit townhouse, 11 miscellaneous residential, and 6 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy – no report

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported on a somber note that many of the casualties in the World Trade Center were those firefighters who were teachers and experts in mass casualty and collapse rescue. He asked everyone to keep the Fire Services in mind during the coming weeks. Chief Riddle stated that on a higher note, he wanted to acknowledge Brad Belanger for the completion of his probationary period as well as his paramedic's training and recognized him as a member of the Sycamore Firefighter family. Firefighter Belanger's father pinned his badge on him.

Police Chief – Don Thomas explained that they are wearing a black ribbon across their badges in recognition of the police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Chief Thomas reported that the department had just completed an IDOT grant for 150 hours of overtime for aggressive DUI control through the Ben Gordon Center.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – no report

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report

Ordinance Chair Cheryl Maness reported that the Committee had met before the regular Council meeting regarding the Cat Ordinance and agreed with a vote of 4-0 to leave the ordinance as it stands.

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2001.34-- An Ordinance Amending Title 3, "Business and License Regulations," Chapter 2, "Liquor Control," Section 3-2-14, "Minors," To Make It Unlawful for Anyone Under the Age of Twenty-One Years to Loiter in a Liquor Establishment, To Sell Liquor to Anyone, or for Anyone Under the Age of Twenty-One To Attend any Bar in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.**

Mayor Swedberg received a phone call from a local bar owner expressing concern regarding their 18-year old son bartending in their family-owned bar.

Aldersperson Maness asked the minutes to reflect the City Attorney's explanation of any reference to any under-aged family member's exemption.

Attorney Peter Smith stated that through all of his review in the State Statutes, he had never seen any reference to any exemption for under-aged family members.

Mayor Swedberg stressed that this ordinance did not include wait staff.

Aldersperson Larson inquired if this only pertained to bars and not to gas stations.

Aldersperson Maness expressed concern that gas stations convenient stores were not included. Ms. Maness suggested notifying those establishments before voting on this ordinance.

Mayor Swedberg stated that he would notify those establishments.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to set Ordinance 2001.34 over to the October 1st meeting and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Ordinance No. 2001.38—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Milan Krpan for Approval of the Final Plat for Unit Two, Phase Five of the Grandview Townhouse Development in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.38 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2001.38 Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Ordinance No. 2001.39—An Ordinance Approving the Execution of a Scavenger Services Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Waste Management West, Inc. in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that this ordinance was back after the September 4th discussion. He stated that the text had been altered somewhat regarding a discount for the 96 gallon cart rentals. Mr. Nicklas explained that a senior discount requested by Aldersperson Blickem was not administratively feasible. Administrator Nicklas said the first step would be to waive the bidding process that would take a 2/3 vote of the corporate authorities.

Aldersperson Maness stated that she had received many calls from senior citizens who leave town for the winter and question paying the garbage pickup fee during their absence.

Aldersperson Blickem stated that she made phone calls to surrounding communities and found that one community that contracted with Waste Management received senior rates as well as free carts. Ms. Blickem emphasized that she wanted the seniors to get a discount.

Superintendent Ebe Smith said that single people, as well as seniors, generated less garbage than a family.

Aldersperson Tripp said that she felt in the garbage cycle of life one started out by generating a small amount of garbage, then a large amount, and then back to a small amount, so it evened out over a lifetime.

Mike Brink of Waste Management said that the community Aldersperson Blickem referred to had signed a longer contract than the one proposed to Sycamore.

Aldersperson Larson stated he was happy with Waste Management's performance, but saw nothing in their bid to entice him to vote on their contract. He said he would go out to bid.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to waive the bidding process and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Alderspersons Maness, Stowe, Tripp, and Mayor Swedberg voted aye. Alderspersons Larson, Paulsen, Bauer, Blickem, and Chambon voted nay. Motion failed 4-5.

RESOLUTIONS

None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Award the Contract for the Completion of the New Public Works Facility.

Engineer Brady stated that the bidding was very competitive and recommended that Council accept the low bid of \$1,050,000 by Mike Long Construction, Inc.

Mr. Nicklas recommended transferring \$325,000 from the Sewer Fund to the Capital fund to pay for the shortfall of funds for the project. Mr. Nicklas said he could justify this transfer because a large portion of the Public Works budget is collection.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to accept Mike Long Contruction’s bid of \$1,050,000 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to transfer \$325,000 from the Sewer Fund to the Capital Fund and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Consideration of a Fire Department Recommendation to Hire a New Firefighter.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the hiring of one or more new firefighters was identified as one of the top “unfunded” spending priorities for fiscal year 2002.

Chief Riddle produced data that concluded the hiring of an entry-level firefighter with routine overtime would be less expensive than continuing to fill in shift vacancies with senior firefighters at substantially higher overtime rates

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hire an additional Firefighter and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Consideration of a Police Vehicle Solicitation for Bid

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Police Department had budgeted for a vehicle to relieve the shortage in the Detective Division. Mr. Nicklas recommended accepting Spartan Automotive low bid of \$7,850.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to accept the low bid from Spartan Automotive for \$7,850 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Consideration of Fireworks for the Pumpkin Festival

Administrator Nicklas explained that the City Code requires the Council to approve any public display of fireworks. Mr. Nicklas recommended Council approval for the Pumpkin Festival's fireworks display Saturday, October 27, 2001.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve the display of fireworks for the Pumpkin Festival and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. All Alderspersons vote aye. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. and Aldersperson Chambon seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith