
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 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

Father Timar of St. Mary's Catholic Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg corrected the dates of the Proclamation of Key Club International week to November 12 – 17th and moved Consideration E. to the first Consideration.

Motion

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the agenda with the corrections 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.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

John Ward, 14941 Mt. Hunger Road, expressed concern regarding changes to Mt. Hunger Road since it has become a City street. Mr. Ward, as a 58—year resident of the community, congratulated the Council and especially Engineer John Brady for the Downtown Streetscape project.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of October 15, 2001;
- B. Payment of the Bills for November 5, 2001 in the amount of \$658,111.98.

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

- A. A Proclamation Declaring the Week of November 12 to November 17, 2001 To Be Key Club International Week in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

Mayor Swedberg recognized Key Club member Laura Springmire who was in the audience.

Mayor Swedberg read a press release regarding the 16th Viet Now 24-hour vigil at the DeKalb County Courthouse lawn, Friday, November 09, 2001, along with a flag dedication ceremony beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Aldersperson Bauer inquired about the street parking on Somonauk Street near the corner of Lincoln Street. Mr. Bauer also commented on the flashy appearance of the Dare Car that was donated to the City.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas reported on traffic issues regarding development north of Mt. Hunger Road. Mr. Nicklas stated that one issue was a stoplight at the intersection of Maplewood and Route 23 at the entrance to Landahl Subdivision. He said a letter of credit from the Landahl developer was posted and Council authorized approved a final plot for a section of that development. Townsend Woods Development has completed Penny Lane that intersects with Mt. Hunger Road. Mr. Nicklas was given Council direction to deny access to Mt. Hunger Road from Penny Lane until an understanding had been reached regarding Mt. Hunger Road improvements.

Engineer – John Brady reported on the progress of the Public Works building. Mr. Brady said the sight contractors were working on the roads, the parking lot would be paved in a week, the building contractor finished the footings, the walls should go up the week of November 12, and the pre-engineered building would be delivered around the 15th of December. The estimated completion date is June 30, 2002.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty –reported that since the last meeting 20 permits were issued: 5 single-family residential, 10 miscellaneous residential, 2 commercial buildings, 2 miscellaneous commercial and 1 demolition.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the annual treasurer's report was published on October 31, 2001 in the local newspaper.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle reported that since the last meeting they received 84 calls: 51 EMS, 27 non-fire mutual aid, 6 fire, and the department transported 54 patients. He reported that 7 firefighters were one-half way through paramedic training. Chief Riddle informed the Council that 4 firefighters, Spartz, Mathey, Doty, and Belanger traveled to New York to attend funerals. He said they firefighters traveled on their own time and expense with the help of IAFF.

Police Chief – Don Thomas - no report

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse recognized Public Work employees for their work during Pumpkin Fest weekend. Sunday morning Bob Ray, Fred Ruthe, Roger Haeffner, and Justin Fleetwood established detour routes for the parade by placing 100's of no parking signs. After the parade, JC Roach, Mike Schulz, and Mike Marth pulled the signs. Starting at 2:00 a.m. Monday morning, Mike Schulz, Mike Marth, Marty Collins, Gary Egler, and Scott Garrelts cleaned up the downtown area. Also, Supt. Busse thanked Lt. Cary Singer for his organizational skills and directions for staging and parade route set up. Supt. Busse

reported that earlier there had been a brief demonstration of the new Vactor truck that is temporarily being housed in the Sycamore Township garage until the Public Works building is complete.

Water Supt. –Ebe Smith reported that there were two water main breaks Sunday during Pumpkin Fest and he thanked Supt. Busse and the Public Works Department for their assistance.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report

Ordinance Chair Cheryl Maness scheduled an Ordinance Committee Meeting November 19, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water Chair Alan Bauer scheduled a Sewer & Water Committee Meeting December 17, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Bauer complimented Superintendents Busse and Smith on their teamwork.

Chairperson Bauer inquired about the progress of well #9 and Engineer Brady stated that the work would begin in earnest in December.

Streets & Walks – no report

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2001.44—An Ordinance Approving the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and IMLRMA for Worker’s Compensation and Liability Coverage for City Employees. First and Second Reading.**

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2001.44 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.44 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. Seven Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Bauer voting nay. Motion carried 7-1.

- B. Ordinance No. 2001.45—An Ordinance Approving Execution of a Side Letter Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 3957 to Establish a Part-Time City Clerk Position. First and Second Reading.**

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2001.45 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Alderson Blickem moved to approve Ordinance 2001.45 and Alderson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 400—Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Lease Agreement with Edwin Bush.

Administrator Nicklas explained this was a 20-year lease agreement to house a City entrance sign at 2900 DeKalb Avenue. The City's cost for the agreement totals \$9,975 and a fairer sewer rate for the building at 2900 DeKalb Avenue.

Motion

Alderson Bauer moved to approve Resolution 400 and Alderson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Award a New Refuse Contract.

Administrator Nicklas stated he had received bids from Waste Management, BFI, and Northern Illinois Disposal. Mr. Nicklas said that his recommendation of Waste Management was oriented toward what he knew about their service.

Alderpersons Larson, Paulsen, and Stowe expressed concern regarding eliminating plastic bags.

Motion

Alderson Stowe moved to amend the contract to allow garbage bags to be placed on the curb and Alderson Bauer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a roll call vote. Alderpersons Paulsen, Stowe, and Larson voted aye and Alderpersons Tripp, Bauer, Blickem, Chambon, and Maness voted nay. Motion failed 5-3.

Alderson Chambon expressed concern that Waste Management's bid price was not the lowest.

Motion

Alderson Blickem moved to award the Refuse Contract to Waste Management and Alderson Maness seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

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

B. Consideration of a Request To Change the Name of Waterman Street to St. Mary's Street.

Aldersperson Blickem inquired if St. Mary's Church Council had participated in this request.

Jack White, Custodian for St. Mary's, explained that Father Timar had agreed to the change, but he had not taken the request before the Church Council.

Council's consensus was to set no precedents for changing street names and took no action.

C. Consideration of a New Ward Map.

Administrator Nicklas explained that as a result of the 2000 Census the Ward population was out of proportion. The reconfigured map #6 distributed the population as evenly as possible while maintaining the office of each Aldersperson.

Aldersperson Blickem expressed concern that she maintained only 1/3 of the ward that elected her. Ms. Blickem pointed out that Ward 4 had undergone the most dramatic change and she could not accept the Ward Map.

Motion

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to accept Ward Map #6 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. Six Alderspersons voted aye with Alderspersons Blickem and Tripp voting nay. Motion carried 6-2.

D. Consideration of an Administration Report on the Recent Auction of the DiNicola Property at 404 South Avenue.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the City's bid of \$108,505 was the only bid and the City was trying to acquire the deed. Mr. Nicklas added that one of the first issues before the Council would be the environmental state of that property.

Aldersperson Maness inquired about delinquent taxes.

Attorney Peter Smith explained that if the City took the deed they would pay the taxes that have not been paid since 1999 in the amount of approximately \$2000.

E. Consideration of An Administration Report on City Tax Levy Options for the 2001 Tax Year.

Administrator Nicklas recommended a 3½ % increase in the City Levy that should decrease the City Tax Rate for homeowners by 3.47%.

Mayor Swedberg stated that he preferred to hold to a 3% increase that should decrease the City Tax Rate by 3.84%.

Aldersperson Blickem expressed concern that sales tax revenue may be less next year due to the economic conditions.

Council directed Administrator Nicklas to work with a 3% increase.

APPOINTMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 P.M. and Aldersperson Stowe 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