

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

August 17, 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 Tom Hoover, Larry Martindale, Paul Stoelting and Bill Musser. Clerk Treasurer Virginia Cazier, Attorney Vern Landis.

Larry Siegel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments – Mr. Brent Boyer 12332 N. Kern Road, Syracuse, IN had concerns about the Annexation of Kern Rd. & Kern's Crossing. Steve Unger explained the process of Annexation to all.

The minutes of the July 20, 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 984-1111 for \$866,684.37 were presented for approval. Tom Hoover moved to approve the claims; Paul Stoelting seconded. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2021-13 Introduction of Annexation Kern Road & Kern's Crossing; Larry Martindale approved Ordinance 2021-13; seconded by Paul Stoelting. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 2021-13 Adoption of Fiscal Policy Resolution for Annexing Contiguous Territory to the Town of Syracuse. Larry Martindale approved Resolution 2021-13; seconded by Paul Stoelting. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Steve Unger explained the process of Annexation again. After tonight, there will be a Public Hearing on October 19th for the Annexation. Council would have to hold a special meeting between November 18th-December 18th to Adopt the Annexation Ordinance. Looking at mid-March before Annexation will be in effect.

Ordinance 2021-14 Amendment to Traffic Code regarding One Way Street. Paul Stoelting approved Ordinance 2021-14; seconded by Larry Martindale. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Jim Layne explained removing the one-way on First Street in front of the old elementary school (502 W. Brooklyn St.) and making it a two-way street.

David Wilkinson explained the tax abatement request from Ridgestone Development Group, LLC for old Syracuse Elementary School property.

TOWN MANAGER

David Wilkinson, Town Manager, talked about the first couple weeks, meeting department heads, employees, etc. Also attended some meeting last week. Mark Aurich, Jeremy Hardy and himself meet to discuss upcoming projects. David addressed Code Enforcement, would like to enforce the ordinance that the Town has adopted in the past. Ordinance exist we should be enforcing them.

David sent out a survey on how the employees of the Town felt about their jobs. Not all surveys have been turned in.

ARPA monies came in at the end of August, where do we want to spend the money. Larry Siegel said it has been discussed, will discuss at a later time.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne & the entire police department wanted to thank, Doug and Jeannine Schrock for their donation. The donation will purchase two solar powered street signs that will be on North Shore Drive.

Traffic flow around Polywood Dr. is flowing better. Vehicles are going the right directions with the one ways. No ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, is finishing-up on some projects we started at the beginning of summer. Beer and Slabaugh is working out at the ballfield, moving dirt around. Other than, that nothing much is happening out there.

We are down all our summer staff.

A year ago, we received a grant from the St. Joseph River Basin, a tree study that was done back in March of last year. We will be having a public meeting on September 20th at 1 o'clock to discuss the grant and the best places to plant trees.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mark Aurich, Public Works Director, complimented the public works employees, very knowledgeable employees. His focus has been at the Wastewater Facility.

Larry Siegel suggested on N. Main Street having the double line repainted on the road. There are vehicles that cross over onto the other lane and Main St. is a high traffic area. Mark will talk to the Street Foremen about getting this accomplished.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Jeremy Hardy was not present at the meeting. Mark Aurich present a funding request for an application for the SWIF Grant. This Grant will be for the looping of the water main on Lakeside Drive. The Town would need \$8,100.00 for the survey work before submitting the application. Larry Siegel asked where the \$8,100 would be coming from, Larry suggested Water Depreciation. The estimated cost of this project would be \$500,000.00. Paul Stoelting approved and not to exceed \$8,100.00 for the survey work; seconded by Tom Hoover. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

FIRE TERRITORY

Fire Territory, Mickey Scott, there has been questions on the alarms in town. Those alarms are to warn the public of F1 tornados. They are warning alarms not tornado alarms.

There is a food container/box on the southside of the Fire Department. It is there for people to take non-perishable foods out. People can donate non-perishable and take non-perishable foods.

CLERK

Clerk submitted the ARPA Grant form on August 10th and received an email stating that the Town is receiving \$650,676.45. We received half this year and will receive the other half next year. Tom Hoover suggested having a special meeting to discuss where the ARPA monies should be spent.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Matt Goodnight, 702 N. Lake Street, had a couple questions. First question, where are the 2021 Minutes on the website? The 2021 minutes are on the website. The prior months minutes are approved and posted the day after each meeting. Second question, what happened to the zoom meetings? Would like the zoom meetings recorded again and put on our website. This will be beneficial for residents who cannot attend the meetings to watch them on our website.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Larry Seigel addressed needing two members on the BZA. Larry Copen will no longer be a member of the BZA, he is moving out of town. Larry is asking for approval to appoint Cory Mast as a BZA member. Paul Stoelting made a motion to appoint Cory Mast as a BZA member; seconded by Tom Hoover. All voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Tom Hoover addressed the dangerous intersection at the new elementary school and the back exit of the high school, on Kern Road. He would like a traffic light up at that intersection. Town will investigate this situation.

Paul Stoelting made a motion to adjourn the Town of Syracuse Council Meeting at 7:50 p.m.; Bill Musser seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

ATTEST:



Larry Siegel, Council President



Virginia Cazier, Clerk-Treasurer