

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

January 18, 2011

Paul Stoelting, President, called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. Other council members present were Bill Musser, Larry Siegel, and Paul Stoelting. Town Manager Henry DeJulia, Town Attorney Mike Reed, and Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline were also present. Councilman Jeff Morgan was absent

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Attorney Mike Reed administered the Oath of Office to Councilmen Paul Stoelting and Larry Siegel.

Paul asked for public comment on agenda items; there were no comments.

The minutes of the December 21st meeting were introduced. Brian moved to approve the minutes. Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1 through #114 were presented for payment. Brian moved to approve the claims; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia reported he has a proposal from MACOG to be the grant administrator for our EDA grant. Henry informed MACOG that he could do some of the work himself and asked for a new quote; MACOG indicated they want to do all the work. He has asked another entity for a quote; that agency meets Thursday. If that agency is interested, they will send a proposal. The council can then decide if they would like to accept one of the proposals, or bid it out.

Henry continued with his report. He is working with Wightman Petrie on the purchase of the land for the lift station. He is working on the proposals for design engineering for onsite engineering within the industrial park and ingress and egress engineering. Henry advised he has received information from HUD on the EDI grant. There are some items Julie and Henry need to fill out, sign, and return to HUD. Once that is received, HUD will send us a grant agreement to be executed.

Henry advised we need to update our resolution for spending EDIT funds; our current resolution is only through 2010. The previous resolution designated all funds to be spent on Economic and Industrial Development; Henry suggested we adopt a new resolution again designating the funds for Economic and Industrial development. The council agreed; a resolution will be presented at the February meeting.

Henry announced a fifth person needs to be appointed to the fire territory board. The fifth person needs to be agreed upon by the township advisors and the town council. John Heckaman has been suggested for that appointment. Bill Dixon, of the Township Advisory Board, stated he hopes the town will consider Mr. Heckaman. Larry said he hopes this can be resolved by the next meeting.

Paul asked Henry about the design proposals. Henry answered the design will be for the infrastructure within the industrial park and the ingress/egress lanes. Larry stated he feels it is important to separate the design and construction engineers. He cited problems we have had on previous projects where the design and construction were conducted by the same company.

Henry requested permission to contract with Wightman Petrie to conduct a first phase environmental study in the industrial park for \$2,000.00. Larry asked how long the study is good; Henry stated he believes at least five years. Discussion followed on whether this had already been done when the land was purchased. Brian moved to approve hiring Wightman Petrie to conduct a first phase environmental study for \$2,000.00 if it is found that one was not done when we purchased the property. After discussion, Larry and Bill suggested Mike Reed check his documents. The motion died due to lack of a second. A decision will be made next month.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello reported there were 335 calls for service in December 2010. Of the nine criminal arrests, six were drug related. For all of 2010, there were 4345 calls for service and 143 criminal arrests. Tony advised he will have the five year comparison report by the February meeting.

Tony announced Jim Smith has resigned from the Syracuse Police Department to accept a position with the Sheriff's Department. The police department is accepting applications until 4:00 p.m. on January 28. The applications will be reviewed; qualified applicants will be asked to participate in an agility test on February 19 to make sure the applicant meets the standards of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. That will be followed by a written test, then interviews and background checks. Tony asked Paul to appoint a council member to the interview board. Paul appointed Brian to the interview committee.

Tony made several announcements. He commended the street department for their work during the recent snowfall. The cameras for the squad cars have arrived, and the police department is in the process of installing them. Tony will be participating in the trip to the Shrine Circus on January 28; approximately 2600 third and fourth graders from the county will be taken to the circus. Tony was elected President of the Board of Directors of the Beaman Home and Secretary Treasurer of the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police. Tony also announced that Joe Salazar was appointed as patrol sergeant for the evening shift.

Tony presented a purchase request. He would like to replace the reserve car; it is ten years old and has 136,000 miles on it. He added almost half of the money spent on vehicle repairs in 2010 was spent on that vehicle. The car is worth about \$800.00, and Tony would like to sell it if a used vehicle purchase is approved. He would like to make Jim Layne's car the reserve car and purchase a vehicle to replace it; Jim's car has about 87,000 miles on it. He has quotes on three different used cars; the quotes are: 2010 Chevy Impala for \$17,850 with 16,000 miles on it; 2009 Chevy Impala for \$16,346 with 22,000 miles on it; and a 2010 Dodge Charger for \$17,399 with 20,000 miles on it. He noted the Charger is the better of the three, but it is up to the council. He added he is looking at a used car since it would be an administrative car, not a patrol car. Discussion followed on features on the different vehicles.

Larry made a motion to allow Tony to purchase the 2010 Dodge Charger from Glenbrook Dodge for \$17,399.00; Julie is authorized to write a check upon delivery tomorrow. Bill seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Tony added that barring any wrecks, the police department should not need another vehicle until 2013.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson was attending the IPRA Conference; there was no report.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Jeremy Sponseller reported that VRCM, the company that is to grind our brush pile, was delayed to due a new IDEM air permit requirement. They have now obtained the permit and will be doing the work next week. The bar screen installation was started yesterday. For the work on Louie's lift station, the work will start the first part of February.

Jeremy discussed a repair that was needed to the chlorine machine. Minerals have built up on the plates; the water department personnel were given tips on how to clean the machine in the future to keep the plates from warping. The cost to repair the machine is about \$3,500.00. Jeremy added the machine makes chlorine; if we were to purchase the chlorine, the cost would be \$7,000.00 per year.

Jeremy presented a purchase request. He advised the vehicle lift at the street department is 15 years old and needs to be replaced. The street department not only maintains public works vehicles, but also maintains the police and town manager's vehicles. He added he does not have prices yet; he asked the council to approve a purchase at a price not to exceed \$10,000. The money was budgeted in New Equipment. Brian asked if it is worth getting a bigger lift so it can handle the larger vehicles. Jeremy stated that is why he is asking for the not to exceed price; it will depend on the height of the lift, capacity, price, etc. Brian moved to spend up to \$10,000 to purchase a lift for the street department; Brian would prefer we purchase locally. Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline distributed a list of checks that are over two years old that will be voided. She reported we received formal budget approval for the 2011 budget; all budgets were approved. The folder inserter has been delivered and was used today. Julie also announced there were additional requirements to obtaining town credit cards through Farmer's State Bank; Henry suggested we apply at Lake City. We did apply at Lake City and were approved.

Julie presented a list of encumbrances from 2010 appropriations totaling \$117,339.39. Brian made a motion to approve the 2010 encumbrances; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Mike Reed had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Chamber Executive Director Tammy Cotton announced the Annual Dinner is next Tuesday. She thanked the town for their support for the Winter Carnival.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Bill moved to adjourn the meeting; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paul Stoelting, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer