SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

October 15, 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. No comments.

The Council Minutes - The minutes from the September 17, 2024, regular meeting presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Bill Musser seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

The Town Claims - Claim #'s 1143-1254 for $494,166.86 presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Cindy Kaiser seconded. Larry Siegel opposed. The votes were 3 for, 1 opposed. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2024-09 Second Reading of the 2025 Budget – Paul Stoelting moved to waive the reading of the 2025 Budget; Bill Musser seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Economic Development Agreement and Amendment – Storie Real Estate, LLC – Larry Siegel noticed that in section 5.02 it stated that Elkhart County is the governmental body for abatement, which was incorrect, it would be the Syracuse Town Council. It would have to be amended and sent to the RDC before it comes back to the Town Council. Paul Stoelting made a motion to table the agreement; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Declaratory Resolution 2024-05 Storie Real Estate, LLC – Tabled.

Confirmatory Resolution 2024-04 Shore Capital - Steve Snyder, Local Attorney, spoke on behalf of Shore Capital for the public hearing. Steve turned it over to Council President, Nathan Scherer, for public comments to speak in favor or against. The public hearing was closed. Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve the Confirmatory Resolution 2024-04; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2024-08 Stop sign amendment, Lake Drive and Oakwood Circle – Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-08; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

ENGINEER – COMMONWEALTH

Jeremy Hardy stated the water amp and per have been completed. Lakeside and misc. roads are completed. The designs are ready for the CCMG in January. The North RV park is still on going. There was one quote that was below estimated bid for The Kern Road sanitary sewer extension, Beer and Slabaugh won the bid. Paul Stoelting made a motion to award the bid to Beer and Slabaugh for $299,866.15; Cindy Kaiser seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried. Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve the agreement for the amount of $299,866.15; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried. Notice to proceed, 120 calendar days, Paul Stoelting made a motion to proceed; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Jeremy informed the Council that Commonwealth's contract ended at bidding, there will be some savings of $12,500.00. Paul Stoelting made a motion to the amendment to Task Order No. 2023-02; Cindy Kaiser seconded. The votes were 4-0. Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

David Wilkinson was absent.

POLICE

Jim Layne, Police Chief, asked if there were any questions in his report.

No ADA complaint.

PARK

Chad Jonsson, Park Superintendent informed the Council that both the Harvest Festival on October 5th and the indoor garage sale on October 26th, both went well.

Started winterizing all parks facilities.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Aurich, Public Works Director, asked if there were any questions in his report. While working on the storm sewer they noticed there was a cross connection to the sanitary sewer. While Beer and Slabaugh were in town, they had the excavation open and fixed the problem. They did an excellent job on it. Mark is asking for approval of payment to Beer and Slabaugh of $22, 220.00. Bill Musser made a motion to approve the payment of $22,220.00 to Beer and Slabaugh; Paul Stoelting seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Mark introduced Jarod Hoover, who transferred from the Street Department to the Water Department.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott, Fire Chief, asked if there were any questions in his report. Mickey asked for approval for turnout gear for the new firefighter in the amount of $3,995.00. Mickey also asked for approval for a security system at the annex building of $13,900.00. Bill Musser approved the turnout gear of $3,995.00; Paul Stoelting seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried. Paul Stoelting made a motion to approve the security system for $13,900.00; Cindy Kaiser seconded. The votes were 4-0. The motion carried.

Mickey introduced Joe Cazier to the Council to discuss Resolution 2024-06 Filing of an appeal for excessive levy. The Council already voted on this at the September meeting. They just need to sign Resolution 2024-06.

CLERK TREASURER

The Clerk-Treasurer asked if there were any questions in her report. Nothing to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Jay Rigdon, Town Attorney, nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Nothing.

DISCUSSION FROM THE COUNCIL

Larry Siegel asked the Public Works Director about the fire hydrant locks in the tech park. Mark had ordered special locks for the hydrants at the tech park, and they are delayed. There is a shortage, due to supply. Mark has found some standard locks to put on the hydrants till the special locks come in.

Bill Musser made a new motion to keep the Council meeting the same, 7 o'clock on the third Tuesday of every month; Larry Siegel seconded. The votes were 4-0. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing

Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn the Town of Syracuse Council Meeting; Larry Siegel seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Virginia Cozier

Virginia Cazier, Clerk-Treasurer

Nathan Scherer, Council President