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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 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**

Garry Briesacher of Salem Lutheran Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Swedberg added the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation.

**Motion**

Alderperson Larson moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the Proclamation and 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.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Rich Para of Ben Franklin, 341 W. State St., informed Council of the results of a Downtown survey taken earlier that day regarding the Schelkopf Collection as a downtown museum. He said that of 24 stores surveyed 14 were in favor of the museum concept, 1 opposed, 1 abstained, and 8 were unavailable. Mr. Para said he was in favor of the museum not only for educational and cultural reasons, but also as an economic stimulus for the central business district. Mr. Para asked Council to accept the exhibit and offered his time to create a business plan for a retail portion of the museum that would offset some of the museum expenses.

Jim Auman, 724 W. State St., encouraged Council to reflect whether they could run and sustain a wildlife museum.

Mike Henke, owner of Hink's Bar and Grill, asked Council to consider allowing 18 to 21-year-old family members to serve alcohol in their family business.

Lynn Henke, owner of Hink's Bar and Grill, expressed that family members are more dedicated and concerned with the business and urged Council to allow 18 to 21-year-old family members to serve alcohol.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 17, 2001;
- B. Payment of the Bills for October 1, 2001 in the amount of \$732,523.84.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve the Consent Agenda 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.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS****A. Swearing-In of New Firefighter Kevin Mikkelson**

Chief Bill Riddle introduced Firefighter Kevin Mikkelson as an experienced 8-year Paid on Call Firefighter and EMTI Firefighter 2. Chief Riddle welcomed him to the Department as a full-time Firefighter. Clerk Smith swore in new Firefighter Kevin Mikkelson. Firefighter Mikkelson introduced his wife Alyssa and son Wyatt.

**PROCLAMATION**

A proclamation declaring the week of October 7 through October 13, 2001 as Fire Prevention Week.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator – Bill Nicklas stated that Superintendent Fred Busse had sent his regrets for his absence due to the death of his sister. Mr. Nicklas informed Council of the times of the visitation and service. Mr. Nicklas requested Council directive to send a letter to IDOT allowing no extension past the date of October 15, 2001, for completion of the Route 23/64 project. All Council members felt a deadline extension was unwarranted. Mr. Nicklas presented Engineer Brady with a framed print of Sycamore Street as a token of appreciation for his hard work and dedication to the many projects occurring in Sycamore.

Engineer – John Brady reported on several requests Council had made at the last meeting. Mr. Brady stated that the bulb in streetlight at McClaren and Locust could be increased to 400 watts. He said stop signs at the two intersections of Hathaway and Bristol would be in order, a yield sign at Pebblewood and Bayberry, and no change with the yield sign at Reckitt and Locust. Administrator Nicklas said he would bring these to Council next meeting as resolutions.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty – no report

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that NIU had dedicated an auditorium to the late Mr. Clifford Danielson earlier that evening. Treasurer Mundy also reported that the City's financial state was good.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reiterated that next week was Fire Prevention Week and Firefighters Lyon, Pritchard, and Hepker would be conducting tours of the Fire Department both this week and next. Chief Riddle also informed the Council that 4:00 p.m., October 14, 2001, in front of the Fire Station a memorial for the fallen NY Firefighters as well as all who have fallen this year. This memorial will be preceded by a silent parade of fire vehicles beginning in Genoa at noon.

Police Chief – Don Thomas recommended a stop sign on Scott at Emmert.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that they would start flushing water hydrants October 15, 2001 and continue for 10 days.

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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

Aldersperson Blickem interjected that she wanted to report that many of her constituents expressed concern that a museum would burden the taxpayers the same way the expansion of the Public Library had.

## **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 Under the Age of Twenty-One Years, or For Anyone Under the Age of Twenty-One To Attend any Bar or Sell Alcoholic Beverages in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.**

Mayor Swedberg explained that this ordinance had been set over from the last meeting in order to be changed to include any establishment selling packaged liquor.

Aldersperson Chambon inquired why the state had not amended the statute.

Attorney Smith explained that the state had amended the age to 21 for drinking alcohol, but felt it was still vague regarding bartending.

Aldersperson Larson requested the language to insist on the age of 21 to bartend or sell packaged liquor, with the exception of family members aged 18 to 21 as bartenders.

Aldersperson Chambon stated he had trouble passing an ordinance that would damage a local business. He said he would like to see an exception for the family members of a local business.

Aldersperson Stowe said that drawing from the experience of his parents, as bar owners, he didn't think a liquor license holder would allow his offspring to jeopardize their livelihood.

Mayor Swedberg recommended setting over this ordinance to the next meeting in order for Attorney Smith to add the family member exception.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to set over Ordinance 2001.34 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

- A. Resolution No. 390—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the Estate of Ella Lenschow Granting an Easement in the City of Sycamore.**
  
- B. Resolution No. 391—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and George and Judith Brown Granting an Easement in the City of Sycamore.**
  
- C. Resolution No. 392—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and Fern Maness Granting an Easement In the City of Sycamore.**

Administrator Nicklas explained the common thread of the three resolutions was a path for the alternate sewer that B & B Development and the City of Sycamore agreed in 1999 should be built.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Resolutions 390, 391 and 392 in omnibus fashion and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

- D. Resolution No. 393—Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Real Estate Auction Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, James DiNicola, and Steve Almburg d/b/a Almburg Auctioneering for Property in the City of Sycamore.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that in 1999, the City of Sycamore entered an agreement with James DiNicola that provided Mr. DiNicola with an interest-free loan of \$94,500 to demolish dangerous and unsafe structures at 500 and 590 South Avenue in Sycamore. According to the loan agreement, the principal was due on or before December 21, 2000. If Mr. DiNicola was in default, the City had two options for the collection of its lawful debt: (1) the City could proceed to foreclose the mortgage by judicial proceedings according to state statute or (2) the City and the mortgagor (Mr. DiNicola) could agree to sell the property by auction to the highest bidder with a "reasonable reserve bid."

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Resolution 393 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

## CONSIDERATIONS

### A. Consideration of a DeKalb County Proposal for a Regional Planning Commission.

Administrator Nicklas introduced DeKalb County Planner Paul Miller to speak about this proposal.

DeKalb County Planner Paul Miller explained the idea behind the proposal was to create cooperation on a regional basis regarding development review. Mr. Miller described this as an evolving idea and that the County was not seeking unwilling partners.

Administrator Nicklas suggested they lay this aside until the County gathered more data and returned the proposal to the Plan Commission.

### B. Consideration of an Administration Request for a Closed Session To Discuss Personnel Matters and Closed Session Minutes.

#### Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to go into Closed Session at 9:05 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

#### Voice Vote

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

## APPOINTMENTS

None

#### Motion

Aldersperson Chambon moved to return to open session at 9:30 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

#### Voice Vote

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

## ADJOURNMENT

#### Motion

Aldersperson Stowe to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. 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.

Approve:

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Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith