
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2001

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

Pastor Don Phelps of St. John's Lutheran Church gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Alderperson Paulsen moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Chuck Criswell, 30331 Rte. 23, Genoa, stated he had two presentations as a result of the funds raised by the Turning Back Time Car Show. Mr. Criswell presented June Ehrler with \$500 for the Fizz Ehrler Scholarship Fund at the Sycamore High School. Mr. Criswell introduced the Car Show committee members present as Roger Ullmark, Tom Taylor, and Les Gibbons. He then presented a 1995 Chevy Caprice Squad Car to the Sycamore Police Department.

City Administrator Nicklas thanked the Committee for their generous donation.

Mayor Swedberg also expressed appreciation to the committee for the squad car and commented on the success of the event.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 16, 2001
- B. Payment of the Bills for August 6, 2001, in the amount of \$755,645.82
- C. Monthly Budget Report for July, 2001
- D. Police Department Annual Report for 2000 (under separate cover)

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda excluding item D and Alderperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Introduction of Brian Gregory, City Intern

Administrator Nicklas introduced Brian Gregory, from Lockport, IL who is currently enrolled in Northern Illinois University's Public Administration Program. Brian will be working approximately twenty hours each week during his two-year internship.

B. Introduction of Mike Marth, Public Works Laborer

Public Works Superintendent Fred Busse introduced Mike Marth, Public Works Laborer. Mr. Busse stated that Mike came to us from the City of Bartlett Public Works Department and resides in Kingston with his wife and two children.

COMMUNICATIONS

Aldersperson Paulsen said he had talked with a member of the Historical Society and informed Council that one room of the Historical Museum is now open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. They will soon begin renovation of a larger room. He related that the Historical Society felt they were a good draw for downtown and that they hoped for support from the downtown.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reported that former Aldersperson Jim Huntley had heart surgery at Mayo last week and was making steady progress. Mr. Nicklas gave a budget report for the first quarter of the fiscal year. He reported that most of the property tax had not been received, but will be almost entirely received during the next six weeks. He said the revenue side is tracking at 21% of the budget, and the expense side is comfortably below the 25% benchmark.

Engineer – John Brady reported that he thought it would make sense to move the stop signs at Locust and Exchange to make the traffic stop at Exchange Street. Mr. Nicklas suggested putting this on the next meeting agenda as an ordinance.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he issued 26 permits - 3 single-family residential, 1 multi-family 3-unit, 19 miscellaneous residential, and 3 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy - no report.

Fire Chief – Lieutenant Mark Kessler for Chief Riddle – no report.

Police Chief – Darrell Johnson passed out the Police Department 2000 Annual Report. He summarized that the report included a slight increase in crime rate, an increase in dispatch calls, and an overview of the police department programs. Chief Johnson informed the Council that the new software for police reports would be coded according to wards, so the Alderspersons can see police activity specific to their wards.

Public Works Supt. --Fred Busse - no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that all the water valves and hydrants had been plotted on a GPS/GIS map and he hopes to have something to show Council at the next meeting.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report

Ordinance – no report

Police & Fire - no report
Sewer & Water – no report
Streets & Walks – no report

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of the City of Sycamore’s Financial Statements for FY2000-2001, Including the Independent Auditor’s Report.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the City is spending down balances on the two major new funds and on the 1965 Bond Fund. He said the best news was the surplus in the general fund, due to the self-discipline of our department heads. This surplus increased the overall fund balance to about 2.77 million dollars.

Dennis Hildebrandt of Siefert & Company, LLP thanked the council for the opportunity to work for the City. He said this audit ran more smoothly and quickly than those in the past. He reported that the City was in compliance with internal controls and found no material weaknesses, in fact, there were no reportable conditions. He said he felt the Pension Funds should be on the general ledger. Mr. Hildebrandt said that by 2004 the City would have to comply with GASB 34, which relates to fixed asset inventory.

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to accept the audit and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

B. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Personnel and Collective Bargaining

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to go into closed session at 8:25 p.m. and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

APPOINTMENTS

Before moving into closed session, Mayor Swedberg appointed Earl Shumaker to the Sycamore Public Library Board.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve the appointment and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to return to open session at 9:00 p.m. and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m. and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith