
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF June 3, 2019

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION – Alderperson Virginia Sherrod gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Scout Alex Grados.

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 May 20, 2019.
- B. Payment of the Bills for June 3, 2019 in the amount of \$905,842.75

MOTION

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

Alderman Paulsen said he has received a lot of positive comments on the hanging baskets downtown and said thank you, as it is a nice enhancement.

Mayor Lang asked how they were going to be maintained.

City Manager Brian Gregory said they are bringing on some young adults for part-time summer work to help with watering, mowing, and such. The first one started today so the baskets will be watered.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

City Manager – Brian Gregory continued that the hanging baskets and vegetation were purchased locally, put together in-house by Public Works and Director of Human and Administrative Resources, and are cost effective. More baskets will be installed on State Street and said that he, too, has heard many positive comments. He said, as another cost effective enhancement, the website was re-themed. The skeleton behind the website stays the same but the colors and look have been updated. It has been about six years since Morningstar Media designed the website. There will be more improvements around town, one being at Johnson’s Junction to match the brick wall to the materials being used in the downtown.

Police Chief – Jim Winters said the ward meetings wrapped up last week and thanked all who were able to attend. The most talked about issues were property issues and traffic complaints. These issues will be addressed with the Ordinance Officer and the Officers. The Police Department will be hosting an internet safety preparedness class on June 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Sycamore Public Library. They will start ramping up the Lock it or Lose it Campaign to bring awareness. They have pushed this pretty strongly in the last couple of years and have seen some good results.

Alderwoman Nancy Copple added that she loves the School Resource Officers and that they do a great job representing Sycamore and protecting our kids.

Deputy Fire Chief – Todd Turner said he will defer his comments to the agenda item.

Director of Public Works – Fred Busse said they have a brand new drive-up drop box for the water bills located at Public Works at 475 N. Cross Street. The two boxes, at the former 202 E. Page Street location, will remain active until July 19th, which will accommodate the two billing cycles for anyone who still uses that address. There will be signs posted stating that the boxes will be permanently closed as of July 19th.

Treasurer/Asst. to the City Manager – Adam Orton said they have prepared the payment for the DeKalb/Sycamore Boundary Agreement, which is the shared tax revenue for parcels along the border of both communities. Sycamore’s portion only consists of property tax and this year paid DeKalb \$5,362. The amount we received from DeKalb was \$37,239.

Building & Engineering Director – John Sauter said they’re at 18 single family permits as of the end of May. Last year at this time, we were at 18, so they’ve matched last year’s pace for now. They issued a permit for an expansion of Hometown Realty at 328 West Elm Street. They are expanding their office into the vacant space to the east of their current location and they’ll occupy the entire front of the building now. Work should begin in the near future.

City Engineer – Mark Bushnell - absent

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance 2019.04—An Ordinance Amending Title 6, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic”, Chapter 4, “Traffic Schedules”, Section 10, “No Parking Zones”, to Prohibit Parking on the West Side of Locust Street from Exchange Street to Sycamore Street. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Brian Gregory said the County recently made improvements within their campus and installed curb along Locust Street from Exchange to Sycamore. As a result, one-side of the street will be made no parking. Given that the bus shelter is on the west side of the street making this side the logical for no parking.

Staff recommends section 6-4-10, “No Parking Zones” be modified as follows:

Street	Side	From	To
Locust	West	Exchange	Sycamore

MOTION

Aldersperson Bauer moved to waive First Reading for Ordinance 2019.04 and Aldersperson Kramer 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 Huseman moved to approve Ordinance 2019.04 and Aldersperson Kramer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

RESOLUTIONS - None

CONSIDERATIONS

A. Consideration of a Fire Department Recommendation to Utilize a Joint Purchasing Cooperative to Purchase a Rosenbauer Pumper-Tender Engine.

City Manager Brian Gregory said the Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sycamore Fire Protection District which called for the purchase of a pumper-tender engine to replace the 1989 Spartan Pumper engine #4 within the next 18-24 months. As part of the agreement, the Fire Protection District is assisting in the amount of \$365,000 of the roughly \$550,000 cost. Since two of the four current engines are Rosenbauers, they are the preferred vendor, especially as they look at parts and maintenance. The more similarity in brands helps in negotiating maintenance and service contracts. Rosenbauer America, has a firefighting apparatus contract with two cooperative purchasing programs: The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) and Sourcewell. By entering into a cooperative purchasing agreement, which is allowed through the State of Illinois Procurement, the City can take advantage of national purchasing contracts that are competitively bid and managed ethical and transparently. He said they see better pricing through a cooperative than through the regular bidding process. The Fire Department is identifying what our apparatus would look like. It would start with a base bid for a base price and then it would be customized for our needs. He said tonight they are just looking for support in working with one of the cooperatives, the one that has the lowest base bid price. Moving forward, it would be customized, at which time, they would arrive at a price that would come to Council for approval. There may be options, such as prepaying for the chassis, which they have done in the past but all those details will be worked out once we have that direction and select a vendor through this cooperative.

Alderman Bauer asked if there is an estimate of the cost to become members of one of these agencies.

City Manager Brian Gregory said the selected vendor will typically cover the cost in the base bid, if there is one.

Alderman Paulsen asked if both companies bid and then we choose the best price.

City Manager Brian Gregory acknowledged Deputy Fire Chief Zern, who has done a lot of leg work on this and said as he starts to put together tighter details of what we need for that base bid, they will compare that with the one that closest meets our needs. He said that the Council is not choosing which one tonight, but that staff is looking for approval to work with a joint purchasing cooperative.

Alderwoman Copple mentioned that the new truck will hold 3,000 gallons of water, which is important being out in the country.

City Manager Brian Gregory said yes, in servicing the Fire Protection District, there is a large area that is covered where there may not be fire hydrants. Having that 3,000 gallons to help keep the fire at bay until help arrives, is huge. They both have a great working relationship which is why the IGA came about. This is one more tool to help protect our community.

Alderman Kramer asked if this truck will be kept at station #2 so there wouldn't be the height restrictions.

Deputy Fire Chief Turner said that is correct as it would have to be custom made to fit in station #1.

Mayor Lang asked what the protection district boundaries are.

Deputy Fire Chief Turner said it is 62 square miles from Clare to the County Line Road and from Whipple Road to Barber Greene Road.

MOTION

Alderson Copple moved to approve the consideration and Alderson Kramer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

APPOINTMENTS

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Alderson Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. and Alderson Paulsen seconded the motion.

VOICE VOTE

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

Approve:

Mayor - Curt Lang

Attest:

City Clerk – Mary Kalk