
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL –MEETING 7:00 PM
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2022 – 308 WEST STATE ST. SYCAMORE, IL 60178

ROLL CALL

Mayor Braser called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and City Clerk Mary Kalk called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were David Stouffer, Chuck Stowe, Nancy Copple, Jeff Fischer, Josh Huseman and Pete Paulsen. Alderpersons Alan Bauer and Virginia Sherrod were absent. Attorney Keith Foster was also present.

INVOCATION led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION

Alderperson Stouffer 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 6-0.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Phillip Weaver, 405 W. High Street, expressed concern about systemic racism in the city and asked for an investigation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Special City Council Meeting of December 5, 2022.
- B. Payment of the Bills for December 19, 2022, in the amount of \$724,437.60.

MOTION

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Stouffer, Stowe, Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

REPORT OF OFFICERS

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. A Public Hearing on the Proposed 2023 Corporate Property Tax Levy.

Mayor Braser opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 pm. Hearing no comments, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:09 pm.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance 2022.14 – An Ordinance Levying Taxes for Corporate Purposes of the City of Sycamore for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2023 and Ending December 31, 2023. Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said this is the Second Reading in choosing the option for setting the Levy. This will also include the Levy for the Library.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.14 with option #3 and Aldersperson Stouffer seconded the motion.

Option 3

Firefighter
Firefighter
Firefighter
Police Officer

Alderman Huseman confirmed that this ordinance recognizes moving to the calendar year budget and also assumes option #2 as previously discussed at the last meeting.

City Hall Manager Michael Hall confirmed that they would have to change the numbers because this ordinance is according to option #2.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Stouffer and Stowe voted aye while Alderspersons Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted nay. Motion failed by a vote of 2-4.

MOTION

Aldersperson Fischer motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.14 with option #2b and Aldersperson Huseman seconded the motion.

Option 2B

Firefighter
Firefighter
Firefighter
Police Officer
Police Officer

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Stowe, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye while Alderspersons Stouffer and Copple voted nay. Motion carried 4-2.

- B. Ordinance 2022.15 – An Ordinance Amending the City Code and Adjusting the City’s Fiscal Year to Align with the Calendar Year Beginning January 1, 2024. Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said this was discussed in the First Reading where Alderman Huseman asked for the auditor letter which was included in the manager’s report. There were no issues for them just a formatting change for the eight months and then moving back to the 12 months.

MOTION

Aldersperson Huseman motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.15 and Aldersperson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Stouffer, Stowe, Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Ordinance 2022.16 – An Ordinance Amending Title 1, “Administration,” Chapter 6, “City Council,” Section 2, “Meetings,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said this is to change the start time of the City Council meetings for which several proposals were put out at the last meeting for 6 pm, 6:30 pm, and keeping it at 7 pm for next year starting January 1st.

MOTION

Alderson Huseman motioned to table Ordinance 2022.16 and Alderson Stouffer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stouffer, Stowe, and Huseman voted aye while Aldersons Copple, Fischer, and Paulsen voted nay. Motion tied 3-3. Mayor Braser voted nay to break the tie. Motion failed by a vote of 3-4.

MOTION

Alderson Copple motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.16 changing the City Council meeting to 6 pm and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Copple, Fischer, Paulsen voted aye while Aldersons Stouffer, Stowe, and Huseman voted nay. Motion tied 3-3. Mayor Braser voted aye to break the tie. Motion carried 4-3.

- D. Ordinance 2022.17 – An Ordinance Abating the Debt Service Levy for the General Obligation Refunding Bond Issue Series 2012 for the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is required each year but added that this one will be ending in January.

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.17 and Alderson Stouffer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.17 and Alderson Stouffer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stouffer, Stowe, Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- E. Ordinance 2022.18 – An Ordinance Partially Abating the Debt Service Levy for the General Obligation Bond Issue Series 2017 Refunding Bond for the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this is required by law each year and that this one is ending in 2024.

MOTION

Alderson Huseman motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.18 and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Aldersons voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION

Alderson Huseman motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.18 and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Aldersons Stouffer, Stowe, Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS

CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Consideration of an Administration Request for Closed Session in Accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) to Discuss the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) to Discuss Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act, Whether for Purposes of Approval by the Body of Minutes or Semi-annual Review of the Minutes as Mandated; and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to Discuss Pending Litigation.

MOTION

Aldersperson Huseman motioned to enter into Closed Session at 7:20 pm and Aldersperson Stouffer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stouffer motioned to enter back into Open Session at 8:30 pm and Aldersperson Fischer seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All Alderspersons voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

- B. Consideration of Employment Agreement for City Manager.

MOTION

Aldersperson Copple made a motion to approve the Consideration and Aldersperson Huseman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Braser called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Stouffer, Stowe, Copple, Fischer, Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 6-0.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. 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 6-0.

Mayor - Steve Braser

Attest:

City Clerk – Mary Kalk