

# SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

## REGULAR MEETING

August 20, 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. Sharon Fowler asked about the proposed EDIT use ordinance. Mike Noe answered that it would allow the Town to use our Economic Development Income Tax funds to be used for repairing streets and various projects.

The minutes of the July 16, 2019, meeting was presented for approval. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the minutes; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1024 through 1175 were presented for payment. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Alan Tio, Chief Executive Officer of the Kosciusko County Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO) introduced himself to the Town Council. He gave a presentation on the County's Economic Development goals and how they would like to assist the Town of Syracuse with economic growth. He is requesting that the Town contribute 6% of their EDIT revenue (approximately \$15,000) to KEDCO. Larry Siegel stated that the Town has not received much support in the past from KEDCO. Paul commented that he is in favor of increasing our contribution, but not the \$15,000. Paul made a motion to contribute \$10,000 to KEDCO for 2019 services. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-12, Appropriation Reduction for Cumulative Storm Sewer Fund, was presented. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Larry Siegel seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 19-13, Additional Appropriation for Cumulative Capital Improvement (Property Tax) Fund and TIF-South Benton Fund, was presented. Paul Stoelting moved to approve the ordinance. Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 19-05, Authorizing the Use of County Economic Development Income Tax and Describing A Capital Improvement Plan, was presented. Larry Siegel moved to approve the ordinance. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike Noe presented a letter of understanding from Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding a detour during the roundabout project at US 6 and SR 13. He stated that we asked for several types of detours, but INDOT only allows one. Mike stated that INDOT would need the Town Council to approve and sign the letter. Larry Siegel moved to approve the letter of understanding. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike informed the Council that the INDOT would be bidding out the CR 29 ramp project in October and possibly start on it in the Spring of 2020. The roundabout will be done after the ramps.

### TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe reported that he is extending the amount of time to receive quotes for painting the north water tower. This will hopefully allow us to receive more quotes. He believes the painting would be done in Spring. Mike also reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> well head needs updated and would cost approximately \$11,500 to get it repaired. The wastewater belt press pump went down and, fortunately, had one in stock. The belt press has not been maintained since it was installed. Mike is looking into having a company provide yearly maintenance, which could cost around \$8,000. Discussion followed regarding maintenance on all equipment.

Mike requested approval to purchase a monitoring system through SCADATA for the remaining 16 lift stations. The cost would be \$99,840 to be paid from the Wastewater Construction Fund. It should be done by the end of the

year. Larry Siegel moved to approve the purchase as well as allow Larry Martindale to sign the order. Paul Stoelting seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike then reported that the Carroll Street lift station needs replaced and would like to use the remaining Wastewater Construction Fund monies for it. Smokey's lift station needs a generator. The street department is about two thirds finished with the main water line installation on Pickwick Dr. Mike has hired an electrician to repair various decorative lights throughout town.

#### POLICE

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

Jim announced that the department has been awarded a grant from the Criminal Justice Institute for 90 Radar (permanent) and Lidar (handheld) units. He also announced that an Operation Pull-Over blitz is currently going on.

Jim made a public announcement reminding all citizens to lock their vehicles. We have had various reports of entries and items being stolen.

Jim stated that there is a new operation included in the Police Federal Grant called Operation S.A.V.E. (Stop Arm Violation Enforcement).

For the A.D.A report, Jim stated that the library is requesting another handicap parking spot. They would like it to be on the south west corner of Harrison and Main Street. The council requested that Vern prepare an ordinance for the new parking spot.

Tom Hoover asked Jim if texting while driving was illegal. Jim answered that it is, but very difficult to stop people for it, as they would need a search warrant to look at the phone for proof.

#### PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported that the Kid's Olympics will be this Saturday for ages Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In September there will be a Superhero event with an appearance from Spiderman. Chad announced that the Laudeman Park plan has been finalized.

#### FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott was absent.

#### CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, asked the council if there were any questions regarding the revised budgets that were in their packet. There were none.

#### TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

#### DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Sharon Fowler stated that she has an unsafe building ordinance to give to the council. She also stated she would like for Hal to be paid and required to come to the council meetings.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

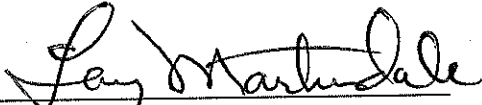
NEW BUSINESS

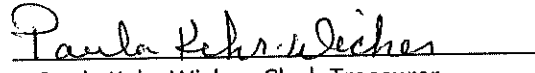
Larry Siegel stated that NIPSCO made some cuts on the Northshore sidewalk. He asked if the town could fix them. Mike stated he would investigate it.

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

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:02 pm.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Martindale, Council President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer