
**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 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, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, and Janice Tripp. Alderpersons Andrew Larson and Chuck Stowe were absent.

INVOCATION

Steve Best of Bethany Community Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda 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.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting of December 3, 2001;
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of December 3, 2001;
- C. Payment of the Bills for December 17, 2001 in the amount of \$303,345.59;
- D. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of November 12, 2001;
- E. Monthly Budget Report for November, 2001.

Motion

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

Voice Vote

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

- A. Swearing-in of our new Police Officer Ed Richter.

Chief Thomas introduced Ed Richter relating that Ed had been raised in Sycamore and had recently served in the military. Chief Thomas said that Officer Richter would leave for Police Training Institute at the University of Illinois on December 27th for 13 weeks. Clerk Smith gave the Oath of Office to Officer Richter.

B. The City Administrator and Human Resource Director Jean Tritle will present service awards to City Employees. A list of the honorees is attached.

Administrator Nicklas and Human Resource Director Jean Tritle presented service awards to the following employees:

5-YEAR CERTIFICATES -Gary Egler (Public Works), Rebecca Hepker (Fire Dept.), Sharesa Rogers (Police Dept.), Debbie Ratfield (Police Dept.), D. Shaun Penn (Fire Dept.), Colleen Ziegler (Police Dept.)
10 YEAR CERTIFICATES - Michael Anderson (Police Dept.) and Mark Oltman (Water Dept.)

15-YEAR CERTIFICATE - Darrell Johnson (Police Dept.)

20-YEAR PLAQUES - Gary Carlson (Fire Dept.), James Lyon (Fire Dept.), Douglas Martha (Police Dept.), Charles Scott Mayeda (Police Dept.), Ken Mundy (Administration), Robert Rosenberg (Police Dept.), Kevin Sargent (Fire Dept.), Thomas Scott (Police Dept.), Patrick Solar (Police Dept.), Robin Yeager (Water Dept.)

25-YEAR (PLUS) AWARDS - Cary Niewold – 25 years (Fire Dept.), Duane Prather – 25 years (Fire Dept.), Jacob Spartz, Jr. – 25 years (Fire Dept.), Luke Morton, Jr. – 26 years (Police Dept.), Keith Snyder – 26 years (Police Dept.), Eugene Listy – 37 years (Fire Dept.), George Spartz – 37 years (Fire Dept.), Lester Johnson – 38 years (Fire Dept.)

Mayor Swedberg thanked the recipients for their years of service and noted that collectively they represented 504 years of experience in the City organization.

Aldersperson Maness received a phone call regarding several barking dogs and the caller expressed concern that the dog noise ordinance was not sufficient. Administrator Nicklas delegated the concern to Chief Thomas to review.

Aldersperson Blickem received a call regarding the mailbox inspection form that her constituent received from the Street Department. Superintendent Busse explained that they were trying to get citizens to comply with U.S. Post Office standards regarding street-side mailboxes in order to eliminate damage from the snowplows.

Aldersperson Bauer reported that a street light was out at the corner of Locust and High. Mr. Bauer also inquired about the status of the entrance sign on Route 23. Administrator Nicklas said that the sign should go up before Christmas.

Aldersperson Chambon inquired about the status of the speed limit signs on Mercantile Drive. Chief Thomas said that the traffic analysis had not been completed.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator – Bill Nicklas – no report

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty reported that since the last meeting he had written 6 permits: 2 single-family residential and 4 miscellaneous residential.

Treasurer – Ken Mundy reported that the November financials reflected a 58% benchmark and the revenues remained a little ahead of expenses. Treasurer Mundy said the finances were in good shape.

Fire Chief –Bill Riddle announced that the blood drive was scheduled for December 20, 2001 and appointments could be made through Kimberly Watley. Chief Riddle reported that the Fire Department was accepting applications for Paid On Call Firefighters.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported that new recruit, Ed Richter, would return from training in about 13 weeks to work on the street with a training officer for 10 – 14 weeks. Chief Thomas reported that they had received 313 calls for service in the last 14 days.

Public Works Supt. -- Fred Busse informed the Council that the new Public Works building should be under roof in about a month.

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith reported that one of the City wells was under repair because of a broken pipe at the bottom of the well. Superintendent Smith said the pipe had been removed for repair and until it was replaced in a couple of weeks, the City was operating satisfactorily on two wells.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance –no report

Ordinance – Chair Cheryl Maness reported they had met earlier and asked Administrator Nicklas to bring back an ordinance reflecting the committees recommendation for new building fees at the next meeting. Ms. Maness listed the fees as follows: Plan review – resident 1-story \$80, resident 2-story \$120, multi-family \$40/unit; Electrical fees – residential \$50, industrial and commercial 20,000 sq.ft. building 1-200 Amp service \$100, industrial and commercial 50,000 sq.ft. building 1-400 Amp service \$175, industrial and commercial 100,000 sq. ft. building 1-1200 Amp service \$300, and motels 60 room 30,000 sq.ft. \$950.

Police & Fire - no report

Sewer & Water – Chair Alan Bauer reported that the committee still had a lot of work to do regarding sewer and water rates.

Streets & Walks – no report

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing on the Proposed Ward Map.

No public comment.

ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance No. 2001.52—An Ordinance Regarding the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Brian Grainger Construction, Inc. for a Special Use Permit and Subdivision Plat for the property Known as 1158-1160 Penny Lane in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the Special Use Permit and Subdivision Plat were necessary to allow the duplex/townhouse structures to sell in fee simple. Mr. Nicklas said that all the documents were in order and requested approval of the Plan Commission recommendation.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2001.52 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.52 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

B. Ordinance No. 2001.53—An Ordinance Regarding the Recommendation of the Plan Commission With Regard to the Petition of Ideal Industries for a Subdivision of the Firm’s Manufacturing and Headquarters Parcel on Park Avenue and a Variance from the Side Yard Requirements of Section 10.02.4 of the Sycamore Zoning Code, in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that the petitioner wanted to subdivide the roughly 45-acre site into two parcels in order to allow them to be insured and taxed separately. Mr. Nicklas explained that by subdividing they would create a non-conforming situation and would need a variance for a side yard setback requirement.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinance 2001.53 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve Ordinance 2001.53 and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

C. Ordinance No. 2001.54—An Ordinance Amending Title 1, “Administration,” Chapter 11, “Miscellaneous Provisions,” Section 1-11-2 “Wards,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas explained that this ordinance reflected the ward map configuration recommended by Council at the November 5, 2001, City Council meeting. Mr. Nicklas said that the ward map complied with federal standards for generally equal and compact voting districts.

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to hear Ordinance 2001.54 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve Ordinance 2001.54 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. Four Alderspersons voted aye with Alderspersons Blickem and Tripp voting nay. Motion carried 4-2.

D. Ordinance No. 2001.55—An Ordinance Amending Title 4, “Public Health and Safety,” Chapter 2, “Garbage and Refuse,” Section 4-2-4, “Collection and Refuse,” Subsection G, “Fees,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Administrator Nicklas said this ordinance was the reflection of Council’s direction from the December 3, 2001, workshop meeting. Mr. Nicklas said this ordinance would raise the user fees as follows:

- a) January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002: \$10 per month;
- b) January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003: \$12 per month;
- c) January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004: \$14 per month.

Motion

Aldersperson Tripp moved to hear Ordinance 2001.55 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

Motion

Aldersperson Tripp moved to approve Ordinance 2001.55 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote. Five Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Bauer voting nay. Motion carried 5-1.

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 401—Adopting an Amortization Period for IMRF Early Retirement Incentives.

Administrator Nicklas explained that IMRF required a resolution setting an amortization schedule for the ERI program. Mr. Nicklas said that the amortization periods of five to ten years could be considered and he recommended the shortest possible period of five years.

Motion

Aldersperson Chambon moved to approve Resolution 401 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

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

CONSIDERATIONS

None

APPOINTMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20p.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.

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith