

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

November 15, 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, Larry Siegel, and Brian Woody. Councilman Bill Musser 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.

Paul presented the minutes from October 18th and November 3rd for approval. Larry moved to approve the minutes of the October 18th meeting; Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Larry moved to approve the minutes of the November 3rd meeting. Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1179 through #1285 were introduced for payment. Larry made a motion to approve the claims; Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 11-07, an Ordinance Amending the Syracuse Town Code with Respect to Sewage Works Rates and Charges, was introduced. Mike Reed explained the ordinance amends the town code with respect to the sewages rates and charges; this relates to the Oakwood zoned rates that were included in the annexation fiscal plan. The annexation was complete on October 28; the ordinance was introduced at a Special Meeting on November 3. Paul opened the Public Hearing for the ordinance and asked for public comment. There was no public input on the ordinance; the Public Hearing was closed. Larry made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-07; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 11-08, an Ordinance Establishing a Town Budget Account, was next on the agenda. The ordinance creates a new budget account for the Oakwood Zoned Rates. Brian moved to adopt Ordinance 11-08; Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 11-09, an Ordinance Regulating the Use of Town Right-of-Ways, was the next ordinance to be introduced. Brian moved to adopt Ordinance 11-09; Jeff seconded. The ordinance regulates the placement of piers in town right-of-ways. Brian confirmed the ordinance was okay with Mike Reed; Mike advised yes. Paul advised a committee of six worked on the ordinance. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia advised the Syracuse Redevelopment Commission met about a week ago for a reorganization meeting. The Redevelopment Commission is looking into creating an Economic Development Area in Oakwood.

Henry announced the sidewalks on Pickwick Dr. have been completed; you can now walk from Northshore Dr to the boat company. Henry updated the council on the Region 3A and the CDBG proposal about possibly funding a URA. He advised there is no decision yet by the state on the URA.

Henry announced the railroad crossing on SR 13 has been fixed.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello reported there were 342 calls for service in October; he went over the types of calls. Trick or Treat went well; there were no problems or incidents.

Tony discussed Oakwood. He advised now that the roads are public, the town is responsible for the speed limits and stop signs. Tony will prepare an ordinance for speed limits and stops signs for council approval at the December meeting. He noted the stop sign locations won't change, but the stop signs must be changed to meet DOT requirements.

Tony introduced Ben Hostetler; the new officer for the Syracuse Police Department. Tony advised Ben will start working next Monday; he is scheduled to attend the Law Enforcement Academy in January. Ben was sworn in by Town Attorney Mike Reed.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson reported on recent and upcoming park events. The Haunted House was held on October 27, 28, and 29; there was good attendance on Friday and Saturday. The Wawasee Swim Team participated. Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 10; several civic organizations will be participating. It will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Kids are free; adults are \$2.00.

Chad provided an update on the Athletic Complex funds. Chad attended a meeting with Dekko on November 8; he explained we have a \$12,000.00 application with Dekko. The Dekko Board meets in mid-December. So far, \$41,000.00 has been raised; that does not include the Park Foundation funds. The Foundation agreed to fund up to \$40,000.00; we also have \$8,000.00 in commitments from groups and businesses. There are grant applications outstanding in the amount of \$62,000.00. The leveling and seeding of the field have been completed. Projects to be started in the spring include power, a well, irrigation, fencing, and a building.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jeremy Sponseller, Public Works Superintendent, reported on several items. The Street Department continues to pick up leaves. This will continue until all leaves have been picked up or the leaves freeze up. About half of the Public Works staff and Henry attended CPR and First Aid training today; the training was provided by Severn Trent and will be held again in the spring.

Jeremy discussed the purchase of an additional salt spreader. Jeremy explained we have one truck to spread salt now; it would be easier if we had two. He would like to install the second salt spreader on the one ton truck. Jeremy presented a quote from WA Jones, of Columbia City, for \$3,670.00; they have the spreader in stock. Larry made a motion to approve the purchase of the salt

spreader in the amount of \$3,670.00 to be installed in 30 days; Jeff seconded. Brian clarified this would be for a smaller truck. Jeremy advised it would be for the one ton truck; the one we have now is installed on our largest truck. Four voted for the motion; none against. Motion carried.

Larry asked what the speed limit is on Northshore Dr; Tony agreed to research it.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline announced the trash and recycling containers were delivered to Oakwood residents who wanted trash pickup to start this fall. Trash pickup began yesterday.

Julie advised Borden's Wasteaway contacted her about trash pickup over the Christmas and New Year's holiday. Originally Borden's planned to pick up the trash and recycling on December 26 and January 2. Borden's has advised the landfill will be closed on those days and they will not be able to pick up trash; trash and recycling will have to be picked up on Tuesday during those two weeks.

Julie asked for council input on holding a year end meeting. She asked if the council would like to adopt a resolution authorizing her to pay bills and make necessary transfers as they have done previously, or if they would like to hold a year end meeting. The council chose to adopt a resolution instead of having the year end meeting.

Julie provided information on our insurance renewals. The renewal quote for the town's auto, property, and liability coverage is \$53,337.00; last year's premium was \$53,025.00. The health insurance renewal through PHP is an increase of 17%. She noted the health increase includes a discount of \$14,325.70 because we are a chamber member.

Brian moved to accept the insurance renewal from EMC Insurance Companies for \$53,337.00; Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Brian made a motion to authorize Julie to sign the PHP renewal; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Mike advised the Redevelopment Commission met on November 3; the Oakwood area is being considered for a possible Economic Development Area. The Redevelopment Commission has scheduled another meeting for December 16; if that happens, it will be presented to the Town Council on December 20. Mike went over the various steps involved in setting up a TIF area.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Tammy Cotton, Executive Director of the Syracuse Wawasee Chamber of Commerce, announced that Holiday Magic will be on Saturday at Crossen Mill Park. The Lakeland Youth Center will have events from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Events at the park will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; they include cookies, cocoa, Santa, and the 5th grade choir. The lighting of tree will also be held.

Dick Peletier updated the council on the athletic complex and how Kiwanis and PeeWee Football fit in. The Kiwanis commitment is we need to get the complex done. The girl's softball can not use the field at the high school; Vega Field not usable since it is torn up. It looks like we are getting some

commitments on maintenance. Brian stated we don't know yet how much the grants will bring in. He thanked Larry Martindale and Dick Peletier for their work; without them, we wouldn't have grass planted.

Jason Traycoff, of 409 N Harrison St., asked if the street department has looked in the drainage in the alley between Harrison and Huntington; that area floods. Brian noted we need to look at storm drainage issues around town. Paul agreed; he added we should provide for the older neighborhoods too. He asked Jeremy to look into areas and locations.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Jeff reported on a purchase the Fire Territory would like to make from the Equipment Replacement Fund. They would like to purchase two thermal imaging cameras at a cost not to exceed \$14,860.00. Larry asked what happens to the old equipment. Jeff stated the old equipment is not of any value; he understands the plan is to get rid of them. Brian moved to approve the purchase of two thermal imaging cameras for a cost not to exceed \$14,860.00; the old cameras are to be traded in or junked and taken out of inventory. Jeff seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

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

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paul Stoelting, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer