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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2001**

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**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**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve the agenda with Ordinance 2001.31 moved to the beginning of the Ordinance section and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Jim Edwards, 321 W. High St., said that after seeing the exhibit a few years ago, he had encouraged Dr. Schelkopf to open his museum to the public. Now that this is a reality and Dr. Schelkopf is offering his collection to the City, Mr. Edwards wanted Council to be aware that there is a neighboring town interested in housing the museum.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting of August 6, 2001;
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of August 6, 2001;
- C. Payment of the Bills for August 20, 2001 in the amount of \$129,748.77.
- D. Plan Commission Minutes for the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2001.

**Motion**

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

**Voice Vote**

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

**PRESENTATION of PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS**

None

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator –Bill Nicklas thanked the members of the Police Chief search committee Aldersperson Chuck Stowe, Fire Chief Bill Riddle, Officer Rod Swartzendruber, and Rick Olson of Sandwich. Mr. Nicklas also

introduced his twin brother Bob, Bob's wife Terri, and their son Tim, who were visiting for the first time in 15 years.

Engineer – John Brady reported that if the weather holds, Somonauk and Bethany Road should be open for traffic by the end of the week.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he issued 16 permits - 3 single-family residential, 11 miscellaneous residential, and 2 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy reported financial activity through July, 2001. He said the revenues were tracking at 22% and the expenses were at 16% of the budget, both under the benchmark of 25%. Treasurer Mundy said they have valued the investment portfolios of each fund and will do so quarterly. He said that he and Finance Supervisor Steve Garland will place all pension activity on the general ledger so that the City's financial reporting will be more inclusive as suggested in the auditor's report.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported that paramedic training will start on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August in the Council Chambers and run each Wednesday from 8-4:30 for 16 weeks. By October 15 the department will have partial paramedic service until January 2002 when they will be a full paramedic department.

Police Chief – Darrell Johnson reported the new squad car has been out on the road for a week. Mr. Nicklas took time to thank Darrell Johnson publicly for his service as Interim Chief of Police.

Public Works Supt. --Fred Busse reported that U.S. Filter has 80% of Sycamore's sanitary mapping done. He also said the new Public Works building has a lot of activity. There is a temporary road built, the sanitary is working, and the water should get hooked up Tuesday.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that the water system is 85% completed for the GPS mapping system.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance –no report

Ordinance –Aldersperson Maness reported all ordinances were on the agenda.

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## **ORDINANCES**

- F. Ordinance No. 2001.31—An Ordinance Approving an Employment Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and Donald M. Thomas for Service as Police Chief, Effective August 21, 2001 to August 20, 2004 in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas said he was pleased to present the ordinance draft in the background detailing the list of terms of a three-year employment agreement with Don Thomas as Sycamore's Police Chief.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.31 Aldersperson Maness 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 Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2001.31 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.

Clerk Smith swore in the new Police Chief Don Thomas and welcomed him into the organization.

Administrator Nicklas presented Chief Thomas with his badge.

Lieutenant Darrell Johnson congratulated Chief Thomas and said he would be working with the finest group of employees, many of whom were in the audience.

Chief Thomas said this was a great honor, thanked Council for the trust they placed in him and took his designated seat as Chief of Police.

**A. Ordinance No. 2001.26—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Milan Krpan for Approval of the Annexation of the Property Known as Krpan’s Parkside Development in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that there are three parts to an annexation. The first is an annexation agreement that lays out the terms and conditions between the developer and the City. The second is the plat of the annexation, and finally the annexation ordinance. He explained that since proper legal notice had been given to affected local taxing bodies the annexation ordinance could be approved. Mr. Nicklas walked through the changes to three lots that the Council had required at a previous meeting.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.26 and Aldersperson Maness 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 Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.26 Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Bauer, Blickem, Chambon, Larson, Maness, Paulsen Stowe, Tripp and Mayor Swedberg voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Ordinance No. 2001-27—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of B&B Development for Approval of the Final Plat for Phases Three and Four of the Heron Creek Planned Unit Development in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that both plats complied with the City's codes and ordinances and were in conformance with the preliminary plan and annexation agreement.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.27 and Aldersperson Larson 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 Larson moved to approve Ordinance 2001.27 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.

**C. Ordinance No. 2001-28—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Charles Laing et al for Approval of an Annexation Agreement for The Willows Planned Unit Development With Zoning Classifications of "C-3" Highway Business District and "R-3" Multiple Family Residence District in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas informed the Council that Mr. Laing was requesting approval of an annexation agreement, a preliminary plat and annexation of 63.32 acres of land at the northwest corner of the intersection of Route 64 and Airport Road. He said this proposed development would consist of 8.12 acres of commercially zoned land and 55.2 acres of residentially zoned land. He reminded Council that this discussion had been at the Plan Commission level since September 2001. Mr. Nicklas stated that this development would be a rental community and eventually a gated community.

Aldersperson Tripp inquired who would maintain the infrastructure. She also expressed concerned about the density of such a development. She said she felt that two-bedrooms did not guarantee a low number of residents.

Aldersperson Larson expressed concern regarding public safety issues. He said he felt the City did not have the resources to provide police and fire protection. He said he could not support a development of such magnitude at this time.

Aldersperson Paulsen expressed concern that if Airport Road Extension failed there would be only one exit out of the development.

Aldersperson Tripp inquired if the City has the manpower to inspect all the growth that is occurring in Sycamore.

Administrator Nicklas said that we definitely have a natural limit to what we can inspect each year. He said that in 1999 143 units were approved and occupied. Recently the City has created and filled a new position of electrical inspector/building inspector.

Building Commissioner Doty said that it was hard to set limits, his department does what needs to be done.

Aldersperson Blickem informed the Council that she heard no density issues during the Plan Commission discussion.

Aldersperson Bauer stated that Building Commissioner Doty does not compromise his thoroughness of inspections because of time and labor shortages. Aldersperson Bauer stated he was on the Plan Commission when this was first proposed and he felt they had arrived at an outstanding plan.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.28 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

### **Voice Vote**

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

Aldersperson Tripp expressed concern regarding the quality of the apartments.

Charlie Laing, 450 Lincolnshire, said that they designed their plan with the anticipation of the Airport Road Extension. He said that according to the County, Airport Road would be extended. He said that the major challenge in the design of the plan was the water and flooding issue and he was confident his engineer had that resolved. Mr. Laing said his targeted population was young singles and couples that could not yet afford to buy a house. He stated he would build 50 units at a time and that demand usually drives the build-out rate. Mr. Laing said he was building this upscale rental community with an ageless design to remain appealing for many years.

John Wills, 116 W. Main St., St. Charles, IL, the petitioner's engineer, said that this property carries a tremendous burden in flood storage. He said they have more than complied with the City's storm water ordinance and may have addressed some of the surrounding area flood problems as well.

### **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.28 Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

### **Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Blickem, Chambon, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Bauer, and Mayor Swedberg voted aye. Alderspersons Larson and Tripp voted nay. Motion carried 7-2.

- D. Ordinance No. 2000-29—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Charles Laing et al. For Approval of the Preliminary Plan and Plat for the Planned Unit Development Known as The Willows in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.29 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. Seven Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Tripp voting nay. Motion carried.

Administrator Nicklas pointed out two conditions recommended by the Plan Commission. Firstly, all private roadways should have a width of not less than 24 feet. Secondly, a dedicated bike pathway to connect with the Great Western Trail was mandatory.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2001.29 Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Blickem, Chambon, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Bauer, and Mayor Swedberg voted aye. Alderspersons Larson and Tripp voted nay. Motion carried 7-2.

**E. Ordinance No. 2001-30—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Request of Charlie Laing et al. For Approval of the Annexation of the Planned Unit Development Known as The Willows in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.30 and Aldersperson Bauer 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 Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.30 Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Blickem, Chambon, Maness, Paulsen, Stowe, Bauer, and Mayor Swedberg voted aye. Alderspersons Larson and Tripp voted nay. Motion carried 7-2.

**G. Ordinance No. 2001.32—An Ordinance Concerning the Adoption of an Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2001 to 2002 in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this amendment was necessary to create a fund for the revenue received from United Aviation Fuels Corporation.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.32 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.32 Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

- H. **Ordinance No. 2001.33—An Ordinance Amending Title 3: “Business and License Regulations,” Chapter 2, “Liquor Control,” Section 3-2-11, “Building and Location Restrictions,” To Allow the Sale of Liquor on the East Side of South Maple Street From West State Street to the Alley Way in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Mayor Swedberg explained that Mike McAdams is in the process of opening a gourmet dining and wine shop in the old Castenson’s garage.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to have a first and second reading for Ordinance 2001.33 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.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.33 Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

- A. **Resolution No. 384—Approving the Appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the Amount of \$150,000 to Finance Work to be Completed on the City’s New Salt Storage Building Which is Designated as Section 01-00067-00-MG to be Performed Pursuant to Contract.**

**Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve Resolution 384 Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

- B. **Resolution No. 385—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a One Year Agreement with the Crum-Halsted Agency, Inc. to Act as a Broker in Providing Employee Health Insurance for the City of Sycamore.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this agreement places an additional expense of \$128,000 above what he estimated for this year's budget. Because of the City's claim history and retiree population, there are not many companies willing to even bid on our health insurance.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Resolution 385 Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**A. Consideration of a Police Department Report on the Impact of the "Cat" Ordinance.**

Administrator Nicklas stated only 75 minutes of police time has been spent on this ordinance since its creation in May, 2001.

Aldersperson Blickem said her phone has been ringing off the hook. She would like to do away with the ordinance.

Aldersperson Chambon stated that the Cat Ordinance is not about cats, it's about neighbors that don't respect neighbors.

Aldersperson Blickem said she felt the Ordinance could not be enforced.

Mayor Swedberg sent the Ordinance back into the Ordinance Committee before the second meeting in September at 7:00 P.M.

**B. Consideration of a Public Works Department Recommendation To Purchase a New Pickup Truck from Sycamore Ford Mazda in the Amount of \$24,489.**

Public Works Superintendent Busse said that with the help of Aldersperson Tripp they decided to go to bid for the 1-ton Pickup. He reported that the bid came in lower than budgeted and also lower than the state bid cost.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Tripp moved to approve Sycamore Ford Mazda Bid and Chambon seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**C. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to go into closed session at 9:50 p.m. and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**APPOINTMENTS**

None

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Chambon moved to return to open session at 10:15 p.m. and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 p.m. and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

Approve:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk – Candy Smith