

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

June 18, 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 Paul Stoelting, Bill Musser, and Tom Hoover. Town Attorney Vern Landis and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present. Larry Siegel arrived later.

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 May 21, 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.

Councilman Larry Siegel arrived.

Claims #'s 743 through 883 were presented for payment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike Noe presented a settlement agreement with Inframark for \$75,000. He stated that an agreement with Triad Engineers is pending. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the Inframark agreement and to allow the President of the Town Council to sign. Bill Musser seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-07, Amending Chapter 8 of the Town Code for Stop Signs, was presented. This would allow placement and enforcement of stop signs at the at the southwest corner of Thwaits Court and Wildwood Dr. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-08, Amending Chapter 8 of the Town Code for Stop Signs, was presented. This would allow placement and enforcement of stop signs at the northwest corner of Technology Way and Innovation Blvd. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-09, Abolishing the office of Town Marshall and creating the Syracuse Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, was presented. This ordinance is needed to be elected to join the 1977 Police Pension fund. Paul Stoelting moved to approve Ordinance 19-09. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 19-02, Appointing Members to the Syracuse Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, was presented. This resolution would appoint Larry Martindale, Tom Hoover, and Mike Noe to be members of the Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the resolution. Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-10, Establishing the PERF 1977 Police Pension Fund and Establishing a Board of Trustees for Management of the Town of Syracuse PERF 1977 Police Pension Fund, was presented. This ordinance establishes that the Town Manager, the Chief of Police, and the Clerk-Treasurer will manage the PERF fund. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 19-03, Electing to Join the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund as Administered by the Indiana Public Retirement System, was presented. This resolution allows the Police Department to become a participating unit in the '77 Police & Fire Fund and to make contributions to the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS). Larry Siegel moved to approve the resolution. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paul Stoelting made a motion to appoint James Layne as the Chief of Police for the newly established Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners. Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike Noe introduced Jeremy Hardy of Commonwealth Engineers. Jeremy presented a task order to the council that would allow Commonwealth to assist in the rehabilitation of the North Water Tank. He stated that the initial charge for the design work would be \$7,500 and the remaining work would be billed by the hour. Discussion followed regarding the necessity of having an engineer for this project and the quality of the finished product. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the task order and allow the Council President to sign. Larry Siegel seconded. Four voted for the motion; Bill Musser abstained. The motion carried.

Jeremy also requested that the council consider Commonwealth for On-Call services. He stated that there would be an hourly rate for engineering services for future projects such as the headworks at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the water main between Pickwick and Maple Grove. The council suggested that a task order is to be provided at the next meeting.

TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe stated that there were some bricks outside of the Town Hall building that need repaired. He recommended having Schrock Masonry make the repairs for a cost not to exceed \$5,255. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the purchase. Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Mike also reported that Kokosing would be installing the influent gate and will then start on the Performance Guarantee inspection.

Mike introduced the new Wastewater Foreman, Aaron Dixon to the council members. Aaron has also just passed and received his Class III Wastewater Operators license.

A purchase request was made to the council for a mini-excavator for the street department. He would like to purchase it from Southeastern Equipment for an amount not to exceed \$47,562. It should be delivered within 60 to 90 days and Southeastern Equipment will supply us with a rental if we need one before it arrives. Tom Hoover moved to approve the purchase. Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions regarding his report. There were none.

Jim announced that Mike Bumbaugh will be resigning as of the end of this month. The police department will be accepting applications for the open position until July 5th.

Jim also congratulated Dan Buell for graduating from the Drug Recognition school.

Regarding ADA complaints, Jim reported that the municipal pier has been repaired by the street department. There were no other ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported that the park department continues to be busy preparing for upcoming events. Saturday will be the annual Mudtastic Classic. July 4th will be the annual fireworks display at Lakeside Park. Chad informed the council that Darin Lursen has taken over preparing the Tour-des-Lakes coming up on July 20th. Chad also reported that he has received some other ideas for the planning of Laudeman Park. There will be a site design discussion at the August Park Board meeting. Chad announced that the date of the July Park Board meeting has changed from the 8th to the 10th.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott reported that there were 123 emergency responses for the month of May, making a total of 530 responses since the beginning of the year. He also stated that the building improvement project is now complete.

Mickey made a purchase request for a new fire engine from Herb Fire for the total amount of \$579,078.00. It would take approximately 12 to 14 months to build the truck to our specifications. He informed the council that this year's new equipment budget of \$300,000 will pay for half, and the other half paid out of next years budget. Tom Hoover moved to approve the purchase of the new fire engine. Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mickey made two announcements: The Pork Chop & Chicken BBQ will be on July 6th at dusk, and the May 29th CPR class has been rescheduled to July 31st at 4pm. Mickey stated they will be conducting the free CPR classes on every 5th Wednesday.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, asked if the council was okay with the tentative budget calendar provided in their packet. All members nodded yes.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Chris Bornman from White Oaks Construction spoke about 700 N Huntington St. repairs due to a fire. He stated they would like to keep the same footprint along with the signage on the awning. Because it is a non-conforming building, he is required to get a variance for the encroachment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the variance for the building repairs at 700 N Huntington St. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Tim Yeager requested that the minutes to the May 21st meeting be corrected regarding his statement. It should read, "Tim Yeager responded to the council discussion regarding parking at Village Lube. He asked the council to use caution because the business in question is obviously a viable, going concern, paying taxes, and providing a service to the community. Further, he asked them to try working things out without taking action which might drive this business out of town."

David Johnston, member of the water control device committee, addressed the council. He asked when the survey would be completed. Mike answered that it has been ordered and is waiting on the surveyor. Johnston stated the committee could not move forward on getting the permit until the survey is complete and ownership is established. Larry Siegel stated that the permits could be filed as "unknown owner". Lengthy discussion followed.

Sharon Fowler addressed the council with a couple questions. She wanted to know why the open door policy isn't continuous and why regular people, like herself, couldn't sit on municipal boards. There was a pause from the council members, waiting for clarification from Ms. Fowler. None was given.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

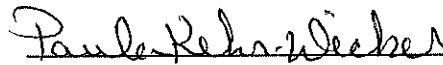
Tom Hoover moved to adjourn; Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:15 pm.

ATTEST:



Larry Martindale, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer