

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

December 18, 2018

Town Council President Bill Musser called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:01 p.m. Other Council members present were Tom Hoover, Larry Siegel, Paul Stoelting, and Larry Martindale. Town Attorney Vern Landis and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present.

Bill Musser opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the November 20, 2018, meeting was presented for approval. Larry Martindale moved to approve the minutes; Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. Paul Stoelting abstained. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1572 through 1702 were presented for payment. Larry Martindale moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Jim Layne introduced Lily Lawrence to the Council. Lily presented a plaque to the Town's Crossing Guards, Ed Batesla and Deb VanderReyden for making sure that her classmates get to school safely in any type of weather.

Ordinance 2018-14, Salaries & Compensation for 2019 with employee contracts, was presented. Larry Martindale moved to approve the ordinance. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 18-07, Authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to Make Certain Transfers, was presented. Tom Hoover moved to approve the ordinance. Larry Martindale seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Bill Musser announced to the public that after going through numerous resumes, he would like to make a motion to approve Mike Noe as the new Town Manager and Public Works Superintendent for the Town of Syracuse. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve Henry DeJulia to continue employment as an advisor for Mike Noe. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Henry DeJulia asked the council if it was okay to send a letter of proposal to the Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District. The Council agreed to send the letter. Henry also reported that some housing issues have been resolved by either the properties selling or being cleaned up. Henry informed the council that the state has reported the funding for the overpass to State Road 15 from County Road 1300.

2019 APPOINTMENTS

Henry DeJulia presented the following 2019 appointments:

Town Attorney (one-year term) – Vern Landis

Town Marshall (one-year term) – Jim Layne

Park Board (2019 – 2021) – Shirley Connolly

Redevelopment Commission (one-year term) – Larry Siegel, Paul Stoelting, Henry DeJulia, Dan Van Lue, and Michael Noe.

Tree Board – Michael Noe (until 2020) (to replace Henry DeJulia), Paul Hoffman (until 2021), and Gary Green (until 2021).

Kosciusko County Area Planning Commission (2019 – 2022) – Chuck Haffner

Syracuse Board of Zoning Appeals (2019 – 2022) – Randy Cox and Jim Allegret

Fire Territory Board (one-year term) – Tom Hoover and Larry Martindale

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

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions regarding his report. There were none.

Jim requested approval to purchase a used vehicle to replace the reserve squad car #10. He stated that to repair the current vehicle, it would cost approximately \$7,000. Larry Siegel asked Jim how much it would cost to lease a brand new Dodge Charger instead of buying a used vehicle. Jim stated a new vehicle would cost between \$26,000 and \$27,000. Larry Siegel made a motion for Jim to lease a new vehicle with the annual cost not to exceed \$10,000. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against.

There were no ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported that we are now into the slow months of December and January. He reported that there were 120 breakfasts served at the Breakfast with Santa and that Santa has mailed his letters. The Park Department is now planning for the projects of next year.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent, Rob Merchant, was absent. Jeremy Hardy from Commonwealth Engineers made an announcement to the council and the public that flushing wipes and rags are causing a lot of sewer backups and failures. The costs to repair these issues is very high. He advises that these items never be flushed down.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked if there were any questions on his report. There were none. Mickey announced that a new paramedic has passed all his tests. Larry Siegel asked if the previous paramedic was on Indiana's Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF). Mickey answered that he started out on the Civil Plan and then moved to the 1977 Plan. Lengthy discussion followed on the benefits and requirements for PERF.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, asked if the Council had any questions on her report. There were none. Paula reminded the council to sign and return their Nepotism and Contracting with a Relative certifications.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

Paul Stoelting made a motion to change the Agenda to allow for the swearing in of new elected officials. Bill Musser seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Vern Landis swore in Larry Siegel and Paul Stoelting for their new terms as Town Council members.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Ron Baumgartner, representing the Milford High School Alumni, announced that he would like for Bill Musser to be the Master of Ceremonies for their upcoming banquet.

Sharon Fowler asked why there were ordinances passed without being advertised first. Vern Landis answered that the ordinances do not need to be publicized prior to being passed by the council.

Tom Hoover made a motion to nominate Larry Martindale as Council President for 2019. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion Carried. Larry Martindale appointed Paul Stoelting to be Vice President.

OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

There was nothing to report.

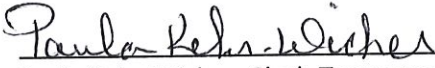
Larry Siegel moved to adjourn; Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:49 pm.

ATTEST:



Larry Martindale, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer