

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

Via Zoom Meeting

November 17, 2020 @7:00 P.M.

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, Bill Musser, and Larry Siegel. Clerk-Treasurer Virginia Cazier, Town Manager Mike Noe, Attorney Vern Landis, and Brooke Point Inn Ben Plikerd.

The minutes of the October 20, 2020 regular meeting were presented for approval. Bill Musser moved to approve the minutes; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1400 through 1532 for \$408,839.68 were presented for payment. Tom Hoover moved to approve the claims; Larry Martindale seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 20-11, Salaries and Compensation. Tom Hoover moved to approve Ordinance 20-08. Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion: none against. The motion was carried.

Ordinance 20-10, Amending Syracuse Town Ordinance No. 2019-9. Larry Siegel moved to approve. Paul Stoelting seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion was carried.

Ben Plikerd spoke about wanting to annex into the Town of Syracuse. Would take about a year to be annexed. Council is concerned about the cost on sewer and water. Ben stated he only needs sewer. Mike will get an estimated cost on hooking up to the town. Council need more information on the annexation.

TOWN MANAGER / PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Noe reported on the Town Managers Report. DJ Construction has started demolished at the old Harold Schrock Athletic field. There is 30 days till Polywood is legal owners of the old Harold Schrock Athletic field.

Covid-19, Since the coronavirus is getting worse in Indiana, the County is setting new restriction, what should we do about personnel issues with working and closing the doors to the public. When the time arises, Paul makes the final decision on anything related issues, due to coronavirus.

Wastewater purchased two pumps for the Key Bank Lift Station will be installed soon. David Menefee has passed his Class 2 Wastewater License. Craig is on the verge of getting his Class 2 Wastewater License.

Water Department is doing a water loss report, due January 1st. Was turned in last Tuesday, November 10th.

Street Department, leaf season is in full swing, will stop picking up on December 4th. If there are still a lot of leaves by the curb we will continue picking up.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked if there were any questions on his report. There were none. No ADA complaints.

Syracuse Police Dept and the Wawasee High School applied for the Indiana State Homeland Security Grant And were approved. The Grant is a reimbursement grant. Total of \$214,375.00. The Town would have to pay for the items first then the state would have to reimburse us first. The monies will be coming from the EDIT Fund into #440 New Equipment for \$214,375.00. The reimbursement will go back into the EDIT Fund. Need approval from the Council to advertise the Ordinance then approved in December. Motion to advertise the Ordinance. Larry Siegel moved to approve. Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion was carried.

The Town of Syracuse was allocated \$93,502.00 from the CARES Act which is a COVID-19 relief funds, granted by the State. The Police department would like to purchase 10 in-car radios from the allocated monies we receive. The amount to allocate would be \$54,535.70 plus 3,400.00 for installation and programing. The CARES Act is asking for public safety wages first. It is up to the Council on how they would like to divide the CARES Act between the Fire Dept. and Police Dept. Council decided to give \$20,000.00 to the Fire Department and the access will go to the Police Department. Tom Hoover made the motion to give the Fire Department \$20,000.00 from the CARES Act, Police Department \$73,502.00 and approve purchasing the in-car radios. Bill Musser seconded. Mickey did state that if they did receive any money from the State or County, they would reimburse the Town of Syracuse. Would like the County to explain to the Town what they are doing with their allocated monies. Four voted for the motion; Larry Siegel abstained. The motion was carried.

Would like the approve for the annual Inter-local Agreement between Kosciusko County and Town of Syracuse for Terminal Services Data for \$5,000.00. Larry Siegel moved to approve the agreement; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

PARK

Park Superintendent, Chad Jonsson, reported on Breakfast with Santa as a drive thru, date will be December 5th, from 8 – 10. Will be doing breakfast, a couple crafts, Santa in a sled. The Trick or Treating Drive event had 160 cars come thru.

FIRE TERRITORY

CARES Act was talked about already.

Would like approval from the Council for \$6,613.95 to pay FMI, it would come out of the Equipment Replacement Budget, it is for the mounting of equipment on the new engine truck. Larry Siegel moved to approve the \$6,613.95; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

CLERK

Health Insurance, last year our health insurance went up less than 3%. This year our health insurance with up 23%. Our Health Insurance provider did a comparison with two other carriers and we decided that PHP was the best choice. Employees out of pocket expense were cheaper and the deductible was the same as this year. Our budget for next year does cover the 23% in all departments. Tom Hoover moved to approve the stay with PHP; Bill Musser seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Year End Meeting, Would the Council like to have a year-end meeting? For the past few years, you have approved a resolution allowing the clerk to pay claims for year end and make necessary transfers at the end of December. Council chose not to have a year end meeting.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-12 Would like to transfer \$14,000 from 490 Capital Improvements to 311 Professional Services out of the TIF S. Benton. This will cover the \$38,000.00 for the engineering at the Industrial Park. Larry Siegel moved to approve the emergency ordinance; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2020-13 Additional Appropriation Ordinance, would like to transfer out of EDIT Fund to #311 Professional Services \$257,964.75. The allocated monies was taken out of #311 for to purchase of the new land on Kern Road. Would like the monies back into #311 Professional Services from the EDIT fund to pay Precise Piling Drive and Lawson Fisher invoices. Larry Siegel moved to approve the emergency ordinance; Tom Hoover seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS


Nothing to report.

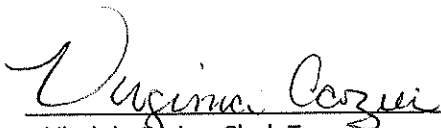
NEW BUSINESS

Larry Siegel complimented the Street Department for their fine work on the sidewalk along Northshore Drive.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

ATTEST:


Paul Stoelting, Council President


Virginia Cazier, Clerk-Treasurer