

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

January 16, 2018

Town Council President Bill Musser called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Council members present were Larry Martindale, Tom Hoover, Paul Stoelting and Larry Siegel. Town Attorney Vern Landis, Town Manager Henry DeJulia, and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present.

Bill Musser opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill asked for public comment on agenda items. There were none.

The minutes of the December 19, 2017, meeting was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1702 through 1703 and 1 through 133 were presented for payment. Larry Siegel moved to approve the claims; Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2018-01, Amending Ord 08-11 Section 3, Deferred Compensation, was presented. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance, Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 18-01, Amending Resolution Authorizing use of County EDIT and Describing a Capital Improvement Plan for Same, was presented. Larry Siegel moved to approve the ordinance; Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Henry DeJulia made a recommendation for Matt Pritchard be appointed to the Syracuse Board of Zoning Appeals. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the appointment. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry reported on the proposed costs from Kokosing Industrial for the Wastewater Plant Improvements. He informed the Council that the total cost to fix the issues would be approximately \$1.3 million. An option for funding this would be to get a 10-year bond and use EDIT Funds to pay for part of it. He included that we would only have to pay interest for the first year of the bond. Larry Siegel stated that the cost has more than doubled. He asked if there was anything else that could be done to fund the project; such as raising the rates or making a bigger down payment.

Lengthy discussion followed on funding possibilities. The Council stated they would agree to allow the Town to pay up to a \$600,000 lump sum out of EDIT funds and the remaining costs paid from bonds.

Tina Wolff from Kokosing Industrial, the contractor for the project, spoke on when they would need payment for the equipment. She stated that if the Town allows them to go forward with the contract and send the release to production of the equipment to the manufacturer, they would defer submission of their pay applications and invoicing until funding was decided or until April when they receive the equipment, whichever comes first. She explained that if the Town decides to cancel the contract with Kokosing, the Town would be ultimately responsible for the payment of the equipment.

Paul Stoelting moved to allow Kokosing to release the equipment to be ordered. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry informed the Council that Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District has picked up the requested information. Henry also reported that Travel-Lite has removed trees and installed a couple foundations.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions on his report. There were none. He informed the Council that the 3 leased vehicles have been received. He stated it would take approximately one to three weeks to get all necessary equipment installed in them.

There were no ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson reported on the status of the new restrooms. He stated that the application has been submitted to the state to get a permit to go to county. The delivery date for materials is supposed to be by the end of March. Memorial Day is still the tentative deadline for completion. Chad also reported on the Master Plan and stated he finished up with Pat Brown from SiteScapes last month. He informed the council that he will be getting them new proposal for the Master Plan after changes are made. Chad announced that the 26th of January will be the Kiwanis Soup Supper and the 27th of January will be the Kiwanis Snowmobile races. Chad provided a Tree Board summary and a Tree Planting guide to the Council. The Tree Planting Guide can be looked at by the public either at the Library, the Community Center, or the Clerk's Office.

Paul Stoelting commented about the Dam. He states that we need to work on getting support from the community on maintaining it. Henry stated he is looking into getting a grant to help fund the repairs. Discussion followed on when the Town took ownership of the Dam and how to get the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to take control of it.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Rob Merchant asked if there were any questions on his report. There were none. He updated the Council on the two blowers for the aerated digesters that are not working. He contacted Gasvoda and Aeration Industries and they have agreed to send us two brand new blowers. He has hired Mason Engineering to come out and remove the broken ones and install the new ones on the same day.

Rob informed the Council that the pressure relief valve for the booster station towards the Technology Park did come in and will be installed sometime this next week. Gasvoda will have Precision Systems to set it up and test it. Rob explained that there could also be a leak somewhere within the system.

Rob presented a request to have Ortman Well Drilling to rebuild and recondition our High Service Pump #3 that was pulled. The total price quoted was \$11,468 and would be completed within 30 days. Larry Siegel moved to approve work and cost from Ortman Well Drilling. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked the council if they had any questions about his report. He informed the Council that there was a total of 1,361 calls for 2017 and 1,365 for 2016. He announced that the department did not conduct the monthly warning siren test last Friday due to having ice on it. Mickey informed the council that the department is continuing working with an attorney and architect for the building improvements and will have some quotes soon. The department will have Advanced Cardiac Life Support training on January 17th. There will also be a Rail Car Incident Response training course to all emergency responders scheduled for March 10 at the Community Center.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, reported that she will be voiding a check that is over 2 years old. Paula also requested a motion to approve the list of Purchase Orders to be paid from 2017 funds. The total amount is \$171,256.70. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the encumbrances, Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Jim Layne addressed the public regarding the pier space rental procedures. He stated that residents that do not live on the lake will get first choice of spaces until April 1st. He also explained that if 2 people want to rent the same space, one of the renters will need to add onto the other's pier. There cannot be two separate piers in one spot.

OLD BUSINESS

There is nothing to report.

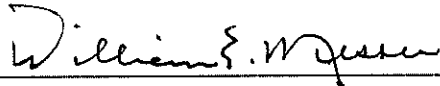
NEW BUSINESS

Bill Musser announced that Tom Hoover will be the Vice President of the Town Council for the 2018 year.

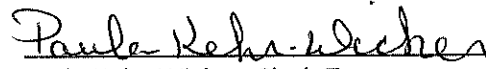
Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:06 pm.

ATTEST:



William (Bill) Musser, President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer