
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2004

ROLL CALL

Mayor John Swedberg called the meeting to order and Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Alan Bauer, Terry Kessler, Andrew Larson, Barbara Leach, Cheryl Maness, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe and Janice Tripp.

INVOCATION

Elder William Bridgewater of the Israel of God Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Swedberg added a Proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Month.

Motion

Alderperson Larson moved to approve the agenda with the change and Alderperson Leach seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Barbara Hudson, 2319 Fairland Drive said she went to the County and found that some pin numbers for properties in Sycamore are recorded in the wrong townships. She said she would like to form a team to make corrections.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the City Council Meeting of April 19, 2004;
- B. Payment of the Bills for May 3, 2004 in the amount of \$696,519.70.

Motion

Alderperson Stowe 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 8-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

- A. **Swearing-In Ceremony for Cary Niewold, Assistant Fire Chief.**

Clerk Smith swore in Assistant Chief Cary Niewold and his wife Barbara Niewold pinned on his badge.

Chief Riddle said Assistant Chief Cary Niewold has been with the Fire Department for 28 years and his son, Tim, is doing his residency at Mayo Clinic in Rochester MN, and his daughter Garnet is living near Joliet and just had a baby.

B. Proclamation Declaring May 3 through May 7, 2004 as Public Service Recognition Week.

Mayor Swedberg read the proclamation.

C. Proclamation Declaring May as Mental Health Month.

Mayor Swedberg read the proclamation.

Aldersperson Kessler requested Council receive a quarterly report for Department spending.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Manager – Bill Nicklas reminded Council of the DCEDC Economic Outlook Breakfast the next day. Mr. Nicklas said on Thursday the City will honor the public City employees by having management serve lunch to the employees. He invited Council to attend.

Engineer – John Brady – no report

Building & Zoning –Lyle Doty – no report

Treasurer – Ken Mundy said he read in the Municipal Review Magazine that the government has made changes to the census process.

Fire Chief – Bill Riddle thanked the City staff who put together a package for his son Zack in Iraq.

Police Chief – Don Thomas reported Parking Attendant Don Chambers has returned safely after 15 months in Iraq. He said he earned the Bronze Star and began work today. Chief Thomas said they hired Joe Meeks as Community Service Officer to fill in for Jim Rossi who is out for medical reasons.

Public Works Supt. – Fred Busse - no report

Water Supt. – Ebe Smith – no report

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report

Ordinance – Chairperson Maness said they met at 6:30 and have recommended changing the Class D License in Section 3-2-7 of the City Code and the closing hours of the Class E License in Section 3-2-1 of the City Code. She said those changes would be in ordinance form at the next meeting.

Police & Fire – no report

Sewer & Water – no report

Streets & Walks – no report

PUBLIC HEARING

None

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2004.01—Re-Allocating the City of Sycamore’s Private Activity Bond Volume Cap for the Year 2004 to the Illinois Housing Development Authority for the Purpose of Issuing Mortgage Credit Certificates in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

Manager Nicklas said Council considered several options and chose to allocate the private activity bond Volume Cap to the Illinois Housing Development Authority for the purpose of issuing Mortgage Credit Certificates. He said thanks to the Mayor’s encouragement, the local media gave attention to this matter and generated public interest. Mr. Nicklas said he will communicate with the governor’s office to set this up.

Motion

Aldersperson Kessler moved to hear Ordinance 2004.01 on first and second reading and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2004.01 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 8 - 0.

- B. Ordinance No. 2004.02—An Ordinance 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.**

Manager Nicklas listed some of the services provided to Sycamore residents each year as 17,000 TransVAC trips, 350 MedVac Trips, and 18,000 meals for senior citizens and disabled persons. He said this grant only covers about 12% of TransVAC services and 3% of the Meals on Wheels and other funding sources include state and federal grants, foundation grants, private donations, and user fees.

Motion

Aldersperson Paulsen moved to hear Ordinances 2004.02, 2004.03, and 2004.04 on first and second readings and Aldersperson Kessler seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

- C. Ordinance No. 2004.03—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$10,000 to the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation for Services to Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.**

D. Ordinance No. 2004.04—An Ordinance Approving a Grant of \$1,000 to the DeKalb County Community Foundation for Services to the Citizens of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to approve Ordinances 2004.02, 2004.03, and 2004.04 and Aldersperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Roger Hopkins, Director of DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation, said he was available for questions and stated that he was proud to join the City to take part in the CCI groundbreaking ceremony.

Aldersperson Paulsen said he felt pleased and honored to take part in the CCI ceremony and was pleased to have the "golden shovel" in front of the Mayor as a memento.

Mr. Hopkins said that was a culmination of 15 months of work. He said their real estate broker contacted him in January 2003.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons present voted aye. Motion carried 8 - 0.

RESOLUTIONS

None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Request for Direction Regarding a Matching Grant Program to Improve Downtown Façades.

Manager Nicklas said the Architectural Review Committee met in April to review Miniscalco Architects' work and to plan for the next round of applications for façade loans. He said they discussed if the program would be more successful if one or more facades were targeted based on their condition or historical prominence. They also wondered if building owners and business owners would be more willing to participate as "targets" if there is a matching City grant. Mr. Nicklas suggested the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund might be a source for matching funds. Mr. Nicklas said there will be open houses Tuesday, May 04, 2004 at noon and again at 5:00 p.m. for business and building owners to review the architect renderings. He said he hopes to generate interest and curiosity and thought it would help to get Council's input regarding the matching grants.

Mayor Swedberg said he is glad to see the committee evolving and he supports the matching grants.

Aldersperson Tripp said she would like to see the facades dressed up and also supports the matching grants.

Manager Nicklas said they would need to be clear that the City would not be responsible for the maintenance of the facades once they had invested in them. He said the language of what is expected downtown would be written into the Unified Development Ordinance.

Aldersperson Stowe said they need some strings attached to the money.

Aldersperson Kessler said she appreciated that the group is allowing for some individuality.

Mr. Nicklas said any use could come and go without a lot of change.

B. Consideration of a Police Department Recommendation to Award the Contract for Three New Squad Cars to Veto Enterprises in the Amount of \$66,771.65.

Manager Nicklas said this was the only bid received and it includes all equipment, lettering, light bars, and trade-ins and is under the estimated cost of \$75,000. He said that Lt. Singer and Chief Thomas recommend the award of the contract to Veto Enterprises.

Chief Thomas said they will get rid of 3 cars and take 1 off the street to administration and all 4 of those cars average 8 years old and 150,000 miles.

Motion

Aldersperson Maness moved to accept Veto Enterprise bid in the amount of \$66,771.65 and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 -0.

C. Consideration of a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to go into Closed Session at 7:45 p.m. and Aldersperson Maness seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 -0.

Motion

Aldersperson Larson moved to return to Open Session at 8:15 p.m. and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 -0.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swedberg appointed George Bridgewater to Plan Commission.

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve the appointment and Aldersperson Larson seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Mayor Swedberg called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 8 -0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. 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 8 - 0.

Approve:

Mayor – John L. Swedberg

Attest:

City Clerk – Candy Smith