

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

October 19, 2021 @7:00 P.M.

Town Council President Larry Siegel called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Council members present were Larry Martindale, Paul Stoelting, Cindy Kaiser, and Bill Musser. Clerk Treasurer Virginia Cazier, Attorney Vern Landis.

Larry Siegel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments – A question was asked, why is only part of Kern Road being annexed? The Council stated that this is for public comments on agenda items only.

The minutes from the September 21, 2021, regular meeting, was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Larry Martindale seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1264-1414 for \$930,734.13 were presented for approval. Larry Martindale moved to approve the claims; Paul Stoelting seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Council presented an Award of Appreciation to Tom Hoover for 5 years of service and dedication to the Syracuse Council.

Public Hearing and Second Reading of 2022 Budget, Clerk Treasurer read the second reading aloud of the 2022 Budget. Budget Ordinance was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the 2022 Budget Ordinance; Larry Martindale seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Public Hearing for Ordinance 2021-13, Kern Road Annexation, Tom Hoover asked if there was going to be enough money to put up a fence around the ballfield. Town Manager stated a quote was received for \$78,210.00 to cover the North and West side of the ballfield.

Several Kern Road residents had questions about the Annexation. Chris Janak, Bose McKinney & Evans, stated that this is the time for the public to speak to the Council about the annexation. A question was asked on, why are there several houses not being annexed on Kern Road. In order for Kerns Crossing and the ballfield to be annexed, there needs to be contiguity requirements according to the Indiana Law.

ENGINEER – COMMONWEALTH

Chris Harrison, Commonwealth Engineering, stated all the projects are moving forward. Please review monthly status report.

Main and Brooklyn Street: Gas lines are being moved by Nipsco. Period to be complete, really depends on the weather.

Harkless Drive Improvement: Preliminary design.

Currently working with Mark, Public Works Director, on pump replacements on Town's lift station and clarifier upgrades

Proposal for a Task Order No. 2021-07-Kern Road Intersection Study for \$6,000.00. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the Task Order No. 2021-07 not to exceed \$6,000.00; Cindy Kaiser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

David Wilkinson, Town Manager, stated Custom Fencing will be installing the fence at the Ballfield. The fencing will be paid out of the edit money. No date has been set to install the fence. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the fencing for \$78,210.00 to be completed within 6 months and be paid for out of the Edit Fund; Bill Musser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

There needs to be a special meeting setup between November 19th - December 17th for the Annexation. The Council moved the regularly scheduled meeting of November 16th to November 23rd. Paul Stoelting made the motion to approve moving the Council meeting from November 16th to November 23rd; Cindy Kaiser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne stated there are two vehicles that will be advertised for sealed bids, Red Jeep Liberty, and White Dodge Durango. There is a third vehicle that will be donated to the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. We will be trading the vehicle for training hours.

Received quotes from three different companies for our camera systems. The best price was from Axon, 10-year lease for \$21,000 a year. This will cover ten body cameras, eight car cameras, and will automatically connect to the iCloud storage. Body cameras are 4-6 weeks out and the car cameras are out till April 2022. Paul Stoelting made the motion to approve the \$21,000 for a 10-year lease from Axon; Larry Martindale seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

No ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, stated the Haunted House will be this coming weekend and next weekend, at Ward Park, from 7-9 pm.

Drive Thru Trick or Treating at the Community Center will be on the 30th from 3-5 pm. Second year the Parks Depart has done a Drive Thru Trick or Treat.

Indoor Garage Sale went well last weekend.

Harvest Festival went well, best crowd ever.

Ballfield Project: Should be starting on the building by the end of this month, currently the building is staked. IDEM is reviewing the project. Parking lot is ready, and the poles are in place.

There are six change order in the packets from Beer & Slabaugh for -\$6303.00. Paul Stoelting made the motion to approve the six change orders for -\$6,303.00 from Beer & Slabaugh; Bill Musser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Parks Dept. and Chamber of Commerce are currently working together on a dog park, as part of the comprehensive plan. It is in the planning process, drawing have been made, and still gathering ideas from different towns around Syracuse.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Aurich, Public Works Director, mentioned that Brush pickup will end October 29th and Leave pickup will end December 3rd. We ask the public to not put the leaves in the street.

Getting quotes for the clarifier brush project, two contractors will provide the equipment, but will not install it and will not warranty it if other people install. There is another company that will install equipment and give us a 5-year warranty. Mark is asking the Council to approve the work from Ford Hall Company, Inc. for \$56,840.00 will be paid from 736.2 Wastewater. Paul Stoelting made the motion to approve the work from Ford Hall Company, Inc. for \$56,840.00 to be completed on or before December 15, 2021; Bill Musser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Three flow meters are unable to be calibrated, due to storm damage at the wastewater treatment plant. Mark received two quotes and only one contractor will do the installation. Mason Engineering will install the three flow meters with remote install for \$30,353.00 and will be completed by December 15, 2021. Asking for approve from the Council for \$30,353.00 for Mason Engineering. The money will be coming out of 736.2 Wastewater. Paul Stoelting made the motion to approve \$30,353.00 for the install of the three flow meters; Cindy Kaiser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

FIRE TERRITORY

Fire Territory, Mickey Scott, is working on battery backups on the sirens. We are currently waiting on the batteries.

Asking for approval to order new hoses. Received a quote from D.P.S for \$46,917.00. The \$46,917.00 will be coming out of the 2022 Budget but would like to order them now. It will be less expensive to order them now than to wait till next year. Delivery will be by April 2022. The hoses we currently have are over 25 years old. Paul made the motion to pay D.P.S., not to exceed, \$46,917.00 for new fire hoses; Larry Siegel seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Another request we have, Radio equipment needs replaced. If we order now, there is a discount savings of \$56,000.00. J & K Communications total cost is \$220,691.06 for all the radios we use. Delivery will be as soon as possible in 2022. Paul Stoelting made the motion to pay \$220,691.06 for the radios; Cindy Kaiser seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Trick or treating is Sunday, October 31, 2021, from 6-8.

CLERK

Nothing to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

John Earnest, WPOA, discussed the current history of the dam, who owned the dam and how it was recently repaired. The mowing around the dam will be the Town's responsibility as well as the water level.

The Dike will need repaired. The WPOA has around \$100,000 in donation. WPOA is hoping the Town will help with the Dike. They are asking for \$100,000.00 over a one- or two-year period. Total bill for the Dike is \$575,000.00. Fixing the Dike will be beneficial to the lakes and town residents.

The WPOA will not receive any tax money till June 2022.

DISCUSSION FROM THE COUNCIL

Bill Musser would like to discuss in the next couple of months how the Town could help financially with the dike.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Paul Stoelting made a motion to adjourn the Town of Syracuse Council Meeting at 8:16 p.m.; Bill Musser seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Larry Martindale made a motion to reopen the meeting at 8:18 p.m. for two items: Bill Musser seconded. All voted for the favor. None against. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Resident at 1033 N. Mullen St., said a year ago, he received permission to have farm animals at his residence, from the Code Enforcer. They received a letter from the Town stating they have 30 days to remove the chickens and ducks. There is an Ordinance that states Wild and Farm Animals Prohibited within the Town Limits. Larry Siegel made a motion to take this matter under advisement.

Jim Higgins, LWG, gave an overview of a Residential TIF/Workforce Affordable Housing. Creating a TIF around a residential development. A housing study was done by KEDCO, which is in need, to pursue a TIF. The local school have a vote on the TIF moves forward or not. Both schools would be in favor of the TIF because it will create revenue.

Paul Stoelting made a motion to adjourn the Town of Syracuse Council Meeting at 8:40 p.m.; Larry Seigel seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

ATTEST:



Larry Siegel, Council President



Virginia Cazier, Clerk-Treasurer