

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

October 18, 2011

Paul Stoelting, 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, and Larry Siegel. Councilman Brian Woody was absent. Town Manager Henry DeJulia, Town Attorney Mike Reed, and Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline were also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the September 20th meeting were introduced for approval. Bill made a motion to approve the minutes; Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1057 through #1178 were presented for payment. Jeff moved to approve the claims; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Wightman Petrie was next on the agenda, but they were not present to report. Henry advised their most recent memo had information on the status of permits.

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline read the 2012 budget. The total advertised budgets were \$3,220,832.00. The tax levy required to fund the budgets is \$1,584,066.00. Paul asked for public input; no one commented on the 2012 budget. Larry moved to adopt the 2012 budgets as advertised; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The 2012 budgets were adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia advised he met with the Assistant Roadmaster for CSX about the railroad crossing at S.R. 13. The Assistant Roadmaster indicated the railroad crossing will be fixed this Friday; S.R. 13 will be closed for about sixteen hours for the repairs.

Henry provided an update on the EDA grant. All of the certified easement documents were sent to EDA. The quarterly reports were sent in, and Wightman Petrie has submitted their final design plan to EDA. Henry advised it could take three to four months for EDA approval. Henry stated he met with representatives from NIPSCO and Century Link on the needs for the industrial park. NIPSCO has sent something out, but that needs to be recalculated. Henry hopes to have the figures next week. Centurylink will install telephone lines as customers need. Both entities are requesting that four inch conduit pipe be installed when the park is built.

Henry discussed the grant administration for the \$1.4 million CDBG grant for Oakwood. The total amount of the proposal for grant administration from Region 3A is \$43,000.00. There is one stipulation; if the grant is not awarded, Region 3A is requesting payment of \$2,500.00 from the Town for the work done on the application. Henry asked the council to approve the quote from Region 3A for the grant administration. Paul asked about payment of the \$2,500.00; Henry noted it could be paid from

TIF revenue if necessary. Paul moved to accept the \$43,000.00 proposal for grant administration from Region 3A under the terms and conditions of the proposal; Larry seconded. Three voted for the motion; Bill voted against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello reported there were 336 calls for service in September. There were 4 accidents and 9 criminal arrests. He noted this is the first monthly report in a long time with no drug arrests. Tony provided more information on the arrests.

Tony reminded everyone Trick or Treat will be on October 31st from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Tony advised he was approached by Grace College to participate in an Applied Learning program they are initiating. Grace College students will spend time with various businesses and government entities and will earn credit hours toward graduation.

Councilman Brian Woody joined the meeting.

Tony announced October 29 is the National Take Back Initiative; residents will be allowed to dispose of expired and unused medications safely. The Syracuse Police Department will host a site here from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Tony presented three ADA resolutions that we need to adopt. He explained he recently attended an ADA workshop. We need to have a transitional plan for ADA adopted by December 31, 2012 in order to remain eligible for federal funds; MACOG will assist in preparing this plan. Resolution 11-2 designates an ADA Coordinator for the Town of Syracuse, Resolution 11-3 is for the Town of Syracuse to adopt the 2010 ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Design and Pedestrian Facilities, and Resolution 11-4 approves the ADA Transition Plan : Pedestrian Network.

Paul moved to adopt ADA resolutions 11-2, 11-3, and 11-4. Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

PARK

Chad Jonsson, Park Superintendent, announced the Fall Yard Sale held on October 8 went well; there were 27 vendors. Last Saturday was the last day for Farmer's and Artisan's Market this year; there were 30 vendors and a variety of activities. Upcoming events include the LYC Carnival on Saturday, October 22, and the Haunted House will be held on October 27, 28, and 29 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Chad reported on the Athletic Complex; a lot of work has been completed. All of the small stumps and limbs, as well as the building, have been removed. Hostetler Landscaping has been leveling the land. The goal posts and some of the remaining debris will be removed by public works. The official groundbreaking will be this Friday at noon.

Larry asked Chad to provide an update on the grants. Chad advised they have raised \$38,000.00; he added that \$10,000.00 of that amount is the Harkless Grant and does not count toward the match. The K-21 Grant is for \$80,000.00 and we are required to match the \$80,000.00 by March 31. The Park Foundation will fund \$40,000.00, however, that also does not count toward the match. Chad stated they have applied for a \$12,000.00 grant from the Dekko Foundation and a \$40,000.00 grant from the Rinker Foundation. There are also groups who have pledged to donate. Dick Peletier has been

visiting local businesses and organizations to raise money. Chad added information will be sent to all the school children. Brian added matching the \$80,000.00 doesn't mean we are done. Chad noted we have already committed \$32,000.00 of the money we have raised to what will be done in the next couple months.

Larry asked the council members to give some thought to participating in this project.

Larry Martindale, of the Wawasee Kiwanis, spoke up and advised we need \$52,000.00 just to level and seed the fields; that does not include buildings and lights.

Dick Peletier stated he is going around to businesses and talking to them. A Walk A Thon is a possibility in the spring. WPOA has promised to contribute. Larry Martindale stated \$160,000.00 is needed just to get all the fields ready; a total of \$400,000.00 will be needed for buildings, lights, parking, etc.

Paul asked Dick Peletier and Larry Martindale for input. Dick stated right now everything is being done to have the fields ready for spring. Larry Martindale advised there is a quandary ; the plan does not include a parking lot. They are working with a property owner to use his parking lot; the property owner wants the town to pay property taxes and insurance. Jack Birch has been working with the property owner; he noted he can negotiate with the owner, but he does not have any authority. Discussion followed. Paul would like Jack, as well as Jeff and Brian, to continue to work with the committee. Mike Reed will be consulted.

Brian would like the town to contribute \$20,000.00 in matching funds. Paul agreed the council should think about it; he is not prepared to commit tonight. Bill agreed. Paul suggested the council should decide by December. Chad will clarify if town money will count toward the match.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jeremy Sponseller, Public Works Superintendent, reported the new decorative lights on Main St. were working this afternoon. The lights on S.R. 13 are not complete yet; we are waiting on a permit from INDOT. The paving and striping are done; stop bars have been installed. They are now working on the last stretch of sidewalk in the Heights; the sidewalk is scheduled to be poured on Friday morning. A wood guardrail was put up; they are looking into planting arborvitae trees in the spring.

Jeremy discussed the high service pump at the water plant; Ortman quoted \$6,200.00 to pull the motor and repair the pump. Brian asked about a warranty on the old pump; Jeremy advised there is usually only a one year warranty on pumps. The VFD was also damaged; depending on what is found, we may be able to turn it in to insurance.

Brian made a motion to have Ortman fix the high service pump for an amount not to exceed \$6,200.00; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Jeremy discussed the Burger King lift station; repairs are needed. Jeremy solicited quotes from two contractors; Cripe Excavating was the only contractor who submitted a quote. Larry moved to have the lift station repaired at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Larry asked Jeremy to look for another quote if possible.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline reported the installation of the new gutters is complete. The carpet installation will start this week; the town hall will be closed at noon tomorrow and all day Thursday and Friday.

Julie asked for council input on the clerk treasurer's bond. A new state law requires a bond for the term of office; the premium can be paid annually, or it can be paid in one lump sum for the clerk's term of office. The annual premium is \$1,115.00; if paid in one lump sum, the four year premium is \$3,891.00. Brian moved to pay the four year bond for \$3,891.00; Jeff seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Julie presented a donation from the Wawasee Housing Initiative; the organization is going to be dissolved. They would like to donate the balance of \$907.31; the money would be for our Emergency Rehab Fund. Larry moved to accept the donation; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Brian would like to get the word out we have this emergency money available.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mike reported the Oakwood remonstrance will be up on October 26; the paperwork will be filed the last day or two of October. Paul noted the infrastructure is not ours until deeded to us.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

None

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

None.

Larry moved to adjourn the meeting; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paul Stoelting, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer