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**SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MAY 21, 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, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, Andrew Larson, Pam Blickem, and Janice Tripp. Those Alderpersons absent were: Michael Chambon.

**INVOCATION**

Treasurer Ken Mundy gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the agenda with the postponement of Ordinance 2001.04 and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Sycamore City Council Workshop of April 2, 2001.
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of May 3, 2001.
- C. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting and the Regular City Council Meeting of May 7, 2001.
- D. Payment of the Bills in the amount of \$414,738.19 for May 21, 2001.
- E. Plan Commission Minutes for the Meeting of April 9, 2001.

**Motion**

Alderperson Blickem moved to approve the consent agenda and Alderperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**PROCLAMATION**

- A. Proclamation Declaring the Week of May 20-26, 2001 as Emergency Medical Services Week in the City of Sycamore.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Swedberg announced that Sycamore received the Certificate of Achievement for Competitive Communities Initiative Stage 4, from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA). Examples of the City of Sycamore's accomplishments include:

- \$9 million to plan, upgrade, and develop the infrastructure necessary to meet current and future development needs identified in their action plans. (storm and sanitary sewer systems development, improvement to street and road networks, and expansion of water treatment and storage facilities)
- Improved working relationships with DeKalb County and the City of DeKalb on development and infrastructure issues.

- Hiring of a downtown coordinator resulting in better relations between the City, the downtown merchants and the Chamber of Commerce to oversee the \$900,000 downtown development and rehabilitation project.
- Implementation of activities to promote tourism as an economic development activity.
- Completion of the update to the comprehensive plan that addressed all issues and concerns identified during the self-assessment process.
- Increased available retail commercial space in the community by approximately 400,000 sq ft.

Mayor Swedberg reminded Council and the audience about the Memorial Day Activities for Monday, May 28, 2001. The Mayor's breakfast is in DeKalb early morning and the service at the Sycamore Vet's Club begins at 10:00 A.M. with a parade following.

## **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

Administrator - Bill Nicklas – said the request for proposals for legal services will be published in Friday's Daily Chronicle. Mr. Nicklas will see to it that corporate people at the DeKalb County Courthouse also get copies of the request for proposals.

Engineer - John Brady – reported plans were released today for the Street Dept. sight improvement with bids due June 4, 2001.

Building & Zoning - Lyle Doty – reported he issued 8 permits: 2 new single-family residential, 5 miscellaneous residential, and 1 miscellaneous commercial.

Treasurer - Ken Mundy –distributed a written summary of the expenditures he incurred in the prior fiscal year.

Fire Chief - Bill Riddle – reported 41 calls for service: 27 EMS and 14 non-fire and fire (with no fire loss). Chief Riddle stated that the 1923 Stutz campaign received over \$16,000 in pledges, and the truck will be returning to Sycamore June 29, 2001. Chief Riddle also informed the Council that the Sycamore Fire Department joined the Kishwaukee Community Hospital EMS System, a significant move from Rockford Memorial to the local system. Mayor Swedberg thanked the Chief for his department's thermal imaging camera demonstration prior to the meeting.

Police Chief - Darrell Johnson - complimented the department's teamwork in catching the K-Mart Store armed robber. Chief Johnson thanked Tom Scott and the explorer post for representing the department at Cherry Vale Mall last weekend. The Chief also thanked Mike Larmon for providing safety inspections for child safety seats at the Mitsubishi Dealership. He said the speed trailer would be placed at a variety of places around town. Chief Johnson said D.A.R.E. graduations are taking place. Chief Johnson reported that Mercantile Drive needs a speed study, and John Brady said that the speed limit is 55 m.p.h. unless otherwise stated.

Public Works Supt. – no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – reported that GIS/GPS Mapping will start the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June and wanted to remind the community that a stranger (dressed like a ghost buster) will be in town walking through neighborhoods. Water Department personnel will accompany him most of the time; it was suggested he carry a City I.D.

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report

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

Police & Fire – Alderperson Stowe thanked the Fire Department for the thermal imaging demonstration.

Sewer & Water – Alderperson Bauer asked to schedule a meeting June 18 to review past and present projects.

Streets & Walks – Alderperson Paulsen reported that the consensus of the committee was to keep using the same parking meters. Mayor Swedberg suggested they discuss special parking spots for vehicles with wheelchair lifts.

## ORDINANCES

### **A. Ordinance No. 2001.03—An Ordinance Concerning the Recommendation of the Plan Commission with Regard to the Request of John Castle Builders, LLC to Amend the Special Use Permit for Lot 2 of the Foxpointe Condominium P.U.D. in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this ordinance would allow Mr. Castle to sell in fee simple the attached condominiums with a common lot line.

#### **Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to have a first and second reading on Ordinance No. 2001.03 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.

#### **Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to bring into Ordinance and Alderperson Larson seconded the motion.

#### **Voice Vote**

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

### **B. Ordinance No. 2001.05—Approving an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and B & B Development, L.P. Regarding the Installation of a Sewer Trunk Line in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas defined this agreement as basically a requirement of the developer to defend the City against any claims that might arise from improper workmanship, or other causes, for up to two years after the acceptance by the City of the work on the extension of a sanitary sewer along city easements.

#### **Motion**

Alderperson Stowe moved to have a first and second reading on Ordinance No. 2001.05 and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

#### **Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Larson moved to bring into Ordinance and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**C. Ordinance No. 2001.06—An Ordinance Approving the Execution of a Settlement Agreement Between the City of Sycamore, Illinois and Barbara Louise Messinger and Daniel H. Jahns, as Co-Trustees of Trust No. 100 UAD January 2, 1996 in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas described this easement as a necessary path for the conveyance of storm water that will be released at a controlled rate from the Bethany detention pond under construction at the Southwest corner of Bethany and Somonauk Streets. City Attorney Peter Smith listed some minor changes that would need to go into the agreement.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to have a first and second reading on Ordinance No. 2001.06 and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Blickem moved to bring into Ordinance with the changes Attorney Smith listed and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**D. Ordinance No. 2001.07—Approving a Grant of \$17,000 to the Voluntary Action Center for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to hear Ordinances 2001.07, 2001.08, and 2001.09 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to bring into Ordinance 2001.07 into ordinance and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. Six Alderspersons voted aye with Aldersperson Blickem abstaining. Motion carried.

**E. Ordinance No. 2001.08—Approving a Grant of \$1,000 to the DeKalb County Community Foundation for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this grant would be used to offset the operational liabilities of the foundation and optimize the funds available for use.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to bring into Ordinance and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**F. Ordinance No. 2001.09—Approving Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation Effective May 1, 2001 to April 30, 2002 Providing for a Grant of \$7,000 in Return for Services to the City of Sycamore. First and Second Reading.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this grant would underwrite the DCEDC staff's responses to cold calls and other inquiries concerning industrial space in Sycamore.

Roger Hopkins, Director, DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation, distributed and spoke about the economic profile of DeKalb County.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Bauer moved to bring into Ordinance and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Aldersperson Stowe asked Administrator Nicklas to follow the returns on this grant, he has voted against this grant in the past, and would like a report before next budget year.

**Voice Vote**

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Resolution No. 379—Approving the Appropriation of the Motor Fuel Tax Funds to Fund Work to be Completed on Illinois Routes 23 & 64 (State Street) Which Is Designated as Section 01-00066-00-SW to be Performed Pursuant to Contract.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this resolution is required by the Illinois Department of Transportation to appropriate state motor fuel tax funds to this project.

**Motion**

Aldersperson Maness moved to approve the resolution and Aldersperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**B. Resolution No. 380—Awarding a Construction Contract for the State Street Improvement Project, Section 01-00066-00-SW, in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

Administrator Nicklas clarified that this resolution would award the contract for this phase.

**Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the resolution awarding the bid to Alliance of Woodstock for \$619,399.04, the differential between their low bid and our budget will be made up by motor fuel tax out of the motor fuel tax budget, and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**C. Resolution No. 381—Adopting the IMRF Early Retirement Incentive Program in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

Administrator Nicklas explained this resolution creates a 1-year opportunity for early retirement, giving qualified employees a chance to buy retirement years, while allowing the city to hire replacement employees at a lower wage.

**Motion**

Alderperson Maness moved to approve the resolution and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation to Award the Contract for the City’s Annual Independent Audit to Siepert & Co. in the Amount of \$19,500.**

Administrator Nicklas requested Council consider Siepert & Co. to perform the audit, because they are familiar with our records. Mr. Nicklas feels the relationship counts more than the \$600 savings by using the lowest bidder.

Steve Garland, Accounting Supervisor, City of Sycamore, who has done public auditing for many years, reinforced that the relationship and experience with an auditor are worth more than the \$600 difference.

**Motion**

Alderperson Bauer moved to accept Siepert & Co’s bid of \$19,500, and Alderperson Blickem seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote**

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

**B. Consideration of a Plan Commission Recommendation Regarding a Proposed Sewer Easement on the Property of William Lenschow.**

Administrator Nicklas explained that this is a public discussion that is in no way binding, but indicates the sense of the body that this is a reasonable path for the sewer easement for future development.

**Consensus of Council**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve this concept of a reasonable path for the sewer and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

**Voice Vote for This Non-binding Concept**

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

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion**

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. and Aldersperson 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.

Approve:

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Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

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City Clerk – Candy Smith