

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 15, 2013

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

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Larry asked for comments from the public on agenda items. There were no comments.

The minutes of the December 18, 2012 meeting were introduced. Brian moved to approve the minutes; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1-118 were presented for payment. Brian made a motion to approve the claims; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ken Jones, of Jones Petrie Rafinsky, updated the council on the construction progress at the industrial park. The water main is in, and most of the force main is complete. H & G is working on the gravity sewer. Mr. Jones praised the contractors working on the project.

Mr. Jones discussed the roadside swales. He advised Jeremy, Brett, Henry and Larry (Cripe Excavating) met in December. Mr. Jones discussed the design of the project; they used roadside swales with a stair step concept. He explained Larry Siegel was concerned that pooling would occur in the lowest area. Mr. Jones noted the grading and the sizing of the roadside swales has not been done yet. He recommended we take a simple step to provide an outlet for potential water. The excavation would be a little deeper, and a culvert would be installed. The cost of the change order for this work is \$5,175.00. Paul asked why we need this. Ken explained the project was designed using standard procedures for storm water. There could be conditions for water to accumulate. He feels it is a logical change order, and it makes a better project. Discussion followed on the work remaining. Mr. Jones was asked if we need to approve the change order now. He suggested we approve it by March 1, since it also has to be approved by EDA. More discussion followed on drainage, building sites, and flooding. Paul moved to approve change order #2 for Cripe Excavating in the amount of \$5,175.00; Jeff second. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia reported EDA approved payment from the grant for the \$6,000.00 required by AT&T. H & G continues to work on the construction of sewer lines that are part of the EDI grant. Henry advised he is continuing to work with NIPSCO on getting gas & electric to the site; we may be able to pay for the utilities with EDI funds.

Henry announced we received a \$4,000.00 beautification grant from the Harkless Foundation.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello reported there were 269 calls for service in December, with six auto crashes. He noted he also provided a second report for all of 2012. There were 4004 calls for service in

2012, which averages out to 10.8 calls per day. Tony will prepare a five year comparison report to present at a future meeting.

Tony announced the Shrine Circus is one week from this Friday; 1500 third graders and adults will attend. At the Police Chief's Conference next week, he will be sworn in as President Elect for 2013; he will be President in 2014. Larry asked Tony about time required for the position; Tony advised the Police Chief's Association have a full time director.

Brian noted the number of parking tickets issued is down.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson announced last month was a slow month for the Park Department. League basketball started last weekend; there are 10 teams. They are still working on the interiors of the buildings at the Athletic Complex. On January 25, Kiwanis will host their Soup Supper at Community Center. Chad noted he provided a 2012 tree summary; the summary has totals for tree removal, trees planted, and total cost. The Tree City USA application was turned in; he feels we will also qualify for a growth award. Larry asked how long we have been a Tree City; Chad stated since 2001. We missed the growth award only once during that time.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Jeremy Sponseller reported public works employees are completing normal winter work. Jeremy presented a purchase request. He explained the sewer department often needs to see inside a pipe. R & R Visual inspected the Oakwood sewer lines with an expensive camera. Jeremy would like to purchase a small portable camera to see inside the sewer pipes. The cost is \$7,300.00 from an online supplier and \$6,900.00 from Cardinal Supply. The camera would be a useful tool for maintenance and problem solving. Larry asked about the cost to maintain it. Jeremy answered not much; they run off battery power, 110, or 12 volt. The useful life of the equipment is 10 to 15 years. It also has locator capability. Larry asked how often it would be used; Jeremy stated 5 to 10 times per year. After more discussion, Larry made a motion to allow the purchase of the camera from Cardinal Supply for \$6,900.00; it is to be delivered in 30 days. Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Discussion began on a trailer mounted vac. Jeremy explained he wanted feedback from the council. Standing water is becoming more of an issue; he would like the council to consider it.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline advised we received our "1782" notice on the 2013 budget; all budgets were approved. The budget came in under maximum levy by \$1,718.00.

Julie presented one check to be voided that is over two years old in the amount of \$69.17.

The 2012 purchase orders to be encumbered totaling \$2,135,979.63 were presented. Julie noted the encumbrances include over \$2 million for Industrial Park. Brian moved to approve the encumbrances; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Julie introduced discussion on a purchase request for a new copier. She advised the current copier was purchased in 2005 and is used by the clerk's office, town manager, and building inspector. We would like to purchase a color copier. Henry explained a color copier would be useful when we start marketing the industrial park. Julie advised there are two options. The first option is to purchase the copier outright; the total cost would be \$5,466.00. The maintenance contract would be \$66.67 per month. The second option would be to go with a managed print service that includes the copier, toner,

and copier maintenance. The managed print service would also include all printer cartridges and maintenance on our desktop printers. The cost for this option is \$298 per month for 60 months. A report from Advanced Imaging shows our monthly cost is currently \$320.35. Julie noted when we have a problem with one of our desktop printers now, we replace it. Paul asked about other companies; Julie explained we have received fantastic service from Advanced Imaging. Discussion followed on the options and what we are currently spending. Julie was asked for her recommendation; she would like to go with Option 2. Larry asked what will happen to the current copier. Brian suggested we donate the old copier to a local non-profit; Bill agreed that is a good idea. Larry made a motion to approve the contract with Advanced Imaging Solutions for \$298.00 per month. Delivery is to be in 30 days, and Julie is authorized to sign the contract. Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The 2013 contribution to the Lake Area Community Band was discussed. Chad explained the band is only scheduled for the 4th of July this year since we no longer have weekly concerts. Julie noted last year we did tell the band it may be the last year for \$2,000.00. Discussion followed on how much it would cost to hire a band. Paul made a motion to contribute \$800.00 to the band in 2013; Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Larry asked Julie about reimbursement from EDA for the industrial park project; Julie advised the first two reimbursements have been received in six weeks.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Vern Landis had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Sharon Fowler, of Pittsburgh St., commented she would like Hal back on board for code enforcement. She would also like Hal to attend the meetings.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

None.

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

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST.

William Musser, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer