
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL –MEETING 6:00 PM
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 – 308 WEST STATE ST. SYCAMORE, IL 60178

ROLL CALL

Alderman Bauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and City Clerk Mary Kalk called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were Virginia Sherrod, Chuck Stowe, Ben Bumpus, Nancy Copple, Alicia Cosky, and Pete Paulsen. Mayor Braser and Alderman Jeff Fischer were absent. Attorney Kevin Buick (scrivener's error) was also present.

INVOCATION led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION

Alderperson Copple motioned to approve the agenda and Alderperson Sherrod seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Alderman Bauer called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of August 21, 2023
- B. Payment of the Bills for September 5, 2023, in the amount of \$176,257.28.

MOTION

Alderperson Stowe motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Alderman Bauer called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Sherrod, Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

Alderperson Copple reported on the Library Board from the report included herein.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – Alan Bauer – no report
Public Safety – Pete Paulsen – no report
Public Works – Chuck Stowe – no report

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCES

CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Consideration of a Fire Department Request to Purchase a New 2025 Foster Coach Ambulance.

City Manager Michael Hall said that the Fire Department is looking to replace a 2008 ambulance so this is a purchase order that will not be charged until 2025. They need a purchase order, though, to begin because it takes 24-30 months to build it out. Per the agenda, it costs \$318,483 for the ambulance and \$150,000 for the equipment for a total of \$469,000 and said that the Fire District has historically contributed a third. He also noted that they will use as much equipment as possible from the old one if it is compatible.

MOTION

Aldersperson Paulsen made a motion to approve the consideration and Aldersperson Bumpus seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Alderman Bauer called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Sherrod, Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- B. Consideration of a Public Works Request to Authorize a Letter of Agreement with Xylem Vue Powered by GoAigua (XVPGA) and the City of Sycamore Regarding Participation in the ICEAS 2.0 Pilot Program and Expected Deliverables.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this was brought to the city council in the past for Sycamore being selected by Xylem as a test site for a SCADA monitoring system. The equipment will be donated but the yearly software costs are \$35,000 a year for a three-year contract. This is supposed to make it more efficient and cut down on costs.

Public Works Director Matt Anderson added that the city will be able to keep the equipment after three years and can decide at that time if the city wants to continue to pay for the software as a service.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe made a motion to approve the consideration and Aldersperson Sherrod seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Alderman Bauer called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Sherrod, Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m. and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Alderman Bauer called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Alderman - Alan Bauer
Attest:

City Clerk – Mary Kalk

On Tuesday, August 8, 2023, the Sycamore Public Library Board of Trustees voted to move forward with replacing the windows in the Library's addition, built in 1995. The windows installed were wood clad, residential windows and have deteriorated significantly over the last 25+ years. The Library is working with Dewberry Architects on the project. The task order for Dewberry to oversee the bidding and scheduling is \$24,150. The Library will keep the City informed as the project progresses.

The Library currently has two openings for

- Facilities @ 18 hours per week, pay range \$16.05-\$20.95 per hour DOQ
 - This position has been open since the beginning of July
- Youth and Teen Services Library Assistant @ 18 hours per week, \$14.34 - \$15.75 per hour
 - Bridget our current YTS team member is staying on until the end of September

There were 976 summer reading challenge participants this year across the preschool, youth, teen, adult & staff summer reading challenges. Last year, we had 794 overall summer reading challenge participants plus about the same number of Head Start and OSCAR outreach participants. This summer we again offered two outreach programs for summer reading—one at Head Start where we had 48 participants, and the other at OSCAR (summer camp for school age children through D427.) There were 172 total students at OSCAR who participated this year.

The Summer Extravaganza (end of summer reading party) was held on Friday, July 28. It was originally slated to be held at the Park District's Community Center, but a malfunctioning splash pad, mid 90's temperatures, and predicted severe thunderstorms necessitated the event be moved to the Library. We had 405 people of all ages in attendance this year which smashed last year's attendance of 329. Attendees enjoyed hot dogs donated by Country Store, lemonade donated by Raising Cane's, frozen custard donated in part by Culver's and a variety of activities including face painting, balloon animals and entertainment by local bluegrass band Truman's Ridge. The dramatic play area also saw lots of use during the event. Many compliments were received from attendees who enjoyed the event and were grateful to escape the heat and humidity.

Library programs slow down each August, as summer reading has ended and folks prepare for the upcoming school year. This pause also gives staff a welcome respite after the busyness of summer. That said, we hosted 38 regular programs like Chair Yoga, book clubs, story-times and tech help.

Looking ahead to September we are looking forward to hosting the following, in addition to our regular programs

September 6th – 7p

We are thrilled to welcome two-time Pulitzer Prize winning author Colson Whitehead to our Illinois libraries to discuss storytelling. The #1 New York Times bestselling author of multiple books and a collection of essays, Whitehead is only the fourth writer to win two Pulitzers in the Fiction category (for *Underground Railroad* in 2018 and *The Nickel Boys* in 2020). In 2023, President Biden awarded Whitehead a National Endowment for the Humanities Medal.

September 17th - 2p - 4p

In this second part of the three-part *History of Homes Series*, Jason will show you how to dig deep with Census records on Ancestry and delve into prior ownership with online city records.

September 21st – 5p - 8:30p

Sycamore Library and Whiskey Acres are hosting another night of fun; Small Batch Fall Fest. Join us to celebrate the changing of seasons under the stars at the Historic Tasting Room on the Cocktail Patio. Dance to the bluegrass stylings of returning band Frogwater, enjoy the food truck, sip on drink specials, experience a BOGO distillery tour, and more!

September 29th – 6p (after hours)

I Know What You Did Last Summer (R). Brimming with 90's "it" actors and actresses, this movie reworks a classic urban legend; *The Hook*. Popcorn and soda are provided.