

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

May 21, 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, and Paul Stoelting. Town Manager Henry DeJulia, Town Attorney Vern Landis, and Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline were also present. Councilman Brian Woody was absent.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the April 16, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Paul moved to approve the minutes; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #495 through #642 were presented for payment. Larry moved to approve the claims; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2013-04, An Ordinance for No Parking on Benton St., was introduced. Tony advised the previous owners of the house at Benton and Lake paved a portion of what was previously a grass strip for parking. The new home owner does not need the area for parking and would prefer no parking since there have been issues. Paul asked if this would become a problem on the north side of Benton St. Tony advised no; he talked to the residents of the neighborhood. Paul moved to adopt Ordinance 2013-04; Larry seconded. Larry asked Tony if he was sure we're not shifting the problem to the north side. Tony answered he is positive it will not. Paul also has concerns; we have to take it up if comes up again. Four voted for the motion; none against. Tony will have the ordinance advertised.

Tony discussed another proposed Ordinance. Ordinance 2013-5 is for speed limits on the streets surrounding the athletic field. Tony discussed this with Chad; they recommend a speed limit of 20 mph for the surrounding streets. Tony advised new signs will need to be posted; crosswalks will be designated in the future. Paul asked if we should have the speed reduced during certain times of the year. Tony feels it would be easier if we have the same speed limit all year. Paul moved to adopt Ordinance 2013-05; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ken Jones, of Jones, Petrie, Rafinski, gave his monthly report. Cripe Excavating returned to the industrial park site in the beginning of May. Cripe has requested a change order for the passing blisters. When they began grading for the passing blisters, they found unsuitable sub grade material. Cripe claims this is an unforeseen condition. Initially the change request from Cripe was for \$18.00 per ton, or about \$30,000.00. After discussions with Henry and Brett, the cost of labor was removed since Cripe would already be working in that area. The change request was reduced to include only materials and trucking, which is estimated at \$19,400.00. Ken discussed the contract documents, instructions to bidders, INDOT standards, and soil borings. Ken Jones feels they are due something; he added the contractor should have included it in the contingencies. Discussion followed on the contractor's duty to determine conditions. Larry noted another contractor may have bid that higher and not been awarded the bid. It was noted Cripe was \$110,000.00 lower than nearest bidder. Ken Jones stated Cripe Excavating has done a great job, they have not been behind, and their work is good quality. He added we are still under the original contract overall. Larry asked if this qualifies for the EDA grant; Ken advised it does not. Ken explained he expected the highway right of way to be suitable. Larry suggested splitting the change order in half. Henry asked about the cost of materials; Ken Jones stated about \$10.00 per ton. Henry suggested we offer to pay for the cost of materials, but not for trucking.

Paul moved to approach the contractor and offer to pay for materials only; the cost is not to exceed \$10.00 per ton. Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; not against. The motion carried.

Ken Jones continued with his report. H & G is wrapping up their work; the lift station and booster pump will be powered up and tested soon. Larry asked about the culvert that was at the intersection of Long Dr and County Line Road. Ken Jones will check on it.

Ken discussed a change order for H & G; the change order is to reimburse H & G for additional costs to make the water main repairs. Ken explained the records for the utility locates were inaccurate; causing the water main breaks and repairs. The cost of the water main repairs was \$24,646.00. Also, there were unused gate valves for the project, resulting in a reduction of \$9,432.00. The net amount of the change order is \$15,214.00. Paul made a motion to approve change order #3 for H & G in the amount of \$15,214.00; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ken Jones encouraged the property owners to water where new grass was planted in the project area. Also, names are needed for the roads in the industrial park; the council will provide input.

Henry presented CF-1's for council approval. Patrick Industries promised 240 employees; they are at 212 now. Paul moved to find Patrick Industries in substantial compliance for the real and personal properties and to authorize the council president to sign the CF-1's; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry presented the CF-1's for Precision Automotive. He noted the company had 7 employees last year; they now have 10. Owner Al Tehan was present; he advised two more employees have been hired since the report was prepared. He spoke about the preliminary work for a new business in the building. Paul moved to find Precision Automotive in substantial compliance and authorize the council present to sign the CF-1's for real and personal property; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia reported the NIPSCO contract for the water booster station needs to be approved. NIPSCO has decided a deposit is not needed; we must meet minimum electric usage of \$2434.00 per year. Larry moved to accept the contract with NIPSCO for the booster station and authorize Henry to sign; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry reported he is still working with Elkhart County to get a shovel ready designation ready for the industrial park. We are working on plans for the Harkless Bridge; they will be sent to our engineer when they are complete. He is also getting costs for the Oakwood streets and curbs.

POLICE

Tony reported there were 319 calls for service and 8 crashes in April, with 3 criminal arrests. There are a lot of cases in the works. He announced the line up for the Memorial Day Parade is at noon; the parade is at 1:30 p.m. There were 18 letters sent out today for long grass.

Bill asked about police officers at Wawasee schools. Tony explained the Sheriff's Department currently provides the resource officer, even though the schools are in town. In the future, we will need to look at the school resource officer situation. The resource officer handles a lot of calls.

As required by the ADA plan, Tony asked if there were any ADA complaints. There were none.

PARK

Chad Jonsson, Park Superintendent, advised lifeguards will be on duty starting Saturday. Lifeguards will work on the weekends only until school is out; after that they will be on duty every day.

The Farmer's Market started May 11; there were about 300 visitors last Saturday. Two car shows were held on May 17 and 18. Chad said the car shows had their normal participation.

Chad announced the Syracuse Municipal Building Corporation held their annual meeting right before the council meeting tonight.

For the ball field, they are playing games now. The big projects are winding down; they are working on the dugouts and dirt work now. Key Bank employees will be helping tomorrow. Fundraising efforts toward lights for two ball fields continues. A dedication was held on May 4.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jeremy Sponseller, Public Works Director, reported he is working on the street paving list. Sidewalk repair and installation will begin next week. The street department is picking up yard waste and brush weekly. Fifteen new trees were planted; Jeremy has prepared a packet for quotes for tree removal. For wastewater, the new truck crane works well; it has already been used to pull pumps.

Larry asked if the I and I has increased at Oakwood. Jeremy will create a report.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline advised the departments are working on their 2014 budgets. She asked the council to let Henry know if there is anything they would like to include.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Vern Landis was present, but had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Dick Peletier thanked Council President Bill Musser for speaking at the dedication of the athletic complex. The fields are in use a lot. Mr. Peletier told the council he went to the township as Larry suggested. They do not have a lot of money, but agreed to contribute \$1,000.00 per year.

Sharon Fowler asked about the number of drug arrests. Tony stated he reported earlier a lot is in the works; investigations are not public record. Sharon stated she would like to see us charge for permits from the building inspector.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

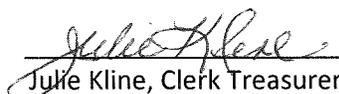
None.

Paul moved to adjourn the meeting; Larry seconded. The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

ATTEST:



William Musser, President



Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer