

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

December 21, 2010

Brian Woody, President, call the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Other council members present were Jeff Morgan, Bill Musser, Larry Siegel, and Paul Stoelting. Town Manager Henry DeJulia, Town Attorney Mike Reed, and Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline were also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brian asked for public comments on agenda items; there were none.

The minutes of the November 16th meeting were introduced. Brian moved to approve the minutes; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. Bill abstained. The motion carried.

Claims #1312 through #1452 were presented for payment. Paul moved to approve the claims; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 10-02, A Resolution Authorizing the Clerk Treasurer to Make Certain Transfers, was introduced. Jeff moved to adopt Resolution 10-02; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ed Rock, Kosciusko County Emergency Management Director, spoke to the council about a Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan that has been prepared. He reported work on the plan began in March of 2009. People from different jurisdictions throughout the county worked on the plan, as well as MACOG. The plan allows us to submit for federal funding under FEMA. The intent of this plan is to fix problems before they become a cost to the federal government; the federal government is willing to contribute to this. Larry asked what we are doing ahead of time. Ed advised we can get rid of things that have had problems in the past so there is not an ongoing problem. Also, things such as tornado shelters and early warning systems can be paid for. Henry asked if these are 100% grants. Ed answered there are some, some are 75%. The plan itself does not lock us into spending a dime. Larry asked how this is funded. Ed explained the State of Indiana packages and prioritizes all plans and then submits them to FEMA. Tony added he was on the committee, and the committee identified risks in all communities. He cited the levy in town as an example. Ed added the plan includes a lot of historical data, as well as projected data in case of a disaster. Grant rounds are once or twice a year. Bill asked Tony if we have specific risks in town. Tony advised they did not pinpoint specific areas for the plan; once the plan is approved they can target specific locations.

Bill moved to accept Resolution 10-03; Jeff seconded. Paul asked who the go to person would be. Tony stated he or Henry will take it to ED. Five voted for the motion; none against. Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia announced the Chamber dinner will be held on January 25. Council members were asked to advise Julie by the January meeting if they would like to attend.

Henry discussed the insurance renewal for our property and liability insurance. Our insurance agent, Greg Miller, solicited quotes from three different companies. Henry recommended we stay with

Downey. The premiums are \$880.00 more, but the deductibles are lower. Bill moved to accept the quote from EMC; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry reported the new snowflakes and decorative lights are up. Bill asked about getting lights on Harkless. Paul stated he was asked if we are going to have lights on Main St down to the railroad tracks. Henry stated we can continue in that area if funds are available.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello reported there were 327 calls for service in November and 7 accidents. There were 37 criminal arrests. Tony explained there were several ongoing investigations that culminated in arrests in November; 27 arrests were drug related. Discussion followed. The Meth Summit that was held on December 8 was well attended. Tony advised there will be legislation introduced next session to prohibit the sale of Sudafed. Officers from the Syracuse Police Department participated in Shop With A Cop. Also, the Disaster Drill went well; over 100 people attended.

Tony presented a purchase request. The police department purchased video cameras over five years ago. We now have only a couple of working video cameras in the cars. Tony advised he would like to have in car video systems, however, they are about \$5,000.00 each. Beginning 1-1-11, any statement from someone accused of a felony has to be audio video recorded. Tony would like to buy 10 cameras. The regular price is \$395.00; if we buy 10, the cost is \$318.00 each plus shipping. Each camera has an SD card that will record six hours @1080 DPI. The total cost is \$3,235.00 including shipping. Tony stated he has money in his fuel account that can be transferred to pay for the cameras. Brian stated he feels it is wise to have video cameras in all cars. Paul moved to approve the purchase of 10 video cameras at a cost not to exceed \$3,235.00; Bill seconded. Bill asked how long he expects the cameras to last; Tony advised four or five years. Five voted for the motion; none against. Motion carried.

PARK

Park Board member Henry Kohl was present, but had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS

Tom Miller, Severn Trent Area Manager, reported the wastewater department received the bar screen. He presented two quotes for the installation of the bar screen. Beer & Slabaugh quoted a time and materials cost of \$11,165.00. The second quote was from Gerig Ottenweller for a lump sum not to exceed \$9,970.00. Tom recommended we accept the quote for Gerig Ottenweller for a cost not to exceed \$9,970.00. Tom added he and Henry have discussed safety issues with contractors. Tom would like to add a requirement for every contract that the contractors agree to follow all local, state, and federal safety regulations at the job site. Discussion followed. Mike Reed suggested adding it to the addendum we already provide with every contract. Ed Rock added most industries have a contractor safety policy. Tom will send information to Mike Reed. Larry asked when the headworks screen will be

installed. Tom advised they can start by the second week of January and work can be completed by the end of February. Paul moved to approve the quote from Gerig Ottenweller for a lump sum not to exceed \$9,970.00 to install the bar screen; installation is to be completed by March 1, 2011. Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The repairs to Louie's lift station were discussed. Tom explained they looked into the cost of installing the piping only, and also into installing the piping and a valve pit to eliminate the confined space. The cost for piping only is \$18,650.00. We received two quotes for installing the piping and a valve pit. The first price was from Cripe Excavating; that cost was \$23,975.00. The second quote was from G & G Hauling & Excavating for \$19,955.00. Tom pointed out that for a little over \$1,000.00, we can eliminate the confined space issues. Tom recommended we accept the quote from G & G Hauling; work would begin the first or second week in January and be completed by March 1. Paul moved to approve the quote of \$19,955.00 for the piping and valve pit from G & G Hauling & Excavating to be completed by March 1, 2011; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Tom presented the 2011 Water Budget. Tom noted last year was first full year for the new plant; the overall budget increase for 2011 is 2%. Larry asked if replacing old water lines is part of this budget; Tom would like to wait another year. Larry asked if we have a plan; Tom advised yes, several sections in town have been identified for improvement.

Tom presented the 2011 Wastewater budget. Tom reported the proposed 2011 budget is a 17% reduction; this is primarily due to the cost of the bar screen in the 2010 budget. The line items for repairs were increased due to older equipment. Brian noted we are projecting \$24,000.00 less in revenue than expenditures.

Paul moved to approve the 2011 Water and Wastewater Budgets as presented. Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against.

CLERK

Julie announced we will receive our property tax distribution on December 28; there is not a shortfall. We also received preliminary budget approval from the DLGF. Julie asked the council if they would like to change from a postcard bill to a letter size bill. She noted we can include inserts with a letter size bill. The letter size bills would require a folder stuffer at a cost of \$1,525.00; the annual maintenance charge would be \$639.00. After discussion, Brian moved to approve the purchase of the folder/stuffer; Jeff seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. The maintenance contract was not approved; council members felt the cost was too high. Julie will check with Pitney Bowes to see if there are other options.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Mike Reed had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

None.

Council members made appointments for 2011. Paul moved to appoint Tony Ciriello as Town Marshal for 2011; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. Motion carried.

Bill moved to appoint Jeremy Sponseller and Jerry Riffle to the Tree Board; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Brian announced Donald Cowan's term is up on the BZA; a new term would be for 2011 to 2014. Paul moved to appoint Donald Cowan to the BZA; Jeff seconded. Discussion followed on Don's availability to attend. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Park Board still has an opening; they are still looking to fill that vacancy.

The appointments to the Syracuse Redevelopment Commission were presented. Current members are Larry Siegel, Paul Stoelting, Dan Van Lue, Ernie Rogers, and Brad Jackson. Brian moved to reappoint the current members to another one year term; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Fire Territory Board appointments were discussed. Brian announced he does not want to be reappointed. Bill Musser indicated he would be interested. Paul made a motion to appoint Larry and Bill as the 2011 Town Council appointees to the Fire Territory Board. Jeff seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paul made a motion to appoint Mike Reed as Town Attorney for 2011; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Brian turned the meeting over to Town Attorney Mike Reed. Mike opened the floor to nominations for 2011 Town Council President. Brian nominated Paul Stoelting; Larry seconded. Mike asked if there were any other nominations; there were none. Mike closed the floor to nominations. Five voted for the motion; none against. Paul asked Larry if he would serve as vice-president; Larry accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Brian advised he attended the annual board meeting of the Harkless Foundation; the town will receive \$4,000.00 for beautification.

NEW BUSINESS

Brian introduced Ordinance 10-12, an ordinance to allow for a pay bonus. Paul moved to adopt Ordinance 10-12; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Brian introduced Ordinance 10-13, an ordinance modifying the 2011 Salary Ordinance. Larry moved to adopt Ordinance 10-13; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. Motion carried.

Brian explained the two ordinances were adopted due to the diligence for over two years of our town manager to obtain two grants totaling \$2.6 million for infrastructure in the industrial park. Brian made a motion to authorize the clerk treasurer to pay the bonus in Ordinance 10-12 immediately; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Brian advised the second

ordinance allows for a slightly higher raise for the town manager; he added Henry was able to obtain only one of three EDA grants approved in the State of Indiana. He thanked Henry for his work.

Henry thanked the council for having faith in him; he feels we are going in the right direction.

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Jeff seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Brian Woody, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer