

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

July 16, 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 Larry Siegel, Paul Stoelting, Bill Musser, and Tom Hoover. Town Attorney Vern Landis and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present.

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 June 18, 2019, meeting was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 884 through 1023 were presented for payment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 19-04, Electing to Join the Public Employees' Retirement Fund as Administered by the Indianan Public Retirement System, was presented. Larry Siegel moved to approve the resolution. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-11, Amending the Town Code for Weed and Rank Vegetation, was presented. Larry Siegel moved to approve the resolution. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

2020 BUDGETS

The 2020 Proposed Budgets were presented to the council.

Mike informed the council that his budget was decreased to help the General Fund to prepare for the extra funds needed for PERF.

Mike stated that the Street budget shows there will be a need for a new salt truck.

Chad advised that the 300's appropriation category (services) was decreased to allow for the increases in the 200's appropriation category (supplies). It was discovered that supplies were being paid for by service appropriations. Chad also informed the council that there were various capital improvements that are needed for next year. There will also be a need to replace a 2009 lawn mower.

Jim asked the council if they had any questions on his proposed budget. There were none.

Paula explained the proposed Clerk budget and various other Fund's budgets. Bill Musser asked about raises for the employees. Paula answered that originally it was mentioned to not have an increase, but later she and Mike agreed to a 1.5% increase. The council requested, due to more work that has been necessary for the board, they would like to increase the Council's salary budget line item by \$1,000.

TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe reported that the survey for Crosson Park and the flood control structure needs to be an "American Land Title Association" (ALTA) survey. The cost of the survey will be split in half between the Conservancy and the Town. Our share will be approximately \$6,630.00. Larry Siegel moved to approve paying Jones Petrie Rafinski (JPR) for the ALTA survey with an amount not to exceed \$10,000. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike informed the council that JPR would also do a survey of easements for Pickwick Drive and Maple Grove. He requested the council to allow payment for this survey at a cost of \$6,750 and to be paid from the T.I.F.-Syracuse Fund. Larry Siegel moved to approve the request. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Vern Landis announced that the Triad settlement differences have been resolved. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the agreement and to allow the Council President to sign. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike reported that the Performance Guarantee inspection for the wastewater project should be completed in 30 days. He informed the council they are currently getting estimates for covering up areas where the influent has tendencies to freeze? Bill Musser asked if it was necessary to get an engineer involved. Mike explained that he tried to

avoid having an engineer, but most contractors won't guarantee the work unless it has been engineered. Mike stated there would be a need for a generator at the Technology Park for approximately \$50,000 as well as a fence to be put around it for about \$16,000 more. He said it would be paid for out of the T.I.F.-South Benton Fund. There will need to be an additional appropriation made to have those funds available. Mike informed the council that a well head needs to be replaced. He is currently getting quotes. He also informed that the mini-excavator has arrived, but they are still waiting on the bucket portion of it. Mike announced that the Indiana Department of Transportation have begun working on the State Road 13 bridge and hope to be finished by middle or late August. The electric and gas have officially been disconnected from the old animal control building on Dolan Dr. The street department will be demolishing it soon. Turkey Regional Sewer District has completed their disconnection and we will be capping our side off within the next week or so.

POLICE

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

Jim stated that the police department is still in the process of hiring another officer. He also stated that all the physical and psychological exams have been completed, approved by our trustees, and mailed to the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) for their approval. Tom Hoover asked how the body cameras worked. Jim explained.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported that the Mudtastic Classis was last month and there were approximately 250 participants. He also stated that the 4th of July festivities went very well. Chad announced that the Tour De Lakes bike ride will be next week on the 20th. He stated that Long Drive will be closed from 7am to approximately 3pm.

Chad informed that that the public input for Laudeman Park is complete and that there should be a final drawing created by next month. They are continuing organizing the Town Wide Garage Sale for August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The deadline to register for the map is July 25th.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott reported that there were 649 total emergency responses for the year as of the end of June. The contract has been signed for the new fire engine and should be receiving it by September 1st of 2020. There will be a free CPR class provided on July 31st at 4pm at Station 1. Mickey requested a motion from the council to accept the proposed 2020 Equipment and Operations Budgets. Tom Hoover moved to approve the budgets. Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, informed the council that there will be a couple of additional appropriations presented at next month's meeting for the T.I.F.-S. Benton Fund and the CCI-Property Tax Fund. Larry Siegel asked if the T.I.F.-S. Benton Fund should be included in the report given to the council. Paula explained that it hasn't been in the past. It was requested by council to include it for next year's report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Mickey spoke up regarding the INDOT project on the State Road 13 bridge. He reminded the public that there should not be any vehicles stopped on the railroad tracks.

Sharon Fowler stated she would like an ordinance that regulates dumping on rental properties. The council directed Mike to investigate it. Sharon then asked about the "building fund" and stated that there should be \$10,000 in it. Discussion followed on what the Fund's ordinance states.

Doug Schrock asked what the Town was going to commit towards the flood control structure repairs. After some discussion, Larry Siegel informed Doug that the town is currently committing \$250,000.

Dave Johnston asked Larry Martindale if he had gotten a response from Burke's Seawall. Larry Martindale answered that Burke's would not be able to do anything until next spring.

Tim Yeager asked the council about the different names being used for the "dam." The council stated that it basically depends on the entity that is referring to it.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

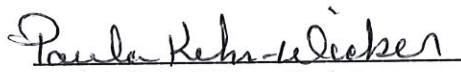
Paul Stoelting moved to adjourn; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:52 pm.

ATTEST:



Larry Martindale, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer