

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

June 15, 2010

Brian Woody, President, called 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 Deputy Clerk Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brian introduced Jeff Morgan as the Council Member replacing Cassie Cowan.

Brian asked for comments from the public on agenda items. Mark Baumgartner, Chairman of the Save the Depot Committee, introduced Todd Zeiger of Indiana Landmarks Foundation and Kristy Stewarts, grant writer for PMG in Fort Wayne. Kristy explained that she would like to apply for a grant to help pay for the renovations of the Train Depot, as well as she would need the Town of Syracuse's assistance in holding and dispensing the \$50,000 grant. There would need to be a 10% match from the committee, in which the remaining balance they have would be put towards this. Larry Siegel questioned the procedures as well as what exactly is needed from the Town to do this. More discussion followed. It was decided that Mr. Baumgartner would return to the next meeting with all the necessary information and guidelines needed. Henry asked if the committee achieved site control. Todd Zeiger explained that they are working with CSX on a lease/purchase agreement.

Mike Reed swore in Jeff Morgan.

The minutes of the May 18th meeting were presented. Paul moved to approve the minutes; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #615 through #728 were presented for payment. Bill Musser moved to approve the claims; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 10-03, Additional Appropriation EDIT Fund, was introduced. The ordinance allows \$20,000.00 to be added to the Capital Improvements account. Paul moved to adopt Ordinance 10-03; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 10-4, Regulating Garbage and Trash Collection, was introduced. The ordinance is to replace original ordinance 97-7 in order to update the requirements for trash and garbage collection, changing from the labels to the totes. Paul moved to adopt Ordinance 10-4; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager, Henry DeJulia, mentioned that a Special Meeting was held last year to discuss the 2010 budgets. Henry asked the council if they would like to do the same this year. He stated there would be three scenarios of budgets; a 0% increase in

salary, 1% increase, or 2% increase. After brief discussion, all members stated they would rather have a longer regular meeting.

Henry then discussed work that is needed to install underground electrical extension for the streetlights. He stated that out of 3 bids received to do the work, the lowest bidder was Darr Electric at \$16,900. Paul made the motion to have Darr Electric to install the underground electrical extension for the street lights, not to exceed \$16,900. Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry informed the council that it will be necessary to install a new bridge at the channel on Pickwick Drive. Larry asked if Henry knew about how much it would cost. Henry said a rough estimate would be around \$35,000 - \$50,000. Henry said he would try to obtain the funds through the K21 foundation. If this doesn't work, we will have to use our own resources. Lengthy discussion followed.

The 2011 Sidewalk Project List consideration was brought to the Council. After little discussion, it was stated that the council will let Henry know if anything should be changed or prioritized differently.

Henry also updated the Council on the status of Vega Field. Mike Reed confirmed that closing should happen within a couple of weeks, and that they are having an issue with the legal description. He believes there is no problem in the town proceeding with any renovations needed even before closing.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello advised there were 398 calls for service in May; there were 12 criminal arrests, one of those arrests was a felony.

Tony reported that Long Drive will be closed on Saturday, June 19th from 6:30 to Noon for the Wawasee Property Owners Breakfast. Long Drive from Washington Street to Northshore Drive will also be closed for the Fourth of July Fireworks celebration on Sunday July 4th.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson announced the Farmer's Market continues to go on every Saturday morning starting at 9am, as well as he is very impressed and happy as to the turn out.

Chad stated that the Fun and Fitness that was held on June 5th was a great turnout and there is a big possibility of doing it again next year.

The concession stand and other vendors will be available for the 4th of July celebration at Lakeside Park. Music in the Park concerts will begin on July 8th and the last concert will be on August 12th.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Jeremy Sponseller discussed the '97 Ford F-250 that was stolen and damaged a month ago. The insurance company wants to give \$9,000 and take the truck, which includes \$600 for the truck. If we keep the truck, we can sell it for \$900 and insurance will give us \$8500. That puts an extra \$300 in our hands. Jeremy informed the council that we have kept the old Ford for over 13 years and have taken very good care of it. It only had 75,000 miles on it. The trucks of the same age that he has seen have twice the mileage if not more. He does not feel comfortable purchasing this type of truck for \$7500 or more when we do not know how it was maintained. He stated that he did look at trucks that were only 2-4 years old. Most had many miles on them and ranged from \$18,000 to \$25,000. Jeremy claimed we could purchase a new truck for the approximately the same amount as a 'slightly used', especially since we will not need the amenities that are usually included. More discussion followed on pricing for 2010 and 2011 trucks. Paul made the motion to keep the '97 Ford and have the insurance total it out and look for a new vehicle to not exceed the purchase price of \$28,000. Bill seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline was absent. Deputy Clerk, Paula Kehr-Wicker filled in her place. There was nothing further to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

The Town Attorney had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Susan Myrick stated that County wanted to relay that the Town districts will no longer be called 'Wards', but 'Districts' instead. Therefore, there are Town Districts then Township Precincts.

OLD BUSINESS

Paul asked about Cassie's position on the Fire Territory board. Brian stated that the last he spoke with Cassie, she claimed she was not interested in remaining on the board. Mike Reed requested that she submit an official resignation. Larry offered to take her place until the end of the year. Lengthy discussion followed as to who would want to be appointed. Paul made the motion that in the case that Cassie submits her resignation to the Fire Territory Board, he nominates and appoints Larry Siegel as a

Council representative. Bill Musser seconded. Three voted for the motion; Brian opposed; Larry abstained. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Larry inquired about the Quiet Zone committee that Cassie was working on. He stated that engineering costs to reduce the noise at the crossing would be approximately \$100,000. Larry asked Jeff if he would be interested in taking Cassie's place on the committee. Jeff stated he would; however, he might have different ideas than Cassie.

Paul moved to adjourn; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion none against.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

ATTEST:

Brian Woody, President

Paula Kehr-Wicker, Deputy Clerk