ROLL CALL
Mayor Ken Mundy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and City Clerk Candy Smith called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Alan Bauer, Steven Braser, Rick “Spider” Kramer, Pete Paulsen, Chuck Stowe, and Janice Tripp. Alderpersons Curt Lang and Becky Springer were absent.

INVOCATION
Chuck Ridulph of St. John Lutheran Church gave the invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion
Alderperson Kramer moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Braser seconded the motion.

Voice vote
Mayor Mundy called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Boy Scout Travis Evans of Troop 49 introduced his leader and fellow Boy Scouts and said they were working on the communications merit badge.

APPOINTMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of March 7, 2016.
B. Plan Commission Meeting Minutes from February 8, 2016.

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

Voice vote
Mayor Mundy called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

City Manager– Brian Gregory reported the first garbage pickup in April will include yard waste. He said that DeKalb County will hold a TV collection at the Health Department on April 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Deputy Police Chief – Darrell Johnson reported they are vigorously working out revisions and updating Title 6 of the Municipal Code.
Fire Chief – Pete Polarek reported they have replaced their 14 ft. inflatable boat because the seams were not repairable. He said they hope to get it into service by the end of next week.

Director of Public Works – Fred Busse reported they have started repairing parkway damage from last winter’s snow removal.

Treasurer/Asst. to the City Manager – Adam Orton distributed the February Treasurer’s Report with a benchmark of 83%. He said that weighted revenues were at 84% and weighted expenditures were at 82%. He said that both Police and Fire Pension Funds declined, but anticipated they will look better for March.

Building & Engineering Director - John Sauter reported they have received many single-family permit inquiries, have issued several commercial remodel permits, and have written a temporary occupancy for Ideal.

City Engineer - Mark Bushnell reported the 2016 Street Program documents and plans are available in the City Clerk’s office and bids are due April 13. He said they will be sending notification letters to residents living on streets scheduled for reconstruction to give them the opportunity to repair their water and sewer service prior to the road construction.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – no report
Public Safety – no report
Public Works – no report

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCES


City Manager Gregory explained there has been discussion for several month regarding the Rural Residential zoning classification and this ordinance is the culmination of those meetings and discussions. He read the changes from the agenda as follows:

LIVESTOCK ANIMALS: Domesticated animals limited to horses, cattle, donkeys, mules, alpacas, llamas, sheep, hogs, goats and poultry.

Number of Livestock Animals - There shall be no more than (2) horses or other livestock animals kept on a lot containing a minimum of five (5) acres. For each additional acre over five (5) acres, no more than one additional horse or other livestock animal shall be permitted.

He said that guesthouses were eliminated, maximum height of buildings was reduced to 2 ½ stories, a Special Use Permit will be required for game breeding & hunting preserves, and gun clubs will not be permitted.

He said the Plan Commission voted to forward a favorable recommendation for these changes 10-0 on March 14 and he recommended Council approval.
Motion
Alderperson Stowe moved to hear Ordinance 2015.45 on first and second hearing and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice vote
Mayor Mundy called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Motion
Alderperson Paulsen moved to approve Ordinance 2015.45 and Alderperson Stowe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.


City Manager Gregory explained that ComEd owns and operates the substation at 385 South Avenue and they want to erect a 100’ steel monopole to maintain the telecommunications network for the substation. He noted that the analog system currently in use is being phased out and replaced with wireless technology. He said the proposed pole meets the City’s standards and criteria for a Special Use Permit. He said that Plan Commission forwarded this with a favorable recommendation with a vote of 10-0 with a condition that ComEd not allow any other company to lease space on the pole.

Motion
Alderperson Braser moved to hear Ordinance 2015.46 on first and second hearing and Alderperson Kramer seconded the motion.

Voice vote
Mayor Mundy called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Motion
Alderperson Braser moved to approve Ordinance 2015.46 and Alderperson Tripp seconded the motion.

Alderperson Bauer said we are blessed with good, reliable electric service compared to where he works and he said if this will help improve that service it will be a good thing.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

George Gaulrapp, ComEd External Affairs Manager, thanked Council and said that the Mayor and City Manager have his cell phone number and encouraged Council to use it if needed.

RESOLUTIONS

City Manager Gregory noted that the next three Resolutions deal with Motor Fuel Tax and our 2016 street maintenance program. He said this resolution allocates $300,000 plus a contingency.

**Motion**
Alderperson Bauer moved to approve Resolution 656 and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**B. Resolution No. 657—A Resolution Approving a Preliminary Engineering and Construction Guidance Agreement with Testing Services Corporation for Motor Fuel Tax Funds in FY17 for the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

City Manager Gregory explained that this Resolution allots about $2,625 for an agreement with Testing Services Corporation.

**Motion**
Alderperson Tripp moved to approve Resolution 657 and Alderperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**C. Resolution No. 658—A Resolution Approving a Preliminary Engineering and Construction Guidance Agreement with Municipal Engineering Corporation for Motor Fuel Tax Funds in FY17 for the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

City Manager Gregory explained that this agreement for $37,375 is for services provided by Municipal Engineering Corporation for our street program.

**Motion**
Alderperson Kramer moved to approve Resolution 658 and Alderperson Braser seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

**D. Resolution No. 659—A Resolution Approving an Extension to an Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and KMB Computing, Inc. for Information Technology Services During the Period May 1, 2016 Through April 30, 2017.**

City Manager Gregory explained that this extends our 12-year contract with KMB Computing for another year to provide day-to-day computer support. He noted that the City is not quite ready for a full-time staffer in this position.

**Motion**
Alderperson Braser moved to approve Resolution 659 and Alderperson Stowe seconded the motion.

**Roll call vote**
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.
E. Resolution No. 660—A Resolution Approving a Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sycamore and the County of DeKalb Regarding the Consolidation of Dispatching Services in DeKalb County.

City Manager Gregory explained that this memorandum has a term of five years with an additional five-year automatic renewal, but can be terminated by either party with a one-year notice. He said both the City and the County have agreed to look for cost-saving measures.

Alderson Braser asked if Police and Fire were happy with the service.

Fire Chief Polarek said the service is adequate and currently this was our only option.

Deputy Police Chief Johnson said he agreed with Chief Polarek and was glad this did not lock them into a long-term agreement.

Motion
Alderson Braser moved to approve Resolution 660 and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Mayor Mundy thanked City Manager Gregory for negotiating the rate increase down.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

F. Resolution No. 661—A Resolution Authorizing the Extension of the Lease Agreement Between the City of Sycamore and Go Self Insured for Suite 302 of the Sycamore Center in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

City Manager Gregory explained that this is a 6-month lease with a monthly rent of $1,211.

Motion
Alderson Braser moved to approve Resolution 661 and Alderson Kramer seconded the motion.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

G. Resolution No. 662—A Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Certain City Property

City Manager Gregory explained that property determined by the City to be no longer usable and of greater value than $50 be submitted for public or on-line auction of trade-in. He said the property being traded is 2 bikes valued at $360 to Naperville Fire Department for a ToxiRAE II gas monitoring instrument of similar value. He said he there will be disposal resolutions quarterly to ensure open government.

Motion
Alderson Paulsen moved to approve Resolution 662 and Alderson Kramer seconded the motion.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.
CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of an Administration Recommendation Regarding a Contract for Independent Financial Audit Services for the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

City Manager Gregory noted that six bids were received and Lauterback & Amen submitted the low bid for a three-year contract.

Motion
Alderperson Bauer moved to approve the bid from Lauterbach & Amen and Alderperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote
Mayor Mundy called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Bauer, Braser, Kramer, Paulsen, Stowe, and Tripp voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

B. Consideration of the Preliminary FY17 Budget.

City Manager Gregory said this budget document is online, at the Library, and in the City Clerk’s office. He said they have been discussing sections of the budget in great detail since January. He noted that the general operating fund is the core of the budget and is a balanced budget with expected revenues of $14.951 million and expenditures of $14.949 million and this year’s reserves are anticipated to be nearly 37% of the planned general fund expenditures. He said this is an introduction, there will be a public hearing at the April 4 Council meeting and action will be taken at the April 18 meeting. He said with a couple of exceptions, wage increases will be 2.25% and noted that water and sewer connection fees will most likely be amended after review by the Mayor’s AdHoc Committee.

Mayor Mundy said it was good to see reserves strengthening and transfers are lower than ever and the intended goal is to make transfers zero. He thanked City Manager Gregory and staff for their work on the budget.

C. Consideration of a Pilot Program for Sidewalk Cafés and Outdoor Restaurant Liquor Sales.

City Manager said they first discussed this request by Jesus Romero of Taxco Restaurant back in July and since then a few obstacles have been removed, some with the help of City Engineer Mark Bushnell, and two sections of the City Code have been used to outline the guidelines. He read the provisions of the proposed pilot program as listed in the agenda as follows:

- A permit subject to the approval of the Liquor Commissioner is required for a sidewalk café.
- The outdoor area must be owned or leased by the licensee.
- The establishment desiring to operate outdoor liquor sales on public sidewalks shall be required to lease the property from the City and apply for a sidewalk café license.
- The area must be enclosed with a non-barricade style fence or a series of planters that enclose the permitted area from the remainder of the public way and allows viewing area from the street, with the exception of a designated entrance.
- Barriers and furniture, including umbrellas should complement the building facade as well as any street furniture, be free of advertising or signage, be somewhat transparent (such as wrought iron) and shall be able to withstand inclement weather.
- Barriers and furniture shall be removed at the end of each business day unless otherwise approved by the City Manager.
- The height of any barrier shall not exceed three feet six inches (3'6"").
- The outdoor area is included as part of the regular food service business located on the licensed premises and alcoholic beverages may be served without food;
- Access to the outdoor area shall be limited through the licensed premises, or, if not practicable, through monitored entrances that are controlled by employees and/or reasonable fencing of the licensed premises during all operating hours and/or while alcohol is being served.
- Weekend hours of operation shall terminate one hour prior to normal closing time.
- A clear continuous pedestrian path outside of the barrier of no less than four-feet in width is required. The path cannot include any obstructions such as parking meters, street trees, streetlights, etc.
- All provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act must be satisfied.
- The charge associated with an outdoor seating area is a one-time application fee of $200 along with a $50-$100 annual use fee based on the square footage.
- The permit is valid for one year and is granted by the City Manager with advice from the Architectural Review Committee along with City Engineer, Police Chief and Director of Building and Engineering.
- The permit is non-transferrable.
- The permit holder must indemnify the City and provide proof of the appropriate insurance.
- The permit holder will be responsible for maintaining an area free and clear of debris.
- The Pilot program will be from May 1st through October 16th. The program will be reviewed in the fall/winter 2016.
- All other relevant City codes and regulations shall apply.

Mr. Gregory noted that there are several areas downtown where this will not work.

Mayor Mundy asked if the barriers would be portable and would they be pushed against the building each night.

Mr. Gregory said they would be wrought iron or steel structures with portable feet.

Jesus Romero said he would do whatever Council asks him to do, but he would like to secure them to the building each night.

Alderperson Bauer wanted to enforce that the umbrellas and tables would be free of advertising and asked about removing the barriers each day. He said he would like to keep the area free and clear of debris.

Mr. Romero said he will make the barriers look appealing as planters with flowers that will enhance the look and he'll make sure that safety is observed. He said he will need to comply with the health department and he will keep the area clean so insects and rodents will not be attracted.

Alderperson Braser asked about the time of closing the outdoor area and asked about using glass.

Mr. Romero said that plastic will blow and spill and he will keep things looking good.
Mayor Mundy said he was happy to have Jesus as the vanguard and suggested that using glass should be part of the pilot program.

Alderman Stowe said he would like the furniture and barricades restrained and anchored.

Alderman Kramer and Paulsen said they supported the pilot program.

Mr. Gregory said he would bring back an action item at the April 4 meeting. He said it looked like Council wanted the barriers restrained, the umbrellas would go inside each night, use of glass was okay and the failure to comply would result in revocation.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion
Alderman Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. and Alderman Paulsen seconded the motion.

Voice vote
Mayor Mundy called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderpersons voted aye. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Approve:

__________________________
Mayor – Ken Mundy

Attest:

__________________________
City Clerk - Candy Smith