

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

February 19, 2019

Town Council President Larry Martindale called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Council members present were Bill Musser, Tom Hoover, and Paul Stoelting. Town Attorney Vern Landis and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present. Larry Siegel was absent.

Larry Martindale opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Larry Martindale asked for public comment on agenda items. There were none.

The minutes of the January 15, 2019, meeting was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Bill Musser seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 114 through 265 were presented for payment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-02, Amending the Salaries and Compensation Ord. 18-14, Section VIII, was presented. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Bill Musser seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe stated he appreciated the work that the town employees have done during the wintery cold weather we've had.

Mike reported that Shopko will be closing in May of this year. He will be working with the current owner of the property and with the Chamber of Commerce in helping find a new occupant.

Mike informed the Council that the residents of North Kitson Lane and South Kitson Lane have shown interest in being annexed into the corporation. He is requesting approval to allow Commonwealth Engineering to do a study on the current water and wastewater lines throughout that area. The cost would be no more than \$7,000. Tom Hoover moved to approve the Task Order for Commonwealth Engineers for \$7,000 for the water and wastewater line study of the North Kitson Lane and South Kitson Lane area. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike presented the "First Amendment to Intermunicipal Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service" to the Council. This is the amended agreement for the Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District's flows coming into the wastewater plant. The Council requested Vern Landis' opinion on this agreement. Vern advised that it looked okay. Bill Musser moved to approve the agreement. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike reported that the temporary chlorine system is installed and working well. This will be in use until the permanent system is in place. He also stated that the Wastewater Plant is running well. There will be a meeting in June with Kokosing to make sure everything is working properly, as well as evaluate any needed repairs. Mike informed the council that there was a water main break near CVS but was repaired quickly.

Tom Hoover also gave his appreciation to the Town employees for their hard work.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions regarding his report. There were none. He announced that there would be an open house for Joe Denton's retirement on February 22nd. He has hired Dan Buell from North Webster Police Department to fill the vacancy.

There were no ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, announced that the Indoor Garage Sale will be on March 2nd from 9am to 2pm. On March 11 at 7pm, there will be a meeting at the Community Center to gather public input for Laudeman Park. The 3rd Annual Princess Party will be on March 23rd. Chad reported that the Municipal Building Corporation had their annual meeting regarding the financial reports for the Community Center lease. Chad is currently getting information on the cost to install lighting for the parking lot at the Community Center.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked if there were any questions on his report. There were none. Mickey introduced a new hire, Layne Neal, to the Council. He also announced that two employees have completed their paramedic certifications. Mickey explained the use of numerous sirens throughout town the other day were due to escorting the Wawasee Wrestlers back from the State Competition. Mickey also reported that two other employees have been accepted to the Goshen Paramedic school. He gave thanks to all his employees for putting up with all of construction going on at both stations. Mickey announced that they did receive the \$350,000 grant for 10 new Zoll X-Series cardiac monitors to be distributed between our fire department, North Webster, and Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory.

Mickey presented a purchase request for a new 2019 Dodge Ram 1500 truck to replace their current 2004 Chevrolet. He stated that the Fire Territory plows their own property and need a 4-wheel drive truck. Bill Musser moved to approve the purchase of the 2019 Dodge Ram from John Jones Automotive Group and items needed for outfitting the truck for an amount not to exceed \$38,000. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Tom Hoover asked about the proposed baby box. Mickey answered that he is working with various attorneys on legal concerns before installing it.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, presented a request from a resident to adjust their water and sewer bill for usage from 6 months ago. She stated that the resident just purchased the property after it being vacant for a long time. When the resident had the water turned on, the leak was discovered. Since there wasn't any past usage to base any kind of adjustment, the resident agreed to wait 6 months. Bill Musser moved to approve adjusting the residents bill for a total of \$2,493.62. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paula made a public announcement to apologize for an error made last year. A late payment was made regarding the withholding tax, in which the IRS penalized the town for \$2,214.13.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

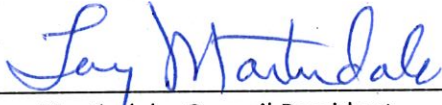
NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn; Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:30 pm.

ATTEST:



Larry Martindale, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer