

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 2020

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

Paul Stoelting opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Stoelting asked for public comment on agenda items. There were none.

The minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting was presented for approval. Larry Martindale moved to approve the minutes; Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 139 through 282 were presented for payment. Tom Hoover moved to approve the claims; Larry Martindale seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 2020-01, Opposing House Bill 1165 – Municipally Owned Utilities, was presented. Bill Musser moved to approve the resolution. Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe reported on a hearing for the Turkey Creek Dam & Dike Conservancy District will be held at the Kosciusko County Court House on March 5th. Two trees have been removed at the 'dam'. There will be a bid opening for the dredging at the 'dam' on March 3rd at 11am.

The lowest bid for the Medusa Water Main Project was HRP Construction for \$421,728.00. Tom Hoover moved to approve the bid for HRP Construction. Bill Musser seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The lowest bid for the Medusa Street Paving with other streets included was Pulver Asphalt for \$340,501.00. Bill Musser moved to approve the bid for Pulver. Tom Hoover seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike requested the council approve a task order from Commonwealth Engineers for on-call services. The agreement is not to exceed \$20,000.00. Tom Hoover moved to approve the task order from Commonwealth. Larry Martindale seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike introduced an engagement letter for municipal advisory services from LWG (London Witte Group) for future financing and bonding projects. Bill Musser moved to approve the engagement for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Tom Hoover seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Mike then presented a request for partial payment to White Oaks Constructions for work done on the influent cover project. This payment would be for half of the remaining amount of the project, \$9,292.75. Tom Hoover moved to approve the partial payment and allow the Clerk-Treasurer to process the payment prior to the next council meeting. Bill Musser seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Quotes were received to repair the roof at the wastewater plant. The lowest quote was from White Oaks Construction for \$15,775.00. Tom Hoover moved to approve White Oaks to repair the roof for an amount not to exceed \$15,775.00 and allow the Clerk-Treasurer to process payments to them as materials are received. Larry Martindale seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Water Department needs to replace 3 wells. Mike is requesting to have North American Pump replace them at a price not to exceed \$24,120.00. The work should be completed within the next 6 months. Tom Hoover moved to approve the project. Bill Musser seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked if there were any questions on his report. There were none. He announced that 7 reserve officers have completed their pre-basic courses and will be attending the reserve academy. The painting and carpeting in the police department is finished. He also reported that Hal Hansborough will be working as the Code Enforcement officer along with his Building Inspector duties.

Jim Layne also reported on ADA compliance by announcing that the handicapped accessible doors have been installed in the Town Hall and that handicap parking is accessible at the library and movie theatre.

Bill Musser asked about lengthy or lack of parking available up town. Jim answered that he has not seen much of a problem with it and that there are plans on improving the parking lots in the back of the buildings.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported that the parking lot project will begin around the first of March. The Indoor Garage Sale and Princess Party are both sold out.

Chad also reported the Tree Board has contracted with the Saint Joseph River Basin Commission to apply for a grant that will provide 50 trees to be planted. The grant requires a match of enough volunteers to plant the trees. A canopy study would need to be done before deciding where the trees are to be planted.

Chad stated that Aquatic Weed Control needs to get a permit from the state for work to be done around the 'dam'. Bill Musser moved to approve payment of \$100.00 to the Department of Natural Resources – Division of Water and allow the Clerk-Treasurer to process and send payment tomorrow. Larry Martindale seconded the motion. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked the council if there were any questions on his report. There were none.

Mickey reported that 95.11% of the Fire Territory's operations budget was spent for 2019. There was a total of 107 emergency responses for January.

Mickey informed the council that the First Friday Siren Testing was not done due to the freezing rain.

The ambulance that was involved in an accident in August has been sold to a company in Ohio for \$4,000. Mickey stated they have also received payment of \$61,460.07 for damages of that ambulance.

Mickey also reported that they did conduct a CPR class on January 29th as scheduled.

Mickey wanted to remind everyone that, per Indiana Code 22-11-18-3.5(e), landlords are required to install and/or provide functioning smoke alarms at all their properties.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, had nothing to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Vern Landis had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom Hoover announced the passing of a citizen who frequently attended the council meetings, Sharon Fowler. He noted that she tried to do right and that he thinks she will be missed.

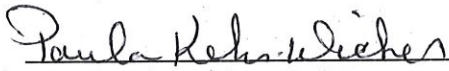
Tom Hoover moved to adjourn; Bill Musser seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:39 pm.

ATTEST:



Paul Stoelting, Council President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer