

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

April 21, 2015

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

Paul opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the March 17, 2015 meeting were presented. Larry moved to approve the minutes; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; Brian abstained. The motion carried.

Claims #387 to #525 were presented for payment. Larry made a motion to approve the claims; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The claims were approved.

Attorney Steve Snyder, representing P.W. Realty and Polywood, spoke about Resolution 2015-2, a Declaratory Resolution for tax abatement. A building was purchased at 813 W Brooklyn St.; that will be torn down, and a new building will be constructed for production and warehousing. The resolution declares those three tracts to be an economic revitalization area. Polywood currently has 230 employees; 250 additional employees will be added over the next five years. During the first year, building improvements will be made and the new equipment will be acquired over five years. Building improvements and new equipment will total over \$23 million. They are requesting a 10 year tax abatement on real and personal property.

Attorney Snyder went on to explain if the declaratory resolution is approved, a public hearing will be scheduled for the May 19 meeting on a Confirmatory Resolution. A waiver will also be presented since some of the improvements have started.

Larry made a motion to adopt Resolution 2015-2; Kathy seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paul read the Arbor Day Proclamation.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Henry reported he, Tammy Cotton, and Bill met about a promotional video. He asked the council to approve an additional appropriation of \$30,000.00 out of the South Benton TIF fund for a video, advertising, and marketing the Industrial Park. Bill moved to approve the additional appropriation; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry suggested an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Riverfront District. He noted we have accomplished about 60% of the previous plan from 2006. Paul asked if there are any other changes needed to the comprehensive plan. Henry answered we can make additions to the comprehensive plan if we would like to in the future. Larry made a motion to adopt Henry's vision on Riverfront District. Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry announced the Lieutenant Governor will be here May 14 at the Technology Park. It will be a press conference to announce our shovel ready site.

Henry presented the CF-1 compliance forms for companies who have received tax abatements. Larry suggested approving all the CF-1's at once. Larry made a motion to find the companies in compliance with the Statement of Benefits for Real Estate and Personal Property. The companies are: Precision Automotive d/b/a Technical Services, Patrick Industries, JP Inc. (Jasper Plastics), Syracuse Properties, P.W. Realty, and Poly-wood. Brian seconded. Bill commented we need to take a careful look at JP Inc. next year. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello advised there were 357 calls for service last month; there were nine crashes and ten criminal arrests. He noted everything is good with the exception of the railroad crossings; all crossings from 250 East to the county line are closed except for the S.R. 13 crossing. He added the railroad is almost to town with the new rail; the Oak St crossing will be widened by eight feet. Officers are assisting school buses from 2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days.

Tony asked if there were any ADA complaints; there were none.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson reported the Easter Egg hunts went well. Activity has picked up; there are events scheduled in the park for the next four weekends; events are scheduled in the Community Center through August. Arbor Day is this Friday; the third graders will be coming to Henry Ward Park at 1:15 p.m. for a tree planting. On May 2nd, the third annual Safety Day will be held at the Community Center. Representatives of the Police and Fire Departments will be there. The Farmer's Market will be opening on May 9, and the annual Cruise In will be the following weekend.

PUBLIC WORKS

Clint Houseworth, Severn Trent Regional Manager, reported the construction contracts for the wastewater project were signed last week. Clint expects the construction company to begin mobilization next week.

The water department is moving forward with the installation of the radio read meters, and Severn Trent is pursuing a replacement for the Syracuse position.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline advised Change Order #1 reducing the cost of the wastewater project was signed along with the contract documents last week. She also advised we have started receiving monthly distributions of the wheel tax.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Vern Landis had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Tammy Cotton, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, discussed the upcoming Cruise In and Car Show. The Tour de Lakes Bike Ride is on July 11; proceeds from that event go to trails.

Tammy introduced Sara and Kermit Kropf, new owners of 110 E Main St. Mr. & Mrs. Kropf explained they plan to open a specialty food market with cured meat, cheeses, and a bakery.

Sharon Fowler discussed her tree issues at her property. Discussion followed. Paul noted Ms. Fowler has same complaint every month.

OLD BUSINESS

Brian asked about weekly recycling. Julie advised it will begin May 4 and go through August 31.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill reported the Fire Territory Board and the Township Advisory Board approved the purchase of 12 bulletproof vests for protection in dangerous situations. The cost is \$500.00 each, for a total of \$6,000.00. Tony added they will be used in unstable situations; 12 are needed since the full time people are a variety of sizes.

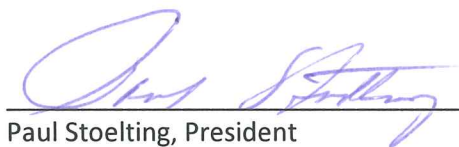
Bill made a motion to approve the purchase not to exceed \$6,000.00 from the Fire Territory Equipment Replacement Fund; Kathy seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Bill complemented Tony for his foresight in purchasing the body cameras well ahead of many major cities. Tony reminded everyone that the police department is now a safe exchange place for internet and classified ad purchases.

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

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

ATTEST:



Paul Stoelting, President



Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer