
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL –MEETING 6:00 PM
MINUTES OF MAY 1, 2023 – 308 WEST STATE ST. SYCAMORE, IL 60178

ROLL CALL

Mayor Braser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and City Clerk Mary Kalk called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were Chuck Stowe, Alan Bauer, Alderman Elect Ben Bumpus, Nancy Cople, Jeff Fischer, Alderperson Elect Alicia Cosky, and Pete Paulsen. Alderperson Virginia Sherrod arrived at 6:46 pm after roll call. Attorney Keith Foster was also present.

INVOCATION led by Alderperson Nancy Cople

SWEARING-IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

- A. Swearing-in of First Ward Alderwoman Alicia Cosky.
- B. Swearing-in of Second Ward Alderman Chuck Stowe.
- C. Swearing-in of Third Ward Alderwoman Nancy Cople
- D. Swearing-in of Fourth Ward Alderman Ben Bumpus.

City Clerk Mary Kalk swore in the Elected Officials.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderperson Nancy Cople

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

Alderperson Cople motioned to approve the agenda and Alderperson Fischer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

David Stouffer, 1133 Bailey Road, welcomed the new City Council members and thanked the Council, Clerk, City Manager, Mayor, and Department Directors.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of April 3, 2023.
- B. Payment of the Bills for April 17, 2023, in the amount of \$496,586.70.

MOTION

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Cople, Fischer, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS

- A. Tana Knetsch to the Sycamore Fire & Police Commission.

MOTION

Alderperson Paulsen motioned to confirm the appointment and Alderperson Fischer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

- A. A Proclamation Declaring May 7th through May 13th, 2023 as Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

- B. A Proclamation Declaring the Month of May 2023 as Motorcycle Awareness Month in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.
- C. Presentation by the Sycamore Police Department of the 2022 Annual Report.

Police Chief Jim Winters thanked Deputy Chief Swartzendruber and Office Manager Mary Banasiak for the compilation of this report. He gave a brief overview highlighting pages 13, 14, & 16 saying that they take a collaborative wholistic approach. He also reported on moving forward in 2023.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

City Manager Michael Hall gave a status on the foreclosed Wild Street property that was purchased last year for \$870 and said it will come to the next council meeting regarding selling it before or after demolition of the structure.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Braser opened the Public Hearing on the proposed city budget for Fiscal Year 2023B at 6:24 pm and hearing no comments, closed the Public Hearing at 6:24 pm.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance 2023.01 – An Ordinance Concerning the Adoption of the Combined Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2023b in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is the third meeting that the council has been discussing the budget. He reminded everyone that this is an eight-month budget from May 1st to December 31st. The calendar year budget will begin January 1, 2024.

MOTION

Aldersperson Bauer motioned to approve Ordinance 2023.01 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Fischer, Cosby, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- B. Ordinance 2023.02 – An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois, to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said gave a brief history as per the agenda and said that there was a bid opening on April 6, 2023, where the project costs exceeded the estimates, so this ordinance is revising an ordinance 2022.10 debt authorization to \$6 million.

City Engineer Mark Bushnell said that with this they are able to extend the loan duration out to 30 years and take advantage of an interest rate of 0.93%.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe motioned to waive the First Reading for Ordinance 2023.02 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe motioned to approve Ordinance 2023.02 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- C. Ordinance 2023.03 – An Ordinance Amending Title 4, “Public Health and Safety,” Chapter 1, “Fire Department,” Section 7, “Ambulance Service,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said that the GEMT- Ground Emergency Medical Transportation which is a federally set amount for ambulance services was discussed at the last meeting. This ordinance will set the city’s fees to that GEMT number and then the city’s fees will adjust with that number for reimbursement.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to waive the First Reading for Ordinance 2023.03 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to approve Ordinance 2023.03 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- D. Ordinance 2023.04 – An Ordinance Amending Fee References in the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this ordinance removes references to a fee from everywhere in the code and replaced with references to the Consolidated Fee Schedule. Then they will go about the process of removing all the fees from the code and replacing it to refer to the fee schedule. The Council will review this each year.

Aldersperson Copple gave “big kudos” to Jessica Lingle who did all the work compiling the schedule and working with the departments.

Alderman Bauer said that this is truly making government more efficient.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to waive First Reading for Ordinance 2023.04 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to approve Ordinance 2023.04 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- E. Ordinance 2023.05 – An Ordinance Adopting the City of Sycamore Consolidated Fee Schedule in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

City Manager Michael Hall said that now that Ordinance 2023.04 was adopted, this adopts the fee schedule and said that this will come forward each year for approval. He added that Jess Lingle will make a more readable version with an appendix.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to waive First Reading for Ordinance 2023.05 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to approve Ordinance 2023.05 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution No. 936 – A Resolution Issuing a Notice of Intent to Award a Contract to Manusos General Contracting, Inc. of Fox Lake, IL for the Well 7 Radium Treatment Improvements, Subject to IEPA Loan Issuance.

City Engineer Mark Bushnell said that this is the first step as the Notice of Intent to Award the contract but everything needs to be approved by the IEPA.

MOTION

Aldersperson Paulsen made a motion to approve Resolution 936 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- B. Resolution No. 937 – A Resolution Approving an Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation to Commit Local Funds for a City of Sycamore Roadway Project.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is a clean-up item as in March, a resolution identified the city manager as a signatory for the road share project on Elm Street and DeKalb Avenue, but IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) requested the change to have the mayor be the signatory repealing the March resolution.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer made a motion to approve Resolution 937 and Aldersperson Stowe seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- C. Resolution No. 938 – A Resolution Approving an Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation to Commit Local Funds for a City of Sycamore Roadway Project for Construction Engineering.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this and the next resolutions are tied together, but this one commits the funds for the Elm Street and DeKalb Avenue project. The next resolution is for the engineering firm.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe made a motion to approve Resolution 938 and Aldersperson Bauer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- D. Resolution No. 939 – A Resolution Awarding a Construction Engineering Services Contract to Trotter and Associates Inc.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is hiring the engineering firm, Trotter & Associates, for the project and that the city will be reimbursed 80% of funds by IDOT so the local share is \$7,600.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer made a motion to approve Resolution 939 and Aldersperson Cosky seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- E. Resolution No. 940 – A Resolution Requesting the Permission of the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Main Street to Sacramento Street from 5:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 30, 2023 to Allow for the “Turning Back Time” Car Show in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

MOTION

Alderson Stowe made a motion to take Resolutions 940, 941, 942, 943, and 944 in omnibus fashion and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- F. Resolution No. 941 – A Resolution Requesting Permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Governor Street to Sacramento Street from 6:00 PM until 7:30 PM on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 to Allow for the Sycamore High School Homecoming Parade in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.
- G. Resolution No. 942 – A Resolution Requesting Permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Kingsway Drive to Sacramento Street between 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 29, 2023 to Allow for the “Pumpkin Run” as Part of the Pumpkin Festival in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.
- H. Resolution No. 943 – A Resolution Requesting Permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Locust Street to Sacramento Street from 12:00 Noon until 5:00 PM on Sunday, October 29, 2023 to Allow for the Pumpkin Festival Parade in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.
- I. Resolution No. 944 – A Resolution Requesting Permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from California Street to Main Street from 5:55 PM until 6:15 PM on Friday, December 1, 2023 to Allow for “Walk with Santa” in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

MOTION

Alderson Cosky made a motion to approve Resolutions 940, 941, 942, 943, and 944 and Alderson Bauer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Consideration of a Police Department Recommendation to Purchase Two 2023 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Utility AWD Vehicles.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is a budget item for \$80,742 through the state purchasing agreement for two new patrol vehicles.

MOTION

Alderson Paulsen made a motion to approve \$80,742 to Sutton Ford and Alderson Copple seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Fischer, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- B. Consideration of a Public Works Request to Authorize and Approve the Purchase of Water Meters and Radio Transmitters from Midwest Meter Inc. and Core & Main in an Amount Not to Exceed \$130,000.

City Manager Michael Hall said that the Public Works Department budgets money each year to purchase radio water meters. This is set up to not exceed \$130,000 to keep from having to come back to council for each purchase allowing them to continue to purchase meters throughout the year.

Alderman Fischer asked if the cost of the meters have increased.

Public Works Director Matt Anderson said that they have gone up 15% but luckily, they have accelerated the purchases over the last several years. With about 200 “manual” meters left, and although there are still some supply-chain issues, the goal is to be all done this year and then be on a maintenance schedule.

MOTION

Alderson Bumpus made a motion to approve up to \$130,000 to Core & Main LP and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Fischer, Cosky, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

- C. Consideration of an Administration Request for Closed Session in Accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) to Discuss Collective Negotiation Matters between the Public Body and its Employees or their Representatives, or Deliberations Concerning Salary Schedules for One or More Classes of Employees.

MOTION

Alderson Fischer made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:43 pm and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION

Alderson Fischer made a motion to enter back into Open Session at 6:50 pm and Alderson Bumpus seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Back in Open Session at 6:56 pm

- D. Resolution No. 945 – A Resolution Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Sycamore and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31, on behalf of AFSCME Local 3957.

MOTION

Alderson Paulsen made a motion to approve Resolution 945 and Alderson Cosky seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stowe, Bauer, Bumpus, Copple, Fischer, Cosky, Paulsen, and Sherrod voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

Mayor - Steve Braser

Attest:

City Clerk – Mary Kalk