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SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2001

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James Edwards called the meeting to order and Clerk Nancy Marchiando called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Candy Smith, Pam Blickem, James Huntley, Keven Dahl, Alan Bauer, Michael Chambon, Cheryl Maness and Patrick Balentyne. Eight Alderpersons were present and none were absent.

INVOCATION

Williams Mills of the Bethal Assembly of God Church gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Edwards reminded the Council of the Closed Session scheduled at the end of the meeting.

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda as presented and Alderperson Smith seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Michael McVey, 143 North Avenue, informed the Department Heads that as a candidate for Mayor he would like to meet with them to discuss goals for the next four years and beyond. He stated he favored the historic preservation especially in light of the plans of DeKalb County. He asked if any funds were available for homeowners outside the TIF District for making improvements to their homes. He inquired about payment of a bill for City Attorney Peter Smith and asked for an explanation of the charges. Attorney Peter Smith responded and explained the invoice charges.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of the regular City Council meeting of January 15, 2001.

**Motion**

Alderperson Balentyne moved to approve the minutes of January 15, 2001, and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

2. Payment of bills for February 5, 2001.

## **Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to approve the bills of February 5, 2001, in the amount of \$249,689.01 and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

## **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS.**

Aldersperson Balentyne asked Engineer John Brady about any correspondence with IDOT regarding the left turn signal at the intersection of Route #64 & #23. Engineer Brady responded that a master agreement for signal lights was being reviewed and information should be received in a couple of months.

Aldersperson Bauer spoke regarding a sub-area plan and urged the Council to take action. Administrator Nicklas reported on conversation by the Plan Commission concerning a sub-area plan and said there were available funds in the budget that could be used for the project.

Aldersperson Chambon stated he had received several calls regarding neighborhood cats that owners do not or cannot control which are creating a nuisance. Administrator Nicklas stated that he too had received calls regarding dogs who were barking because of a cat in the yard. Aldersperson Chambon requested that a nuisance-fine ordinance be considered by the Ordinance Committee.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator - Bill Nicklas - voiced a word of caution regarding a recent computer virus that hit the office that week. He stated that at the next meeting he would present a preliminary general budget and a list of capital needs. Administrator Nicklas announced that a candidate's orientation night would be held and explained the agenda for the evening.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty - he announced that 15 permits had been issued in the past two weeks : 8 single family, 3 miscellaneous residential and 4 miscellaneous commercial.

Fire Chief - Bill Riddle - announced the department had received 72 calls for service: 24 were EMS related, 38 Fire related. He stated that 15 cats were found at a fire which brought up a health issue. The department saw a total of 24 patients and transported 19.

Police Chief - Roy Garcia - explained that a competition blood drive had been held between the Fire & Police Departments and announced that the Fire Department had won the competition and he presented a plaque to Fire Chief Riddle. He stated that 2200 calls for service had been received, twelve of which referenced complaints regarding cats. He informed the Council of the recent raid at an apartment building located at 142-145 North Avenue.

Street Department - Supt. Gene Listy - announced that he would be retiring effective May 1, 2001.

Administrator Nicklas stated that Gene is a man of few words, but tall deeds. He added that Gene is a person who is always there and is truly an unselfish public servant. He said that copies of a press release had been distributed by Gene.

Mayor Edwards spoke of the dedication and reliability of Gene Listy. Alderperson Bauer and Huntley expressed words of thanks to Gene. Administrator Nicklas said that Gene would continue as a POC Firefighter for the City and there would be opportunities to honor him in the next few months.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - Alan Bauer - No report.

Ordinance - James Huntley - deferred to Clerk Marchiando who asked that information from the U.S. Passport Agency, which would provide a new means of revenue for the Clerk's office be placed in the Ordinance Committee.

Streets & Walks - Cheryl Maness - no report.

Sewer & Water - Patrick Balentyne - no report.

Fire & Police - Keven Dahl - no report.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

None.

#### ORDINANCES

None.

#### RESOLUTIONS

None.

#### CONSIDERATIONS

1. Consideration of an Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Administrator Nicklas presented some background regarding historic district preservation and asked if the Council was interested in setting up a commission that would present ways and means to preserve the look of the historic district. Administrator Nicklas said that this issue came to him because someone had asked what could be done to protect people from doing garish things to historic homes, which in turn stirred interest in historic preservation through a commission. Alderperson Smith stated that downtown business owners should be involved. It was suggested that an open meeting be held and an invitation extended to all participants.

Aldersperson Balentyne asked if interest was for an active commission for the preservation or for it to be handled by ordinances established by the Council. Mayor Edwards said the present historic district does not have much to prevent the leveling of a historic building and stressed that there is a need to put “meat” into some rules.

Administrator Nicklas stated that Steve Bigolin (local historian) stated he would approach the State agency to have someone come to an open meeting who could suggest start up ideas. A date later in March or April was suggested for such a meeting.

#### APPOINTMENTS

None.

#### CLOSED SESSION

##### **Motion**

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

##### **Voice Vote**

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

#### RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

##### **Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to return to open session at 9:21 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

##### **Voice Vote**

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

##### **Motion**

Aldersperson Balentyne moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

##### **Voice Vote**

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

Approve:

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Mayor - James S. Edwards

Attest:

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City Clerk - Nancy S. Marchiando