

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

February 20, 2018

Town Council President Bill Musser called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:02 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 January 16, 2018, 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 134 through 288 were presented for payment. Paula Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Bill Musser requested a motion to change the Agenda to allow a swearing in of a new officer. Paul Stoelting moved to change the agenda; Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Town Marshall, James Layne, announced that with the retiring of Calvin Kline, they have hired a new officer. Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, swore in new full-time officer, Jonathon Craig Fannin.

Ordinance 2018-02, 2018 Sewer Bond Ordinance, was presented. Larry Siegel moved to suspend the 2nd reading and approve the ordinance, Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Henry DeJulia reported on the status of the new buildings at the Technology Park. He also reported that the amount of rain we have and will be receiving may cause problems throughout the Wastewater Plant.

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 are on the road and being utilized. He also asked if there were any questions on the annual report. There were none.

There were no ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, was absent. Bill Musser stated that the Park Department is still working on the State Permit for the new restrooms at Lakeside Park. He stated that they should be getting it within 2 weeks.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent, Rob Merchant, asked if there were any questions on his report. Larry Siegel asked for clarification on the section regarding the Wastewater/Lab building. Rob answered that he meant to state he is currently getting quotes on furnace replacements for the Wastewater/Lab building.

Rob also reported that the booster station at the Technology Park is still losing pressure. He will have M.E. Simpson come in to sound test the system. Discussion followed on the set-up with the Scadata system and the booster station.

Rob stated that the recent rains have caused incoming flows to increase from Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District. The superintendent for TCRSD did find a leak in one of their lines and has since repaired it. However, they have found no other leaks and it the worst backwash is happening on Medusa Street.

Rob introduced a Task Order for Commonwealth Engineers to reconstruct the Town's pre-treatment ordinance to include more repercussion to businesses not adhering to the Fats Oils and Grease requirements. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the Task Order for Commonwealth Engineers for no more than \$8,000. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob then presented the contract for Kokosing to construct the repairs to the Wastewater Treatment Plants aeration system. Tina Wolff was present to answer questions from the Council. She stated that there could be an energy savings of \$76,200 in electric. She also commented that useful life of the new equipment would be approximately 20 plus years. Discussion followed on what the contract includes. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the \$983,200 contract for Kokosing and allow the President of the Council to sign. Larry Siegel 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 reported to the council that 88.07% was utilized from the 2017 Turkey Creek Fire Territory Operations Budget. For the month of January there were 139 total responses. There was an estimated \$243,500 in property loss due to 4 structure fires and one vehicle fire with \$50,000 of property saved. Mickey expressed his appreciation for the mutual aid the Territory received from neighboring departments. There was a total of 395 hours of training EMS and Fire training completed in January and one CPR and First Aid class and Portable Fire Extinguisher class given. He then announced the department did receive a grant for Naloxone from the Indiana State Department of Health. He is waiting on approval from the State of Indiana for the Application for Construction Design Release for Station 1 and Station 2 improvements. There will be an Insurance Services Organization class on March 1st. The Fire Territory is hosting a training course for Rail Car Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol and Other Flammable Liquids on March 10th.

Mickey presented a request for approval for the purchase of new firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) in the amount of \$115,417.90 to Hoosier Fire Equipment and \$24,343.37 to The Fire Store. They would receive the PPE's within 60 days from the time of order. He explained that the PPE's should be replaced every 10 years. Tom Hoover moved to approve the purchase of the PPE's, Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, asked the council if they had any questions on the 2018 Budget Order from the Department of Local Government Finance. There were none.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There is nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Larry Siegel asked who takes care of the crossing by the Wawasee High School at Syracuse-Milford Road and Kern Rd. He stated it is very dark there and could be dangerous for children crossing the road. Jim Layne stated that he believes it is the Kosciusko County Highway Department. Bill states that it is too dark and unsafe for children. Henry DeJulia will be contacting the county about it.

Henry stated that NIPSCO did install the street light at the Railroad Ave / Syracuse-Milford Road and Syracuse-Webster Road / Main St. intersection has been installed.

Mickey informed the Council that he spoke to officials with the Railroad and that they will be installing a crosswalk at the tracks on Main St. in the spring.

Discussion was made regarding semi-trucks blocking traffic when turning left off Railroad Ave onto Huntington St. It was advised that Vern prepare an ordinance to require that intersection to be right-turn only.

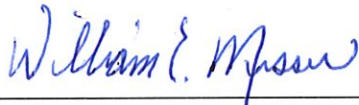
NEW BUSINESS

Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve hiring Bose McKinney for exploration of possible litigation on the current Wastewater issues. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

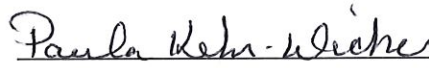
Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:48 pm.

ATTEST:



William (Bill) Musser, President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer