
SYCAMORE CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 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, Alan Bauer, Nancy Copple, Jeff Fischer, Josh Huseman, Pete Paulsen, and Virginia Sherrod who arrived at 7:37 pm after roll call. Attorney Keith Foster was also present.

INVOCATION led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Alderperson Nancy Copple

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Lang amended the agenda by moving Appointments from #15 up to #12.

MOTION

Alderperson Huseman motioned to approve the agenda as amended 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

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting of August 1, 2022.
- B. Payment of the Bills for August 15, 2022, in the amount of \$1,954,835.41.

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 Stouffer, Stowe, Bauer, Copple, Fischer Huseman, and Paulsen voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND BILLS

REPORT OF OFFICERS

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. 2022.08 – An Ordinance Amending Title 8, “Water and Sewer,” Chapter 5, “Water and Sewer Rates,” Section 8-5-1, “Water Rates,” by Adding a New Paragraph “S” Entitled “Utility Convenience Fees,” of the City Code of the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

Finance Director Brien Martin thanked Assistant Finance Director Kristian Dominguez for initiating and helping with the analysis to make the Finance office more efficient, more streamlined, and to save the city money. He gave a brief overview as per the agenda.

Alderson Copple asked about senior citizens who don't use computers and said there needs to be more education for the people who don't even know this is available yet.

Alderman Stowe said "we" are going the wrong way as "we" should not be charging people to receive a bill. He said he can see giving a discount and suggested a one-time \$10 discount to receive their bill online.

Alderman Huseman agreed. With less than 10% of our customers paying electronically, it needs to get to 90% and said that he would be in favor of an incentive. He thinks they would reap the benefits for the one-time incentive and then the program starts paying for itself.

Assistant Finance Director Kristian Dominguez explained that the \$2.50 is a modest fee to incentivize residents. With the emailing the bill, it can go to more than one person, a son, caretaker, etc..

Alderman Fischer asked for an option to shelf the idea to allow people to find out about this and maybe look at this in a couple months.

City Manager Michael Hall said they could do the educational piece until January and see how many people sign up and bring it back in January as an option.

MOTION

Alderson Copple motioned to postpone/table indefinitely Ordinance 2022.08 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 7-0.

- B. Ordinance No. 2022.09 – An Ordinance Approving a Planning and Zoning Commission Recommendation of a Request by State Street Ventures, LLC, for a Zoning Map Amendment for the Property Located at 425 West State Street, Sycamore, IL (PIN Number 06-32-254-007) to C-2, Central Business District, in the City of Sycamore, Illinois. First and Second Reading.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this went before the Planning and Zoning Commission who gave a favorable recommendation by unanimous vote of 9-0. It is currently zoned Institutional and was requested to change to commercially zoned which aligns with the other properties in the area.

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to waive the First Reading for Ordinance 2022.09 and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to approve Ordinance 2022.09 and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Braser appointed Doug Breunlin to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to confirm the appointment 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.

CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Consideration of an Administrative Request to Award a Contract to Weaver Construction Inc. in the Amount of \$10,101.00 for Completion of Tuck-Pointing Work Associated with the Community Development Building Façade Restoration Project – Phase 2.

City Manager Michael Hall said that this and the next are both Phase II of the Community Development building as Phase I was done last year. This is finishing up the tuckpointing and Consideration B finishes up the Phase II drywall and painting.

MOTION

Alderson Fischer motioned to approve the Consideration to Weaver Construction for \$10,101 and Alderson Stouffer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- B. Consideration of an Administrative Request to Award a Contract to Butler Drywall & Paint Services in the Amount of \$18,700.00 for Completion of the Painting and Caulking Work Associated with the Community Development Building Façade Restoration Project – Phase 2.

City Manager Michael Hall added that this was in the budget for the Capital Projects. This is the final phase.

MOTION

Alderson Bauer motioned to approve the Consideration for Butler Drywall & Paint Services for \$18,700 and Alderson Fischer seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

- C. Consideration of a Police Department Request to Establish the Position of Community Resource Sergeant.

Police Chief Jim Winters referred to the memo in the agenda but said that the responsibilities and connections to the community will last for years. They are doing it right now but with liaisons and said that those relationships are increasing as are special events, putting demands on the department. He thinks it's important to consolidate it into one position under one umbrella.

Alderson Copple asked if there was someone in mind for the position.

Police Chief Jim Winters said that this position will be created at the Sergeant level so they will open it up to the current Sergeants and per the Police & Fire Commission rules, the top three on the list are equally eligible.

MOTION

Alderson Copple motioned to approve the Consideration 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.

- D. 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.

MOTION

Alderson Stouffer motioned to enter into Closed Session at 7:34 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 Huseman motioned to return to Open Session at 8:28 p.m. 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 8-0.

E. Possible Action from Closed Session.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Alderson Stowe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 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