

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

June 19, 2018

Town Council President Bill Musser called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 6:59 p.m. Other Council members present were Tom Hoover, Paul Stoelting, Larry Siegel, and Larry Martindale. Town Attorney Vern Landis, Town Manager Henry DeJulia, and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present.

Bill Musser opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Musser asked for public comment on agenda items. There were none.

The minutes of the May 15, 2018, meeting was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion. Larry Siegel abstained due to not being at the May meeting. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 703 through 865 were presented for payment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paula Kehr-Wicker introduced Gina Clevenger of Clevenger Insurance to the Council to propose a change in the Town's Life and Short-term/Long-term Disability insurance carriers. The effective date would be for July 1st of this year. Gina explained that Lincoln Financial Group would combine all three insurances at a lower cost with more benefit. She also stated that the rates would be locked in for 2 years. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the change from Guardian Short-Term and Long-Term Disability Insurance and Dearborn Life Insurance to Lincoln Financial Group. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion, none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER

Henry DeJulia reported that the air compressors for two of the over 40-year-old H.V.A.C. units are not working properly. He is requesting that the council approve spending \$15,481.00 for the replacement of one full unit and approximately \$17,000.00 for the other full unit. Both would be replaced by Havel; which is our current contracted maintenance company. The price difference is due to not yet having a quote for the other unit. Henry stated he believes it will end up being less than that. Paul Stoelting moved to approve paying no more than \$15,481.00 for the first unit and no more than \$17,000 for the second unit. Completion should be no later than 30 days. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Tom Hoover asked if the service agreement goes with the cost of the units. Henry answered that it was another issue that concerns maintenance of the whole building. Larry Siegel asked how much our current contract is. Paula answered that our monthly payment is \$802.00. It was stated that the new maintenance agreement should be a lot less since we will have new equipment. Larry asked about what the maintenance agreement covers. Henry answered that it was for just the heating and air conditioning system and not the generator.

Henry stated that we should be hearing more from Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District by the end of this month.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions regarding his report. There were none. He stated that he sent a request for an ordinance change but would like to postpone it for clarification. He would like to request the Council to make a motion allowing the Building Inspector, Harold Hansborough, to work as an interim Ordinance Officer. Particularly to enforce ordinances regarding nuisances, weeds and rank vegetation, posting signs on poles and trees, keeping sidewalks clear of litter, and litter on private property. Paul Stoelting asked if we were giving him a new title. Larry Siegel asked if it would change his pay. Jim stated that it wouldn't change his pay, but there would be an additional six hours a week to his schedule. Larry questioned the state laws concerning the building inspector's duties and an ordinance officer's duties. Jim stated that he checked with an attorney for the Law Enforcement Academy and was told that if the Council appoints Hal to that role, he would be able to enforce them. Unless it has to do with state and federal laws. Paul Stoelting asked what hours Hal would be working. It was answered that Hal currently works 18 hours a week; which would increase to 24. Larry Siegel stated that he believes there were issues regarding Hal doing that kind of job in the past and would like more research done it. Paul Stoelting asked what department Hal currently works in. It was answered that he works for the Town Manager. Discussion

followed on the enforcement of the regulations Hal currently works on for buildings and properties. Bill Musser moved to allow Hal to work on some of the ordinances with the guidance of the Police Department. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Jim informed the council that he has not heard many issues regarding the new parking ordinance and that an officer just left for the academy yesterday and will be there for next 16 weeks.

There were no ADA complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported on upcoming events. He announced that Saturday is the Mudtastic Classic with the Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation. There was a cap of 200 people eligible to sign up but was bumped up to 240. The runners will start at 9am. On July 4th there will be various vendors such as a Taco Truck and Kettle Corn stand. The Lake Area Band will start at 7:30. Long Drive will be closed off starting at 4pm. Chad also announced that the Tour De Lakes bike ride is a trails program but is held at the Community Center and Lakeside Park which will be on the 14th of July. There are approximately 175 registered currently. Long Drive will be closed most of the day.

Chad also reported on the restroom construction at Lakeside Pavilion. The 2 restrooms on the side of Long Drive are functional and the parts have arrived today to finish the lake's side restrooms. He stated that the Youth Center is doing a program called "Movie in the Park" that includes an inflatable screen that they project the movie onto. Bill Musser asked about Laudeman Park and if there would ever be any playground equipment placed there. Chad answered that he is working with different entities for planning other items for that area.

Chad informed that council that the hiring committee has reviewed applications and will probably start interviewing for Program Director next week. Larry asked for an update on the Trail Project down State Road 13. Chad answered that there was a meeting last night, but he didn't attend. He believes that Megan McClellan has enough funds to construct the project possibly by next spring.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent, Rob Merchant, has an addition to his report. The Wastewater Department needs a surge protection device installed in the U.V. system. He hopes to have it installed by next week. He has received a couple quotes for Utility Easement Surveys. J K Walker & Associates quoted \$21,000 and John Kimpel & Associates quoted \$26,820. This would include surveying Wawasee Heights and Maple Grove area and would be finished by next spring. The cost would be split between the Water and Wastewater Funds. The surveys would include mapping and GPS coordinates. Larry Siegel moved to approve paying J K Walker & Associates an amount not to exceed \$21,000 to survey Wawasee Heights and Maple Grove and to be completed by Spring of 2019. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Larry Siegel asked what would happen if an easement is blocked. Rob answered that we would require the obstruction to be removed and that we would work with the property owner to get it removed within a timely manner.

Rob reported that the McWest Lift Station has two new pumps and panel due to the original pumps failing.

Rob presented a quote for the years Crack Sealing project for Pavement Solutions for \$19,500. It includes 20 different streets and will be part of the Community Crossing Matching Grant funding for this year. This would be completed by fall of this year. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the quote from Pavement Solutions for Crack Sealing. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob informed the Council that Jeremy Hardy will be here for next months meeting to propose other options for the Harkless Road project and others for the Community Crossings Matching Grant program.

Rob discussed the 9-year-old chlorine system. He was asked how other towns process their chlorine and Rob answered that most towns have switched to chlorine bleach from gas. Henry spoke up and stated that he suggests having Commonwealth engineers look at our current system and give their assessment on what can be done and what is required. Larry Siegel moved to approve having Commonwealth Engineers investigate our chlorine system for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 and to be completed by the next meeting. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob reported that he has sent out the annually required Consumer Confidence Reports with this month's utility bills. He has also sent out the letters to the remaining Oakwood residents that still need to have dye testing completed.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked if there were any questions regarding his report for the Fire Territory. There were none. He informed the Council that they did have the pre-bid meeting for the construction of station 1 and station 2 last Friday. The bids are due in by June 29th. They are currently working on the 2019 budget proposals. It will include the replacement of the 2002 Engine. He also reported that the Annual Pork Chop and Chicken Barbecue Fund Raiser will be July 7th starting at 10am until sold out. They did have a safety meeting with the Syracuse Lake Association to discuss various concerns including having light at the railroad bridge for the boats going under. Mickey spoke with the Lake Patrol and they informed him that the bridge is lighted every year for one hour after the fireworks. They put 2 boats on the north side of the railroad bridge and put spotlights on the bridge.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, asked the council if they approve of the proposed budget schedule for this year. All members agreed. Paula then requested the council to approve advertising for an additional appropriation for the Rainy Day Fund to cover the cost of a new Generator for the Town Hall. Larry Siegel approved advertising for the additional appropriation amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the Rainy Day Fund. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There was nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

There was nothing to report.

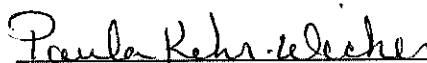
Larry Siegel moved to adjourn; Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:05 pm.

ATTEST:



Bill Musser, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer