SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

May 21, 2024 @7:00 P.M.

Town Council President Nathan Scherer called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Council members present were William Musser, Paul Stoelting, Cindy Kaiser, Larry Siegel, Clerk-Treasurer Virginia Cazier and Town Attorney Jay Rigdon.

Nathan Scherer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments – Discussion from the floor (agenda items only) 2 minutes per speaker 10 minutes total.

The minutes from the April 16, 2024, regular meeting presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Bill Musser seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

Claim #'s 491-623 for $1,297,300.06 presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Cindy Kaiser seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2024-06 Animal Waste, discussion and consideration for approval No motion was taken.

Mike Chambers – Servline Utility Protection Program This program is endorsed by Alliance of Indiana Rural Water. This program is designed to help the Town and the resident when they have a water leak and ask the Town for an adjustment. Servline will take care of the adjustment instead of the Town, Servline insures water leaks for the residents. There are three levels of coverage, $500 coverage will cost $1.30 per month, $1000 coverage will cost $1.55 per month, and $2500 coverage will cost $1.80 per month. The way it would work, a letter informing the residents of a new leak adjustment policy would be sent out to the residents with their current water bill, and they could decide if they would like to participate or not. They also offer an external water service line, from the main to the house, this would be a charge of $5.99 per month. A portion of the revenue will be paid back to the Town. Servline will pay two billing cycles per year. It would go on the resident's bill unless the resident opted to not do it. There was no action taken by the Council, need further discussion.

Trash Contract RFP for approval Our contract with Borden's ends in June of this year. Recycling was discussed amongst the Council. Paul Stoelting approved the RFP; Bill Musser seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

ENGINEER – COMMONWEALTH

Jeremy Hardy was not present.

TOWN MANAGER

David Wilkinson asked if there were any questions in his report.

POLICE

Jim Layne, Police Chief, asked if there were any questions in his report. Last month the Council asked Jim to check into the insurance with Greg Miller. Greg Miller is still waiting for a direct answer about coverage for the Police Officers using the police vehicles for personal use. The Council asked if Jim and the Clerk would work together for insurance coverage and bring recommendation for the next meeting. The clerk asked about how far they could drive from Syracuse, Council recommend 30-mile range. The clerk asked if this were only for the Police Dept and if a wife wanted to ride along in a truck while they were plowing, would that be fine? Jay Ridgon, town attorney, stated that a wife riding along would not be business use, having an engineer ride a long is acceptable because it is business use.

No ADA complaint.

PARK

Chad Jonsson, Park Superintendent, the Community Center roof is complete.
Ward Park playground has been installed but one piece.
The Farmers Market opened last Saturday. Open every Saturday till Labor Day.
Mud run registration is open, that is June 22nd at the WACF.
No lifeguards but one certified applicant.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Aurich, Public Works Director, asked if there were any questions in his report. The sewer and water for Kern Road are moving forward. Mark asked the Council if the residents annexed on Kern Road could have the tap fees waivered if they hooked on within 30 days after receiving the letter. It would help the Town when laying the water and sewer down on Kern Road to put in the taps for each house. There are about 8-9 homes. Cindy Kaiser made a motion to accept wavering the tap on fees for water and sewer 30 days after receiving the letter; Bill Musser seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott, Fire Chief, asked if there were any questions in his report. The Memorial Day parade is on Monday, May 27th. Fireworks for Syracuse is on July 4th and Wawasee is July 6th. The pork chop/chicken BBQ will also be on July 6th.

CLERK TREASURER

The Clerk-Treasurer, nothing to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Jay Rigdon, Town Attorney, nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Scott Clay, RQAW Engineer Firm, just wanted to introduce himself and his services.

Tom Hoover, 4334 E. Magill Ct, was not in favor of the DORA for Syracuse. He wanted more information on the DORA uptown. The Town Manager held the meeting, and it was publicized on the town's website, on the internet but did not put it in the paper. There was a meeting held to discuss the DORA with anyone who was interested. It is a new law that has passed within the last few months. Warsaw and Winona Lake have both adopted it. It allows the free movement of alcohol within the designated zone.

Chris Carboneau, Syracuse Hardware, had a comment on the DORA, he was at the meeting and felt that the Town should see how it works for Warsaw before we adopt DORA for the Town of Syracuse.

A resident from Turkey Creek Lane asked if there was a burn ordinance, she explained about a neighbor who burns all day long. Burning is banned in town other than a campfire.

DISCUSSION FROM THE COUNCIL

Nothing

OLD BUSINESS

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NEW BUSINESS

Nothing

Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn the Town of Syracuse Council Meeting; Larry Siegel seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Virginia Cazier, Clerk-Treasurer

Nathan Scherer, Council President