
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF May 6, 2019

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and City Clerk Mary Kalk called the roll. Those Alderpersons present were: Steve Braser, Nancy Copple, Rick Kramer, Pete Paulsen, Virginia Sherrod, Chuck Stowe, and Alan Bauer. City Attorney Keith Foster was also present.

INVOCATION – Stacie O’Daniell, Administrator, Cornerstone Christian Academy, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by 2019 Little Spartans; Ava Signorella, Robbie McCoy, Kormac Myles, Braylee Cottier, Joseph Kudabeck, Braxton Hunter, Cole Hunter, Adeline Engler, Addison Eaton, Harrison Rowland, Easton Maas, Sophia Borrelli, George Faber, and Eloise Gribble.

SWEARING-IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

- A. Swearing-in of First Ward Alderman Josh Huseman, Second Ward Alderman Chuck Stowe, Third Ward Alderwoman Nancy Copple and Fourth Ward Alderman Rick Kramer.

City Clerk Mary Kalk swore in the new and re-elected Alderpersons and congratulated them. She called roll call for Josh Huseman for the record. There were 8 present and zero absent.

Mayor Lang welcomed new Alderman Josh Huseman and introduced him.

Alderman Josh Huseman introduced his wife, Shelley, and children Charlotte, Caleb, and Caroline.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

Alderperson Kramer moved to approve the agenda and Alderperson Sherrod seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of April 15, 2019.
- B. Payment of the Bills up to April 30th (end of fiscal year) and including through May 6, 2019, in the amount of \$1,661,923.35.

MOTION

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderpersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

- A. A Proclamation Declaring May 11th as Museum Day in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

Mayor Lang presented the Proclamation to John Boies.

John Boies said thank you to the City and Officials who have helped create the History Center. He said he never would have imagined when his great-grandfather wrote the History of DeKalb County in 1865 (published in 1868) that we would come full circle in establishing this building. He urged everyone to visit.

- B. A Proclamation Declaring May 5th to May 11th, 2019 as Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Sycamore.

Mayor Lang presented the proclamation to Director of Public Works, Fred Busse.

C. A Proclamation Declaring May 5th to May 11th, 2019 as National Arson Awareness Week in the City of Sycamore.

Mayor Lang presented the proclamation to Fire Chief Pete Polarek.

D. A Proclamation Declaring May 6th to May 16th, 2019 as National Police Week in the City of Sycamore.

Mayor Lang presented the proclamation to Police Chief Jim Winters.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

City Manager – Brian Gregory congratulated all the newly or re-elected Alderpersons and welcomed Alderman Huseman to the City Council. This is the first meeting of the new fiscal year, FY20. As they look ahead over the next few months, they will put together numbers as to where FY19 finished but looks like it will come in solid again for the seventh consecutive year. The next meeting on May 20th will start with brief tour of Blumen Gardens at 6:15 p.m. The City assisted them with a small TIF grant to help with some improvements being made. He thanked Kurt Sanderson and the Public Works Department who planted a tree at West School on Arbor Day and said this is the seventh year that Kurt has lead that program. He announced that Mark Oltman from the Water Division retired April 30th after just under 30 years with the city. He thanked Mark for his time. There will be a Plan Commission meeting next Monday, May 13th for a request from Bethesda Lutheran Communities to rezone the property on the corner of Woodgate Drive and Route 23 from R-2-Two Family Residential to Commercial. They plan to maintain ownership of the property to move offices there. There will also be a discussion about action proposed tonight on the merging of the Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. He announced that the City is seeking part-time seasonal employees for odds and ends summer jobs.

Police Chief – Jim Winters said congratulations to the returning Alderpersons and to new Alderman Josh. He updated the Council that the digital radio system training for the officers will take place next week and the tower at Irene Road is being worked on. He anticipates the system will be up and running mid-June. It will enhance the communication ability and make sure officers remain safe in dead zones. The Police Officer Memorial is May 15th at 4:30 pm on the Courthouse lawn. We are in the 18th week of 2019 and there have already been 17 officers shot and killed and a total of 38 officers that have died in accidents or car crashes in the line of duty. Officer Hooper is the lead on this for the County and does a nice job. Colleen Ziegler will retire May 10th after 23 years of service. There will be a reception that day at 10:30 am with a presentation at 11:00 am.

Fire Chief – Pete Polarek said in reference to the proclamation, they have six fully trained fire investigators in the department that do a great job. They received a \$400 grant from CHS Elburn to buy some public education materials. With the fiscal year ending, they took a preliminary look at statistics and saw an 8% increase in calls over last year, with the predominant increase in emergency medical service (EMS) calls with medical alarms and lift assists with the older population. They had a 12% increase in EMS calls alone. This puts a greater demand on the service which has a cost involved. Structure fire calls and non-fire calls have decreased a bit. More details will be reported in six-eight weeks.

Director of Public Works – Fred Busse referred everyone to the brochure that he handed out and said it was provided to them for general distribution free of charge as a benefit of being a Tree City USA. They also handed these out to all the school children on Arbor Day.

Treasurer/Asst. to the City Manager – Adam Orton said happy new fiscal year and said for the annual audit, the auditors will be on-site Friday, May 17th for preliminary field work. The full field work will start the first week in July. He announced that the City has expanded the electronic payment options by now accepting credit cards in the Water Department, Finance Department, and the City Clerk's office. They received notice that the Government Finance Office Association (GFOA) is recognizing the Popular Annual Financial Reporting with a certificate of excellence. That was a project that was done by the Finance office with the assistance of Intern Kelsey Kruskol.

Building & Engineering Director – John Sauter said they're at 13 single family permits as of the end of April and they were at 13 this time last year so they're keeping pace with last year's permits. They've been busy reviewing plans for the new Park District Soccer Complex and the proposed R-4 annexation and hope to have approvals out for both in the next few weeks. They did a final inspection at Keep Rentals on East State Street and they are open for business. The owner said he had several units rented and several people moving items in after the inspection so it sounds like there's quite a bit of interest.

Human Resources Director – Maggie Peck said in conjunction with Employee Appreciation Week, the annual cookout for all employees is Thursday, May 9th at 11:30am at the Public Works building. Fred Busse and she will be grilling. They recently purchased hands-free Bluetooth devices for all city vehicles. This is in connection with the city policy for hands-free system and to also align with the safety policy.

City Engineer – Mark Bushnell said in addition to our road projects, the County has four projects that will affect Sycamore residents. These are all focused on Peace and Plank Roads. The first is CRF treatment of Peace Road. This starts 1000 feet north of IL Route 64 and extends up to the intersection of IL Route 23. This work was scheduled to start next week, but due to the forecast is pushed back until the week of May 20th. It is the same process that was used on other sections of Peace Road. Once construction starts, motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes. As the City and County projects come up, they will work with other agencies to inform residents, business owners, and motorists of upcoming construction activity.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – Alan Bauer - no report

Public Safety – Pete Paulsen - no report.

Public Works – Chuck Stowe - no report

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 2019.01—An Ordinance Amending Title 2, “Boards and Commissions,” Chapter 1, “Plan Commission,” Chapter 2, “Board of Zoning Appeals,” Chapter 6, “Board of Local Improvements,” Chapter 7, “Economic Development Committee” and Chapter 10, “Playground and Recreation Board,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading**

City Manager Brian Gregory said recommendations were discussed at the last meeting for changes for this title of the city code. He reviewed the modifications as listed in the agenda including merging the Board of Zoning Appeals in with the Plan Commission to make the Planning and Zoning Commission and to update the structure and mission of the Economic Development Committee. The Board of Local Improvements and the Playground and Recreation Board will be deleted from the code. He said if there is action on this, the Mayor’s appointments tonight are based on the recommendations and action on this ordinance.

MOTION

Aldersperson Braser moved to waive First Reading for Ordinance 2019.01 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

MOTION

Aldersperson Braser moved to approve Ordinance 2019.01 and Aldersperson Kramer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution No. 792—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 A.M. Until 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, July 28, 2019 to Allow for the “Turning Back Time” Car Show in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.**

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe moved to take Resolution 792, 793, 794, and 795 in omnibus fashion and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

B. Resolution No. 793—A Resolution Requesting Permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to Close Illinois Route 64 from Governor Street to Sacramento Street from 6:00 P.M. Until 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 to Allow for the Sycamore High School Homecoming Parade in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

C. Resolution No. 794—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 27, 2019 to Allow for the “Road Run” as Part of the Pumpkin Festival in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

D. Resolution No. 795—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 P.M. on Sunday, October 27, 2019 to Allow for the Pumpkin Festival Parade in the City of Sycamore, Illinois.

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe moved to approve Resolution 792, 793, 794, and 795 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of a Recommendation from the Building & Engineering Department Regarding the Award of a Contract for Concrete Removal and Replacement as Part of the 2019 Street Maintenance Program to Elliott and Wood of DeKalb, Illinois in the Amount of \$127,389.00.

City Manager Brian Gregory said this consideration is for the concrete work associated with the 2019 street program that includes removal and replacement of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps and storm inlets. Bids for this part of the 2019 Street Maintenance Program were opened on Wednesday, May 1st at 10:00 am. A total of two bids were submitted as follows:

Company	Base Bid
Elliott and Wood, DeKalb	\$127,389.00
Alliance Contractors, Woodstock	\$155,349.85

He said that Engineer’s estimate was \$93,674.15. The Engineer, who is here to answer questions, said he reached out to the bidders who said all the tedious work with the ADA ramps and jumping from section to section is the reason the bids are higher than anticipated based on materials for work that was done in the past year.

MOTION

Aldersperson Braser moved to approve the consideration to Elliott and Wood for \$127,389.00 and Aldersperson Copple seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

B. Consideration of a Public Works Department Request for an Open Purchase Order for Replacement Water Meters.

City Manager Brian Gregory said this is a consideration for an open purchase order for water meters and the transmitters as they continue to replace them. There are still about 2,500 of the 5,000 water meters currently in use that need to be replaced. The Water Division has made it a priority to replace those 2,500 older meters by 2023 and have budgeted \$200,000 in the FY20 budget to replace approximately 650-700 meter and transmitters. This is just for the hardware as the labor is done in-house by the Public Works Water Division team. This is similar to what we have done in the past but not with an open purchase order so he just wanted to lay it out to get approval and make everyone aware of what is happening in the Water Division. After considerable research, they are requesting approval to purchase the meters and radio transmitters from Core & Main LP and Midwest Meter Inc. He explained that the warranty starts when the meter is received not when it is installed so, they would buy them as they can be installed. There may have a dozen orders throughout the year instead of one large order.

MOTION

Aldersperson Braser moved to approve the consideration and Aldersperson Kramer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

C. Consideration of a Fire Department Recommendation to Award a Bid for a 2019 Ford F-350 Superduty XLT Brush Truck Chassis to Sycamore-DeKalb Automotive Group of Sycamore, Illinois in the Amount of \$34,915.00.

City Manager Brian Gregory said the Fire Department’s capital budget allocated \$36,000 to replace Utility #1, a 1992 Ford diesel ¾ ton pick-up truck with almost 179,000 miles. It would be traded in as part of this purchase.

A request for proposals was placed in the local newspaper on April 8th with the bid opening was held on April 26, 2019. Three bids were received as listed in the table below:

Bidder	Base Price	Trade-In	Total Price
Brad Manning Ford, DeKalb	\$37,213.00	\$1,500.00	\$35,713.00
Veto Enterprises, Sycamore	\$35,981.00	\$1,200.00	\$34,781.00
Sycamore-DeKalb Automotive Group, Sycamore	\$34,915.00	\$2,500.00	\$32,415.00

The Fire Department recommends award of the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Sycamore-DeKalb Automotive Group of Sycamore, Illinois in the amount of \$34,915.00. An allowance of \$2,500.00 will be applied as trade-in for Utility #1, bringing the cost to \$32,415.00.

MOTION

Aldersperson Kramer moved to approve the consideration to award the bid to Sycamore-DeKalb Automotive Group in the amount of \$34,915.00 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

D. Consideration of a Police Department Recommendation to Award a Bid for a 2020 Ford Utility Interceptor to Currie Motors of Frankfort, Illinois in the Amount of \$33,439.00.

City Manager Brian Gregory said the capital budget also included the purchase of a 2020 Ford Interceptor patrol vehicle for the Police Department. A total of 2 bids were submitted and opened on May 1st. The table below reflects those bids received during the open bid process and a cooperative purchase pricing program:

Bidder	Single Vehicle Bid Price w/Title, Registration, & Delivery
Veto Enterprises, Sycamore, IL	\$33,900
Manning Ford, DeKalb, IL	\$35,759
Cooperative Pricing	
Currie Motors, Frankfort, IL	\$33,439

He explained that under the competitive bidder policy allows the lowest responsible local bidder to match the lowest price, provide the submitted bid is within 5% of the lowest quote. In this case, the quote from Veto Enterprises is 1.38% higher than the cooperative purchasing stated price. The Police Department contacted Veto Enterprises, and the company is unable to match the lowest price. Therefore, the lowest responsible bid is from Currie Motors of Frankfort, Illinois in the amount of \$33,439.00.

MOTION

Aldersperson Kramer moved to approve the consideration to award the bid to Currie Motors in the amount of \$33,439 and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mayor Lang called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. Alderspersons Braser, Copple, Huseman, Kramer, Paulsen, Sherrod, Stowe, and Bauer voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

E. Consideration of a Request by Vito Brandonisio of Ristorante di Acquaviva to Create a Twelfth Class B Bar License.

City Manager Brian Gregory said Ristorante di Acquaviva currently operates under a Class A Restaurant. It was established in one building and later expanded into a second where a bar was established for the patrons to migrate to as it gets later. He approached the Liquor Commissioner requesting to transfer the Class A Restaurant to a Class B Bar license. The City had 12 bar licenses and currently has 11. The code says:

Chapter 3-2-7, "Number of Licenses," Section 2. Class B; "Bars," of the City Code reads:

A maximum of ten (10) for the first twelve thousand one hundred (12,100) in population. Thereafter, one class B license shall be authorized for each three thousand (3,000) in population. By a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the corporate authorities, the proration of licenses by population may be waived to accommodate an application for a new bar license.

He said in 2015, an additional class B license was created, however, with the changes to the classifications to carve-out video gaming cafés, there was not enough demand for the license and it was repealed. With over 450 units permitted since the last census (17,519 population) and 2.66 persons per household according to US Census data, the City's estimated current population is likely in the range of 18,500 to 19,000. The estimated population would seemingly satisfy criteria required for the creation of an additional license.

Vito Brandonisio, 1N870 Meredith Road, Maple Park said the major reason he wants to transfer to a B License is because when the customers come to enjoy the ambiance they have to leave when the kitchen closes. Another reason is to bring additional income to the city. He said he loves Sycamore and wants to stay in Sycamore, but he needs the Council's help.

Aldersperson Kramer asked if there is any recommendation from the Liquor Commission.

Mayor Lang said because of the population count, he would support it as there were 12 licenses before.

With no objections, consensus was to move forward.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Lang said that everyone he has asked to serve on committees and commissions have been very receptive which shows Sycamore is a giving town and people are willing to do their part. He has prepared the following appointments for consideration and action:

City Council Finance Committee: Alderman Josh Huseman.

City Council Public Works Committee: Alderman Josh Huseman.

Fire and Police Commission: Re-appointment of Ken Mundy (Term ends 2022).

Police Pension Board of Trustees: Justin Kness, President (2020), Dan Ludwig, Secretary (2021) and Dave Leifheit (2021).

Human Relations Commission: Re-appointment of Mary Bauer (2023), Father Carl Beekman (2023) and Reverend Steve Persson (2023).

Economic Development Committee: Appointment of Jeff Fischer (2022) and Tom Weaver (2022).

Sycamore Library Board: Re-appointment of Alderwoman Nancy Copple (2022) and Alex Wall (2022) and appointment of Eric Anstedt (2022).

Planning and Zoning Commission: Re-appointment of Dave Finney (2021) Ted Strack (2021) and Steve Nelson (2021) and appointment of Matt Woodstrup (2021) and Nate Kitterman (2021).

Architectural Review Committee: Appointment of Kim Kramer and Pat Balentyne.

The City would like to recognize and thank the following out-going board members for their service to the City:

Jim Bisceglie (Library Board), Don Paulsen (Economic Development Committee), Ron Bemis (Plan Commission), Ken George (Plan Commission), Kelly Tilstra (Architectural Review Committee), Paul Anderson (Board of Zoning Appeals), Marilyn Looney (Board of Zoning Appeals), Steve Loptien (Board of Zoning Appeals) and William Mitchell (Board of Zoning Appeals).

MOTION

Aldersperson Kramer moved to approve the appointments and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Aldersperson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. and Aldersperson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

Approve:

Mayor - Curt Lang

Attest:

City Clerk – Mary Kalk