

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

December 15, 2009

Cassie Cowan, President, 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, and Brian Woody. Town Attorney Mike Reed and Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline were also present. Councilman Bill Musser and Town Manager Henry DeJulia were absent.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cassie asked for comments from the public on agenda items; there were none.

The minutes of the November 17th meeting were presented. Paul moved to approve the minutes as written; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1347 through #1472 were presented for payment. Brian moved to approve the claims; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Resolution 09-04, Authorizing the Clerk Treasurer to Make Certain Transfers, was introduced. Paul moved to adopt Resolution 09-04; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Items from Town Manager Henry DeJulia's report were discussed. Copies of the proposed web site were posted; discussion followed. Julie asked the council for input. Paul would like to see a calendar on the website; he would like it to be more user friendly. Larry commented this is the way web sites are transitioning. It was the consensus of the council that they liked the format. For the department heads, Tony advised the department heads like the format; they suggested the lettering could be black or darker. After discussion, council members suggested the lighter blue or lighter gold/green. Council members would also like to see the color options for the website on their own computer screens.

Police Chief Tony Ciriello presented the revised quotes for the new storage building with the larger size. The new quote from Pacemaker Buildings was \$45,675.00 and includes all electric. The Street Department can do the site work. Tony was asked for the amount of the previous quote; he advised it was \$43,956.00 for the smaller building. Tony described the inside features and how the snowflakes will be stored. Stookey Construction also provided quotes. Their quote for the smaller building was \$36,760.00; the larger building would be \$3,000.00 more, or \$39,760.00. Neither quote from Stookey Construction included electrical service. Tony requested a quote from Dave's Electric to add electrical service to the building; that amount was \$8,000.00 and would be the same for both building sizes.

Cassie returned discussion to the original bids that were received for a smaller building. She stated she didn't realize that the snowflakes could be stored under the

mezzanine in the smaller building. She questioned if we need a sixteen foot high building. Larry commented he would still like to go for a larger size building; the price is not that much more. Brian moved to accept the quote from Pacemaker for a sixteen foot building at a cost not to exceed \$45,675.00. Brian asked if a completion date had been discussed. Tony advised that was not discussed; this time of the year it depends if the ground can be leveled and if the posts can be put in. Cassie asked if 90 days after they start is enough; Tony advised yes. Jeremy suggested waiting until spring due to the weather. Discussion followed on the quality of concrete poured in the winter. Brian added the building is to be completed in 90 days from December 16 to his motion. Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Council members decided the timetable could be adjusted later if necessary.

Julie discussed an encumbrance request from Henry. He would like to continue the decorative light program in 2010. There is \$8,000.00 in that line item he would like to encumber to purchase lights from Ward Industries. Council members agreed they would like to continue the decorative light installation and encumber the funds.

Cassie presented the Town Manager's contract. Mike Reed advised he prepared the contract. Paul moved to approve the two year Town Manager contract with Henry DeJulia for 2010 and 2011; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

POLICE

Police Chief Tony Ciriello advised there were 339 calls for service in November; he went over the various types of calls. He advised the drug arrests are increasing as the economy worsens. Tony added mandated training is done for 2009.

Tony presented a purchase request. He advised he has extra money in his fuel budget; this is due to lower gas prices and efforts to conserve fuel. The police department is starting to have problems with the 2001 Taurus. The car is only worth about \$1,000.00 and is not worth fixing; Tony would like to replace the vehicle. He explained he looked into used cars since it will be an administrative vehicle. He found a 2009 Dodge Charger with 40,000 miles on it from the Car Company in Warsaw; the vehicle is extremely clean. Discussion followed on mileage. The cost is \$14,000.00 less a \$1,000.00 trade in, for a net cost of \$13,000.00. Larry asked how much it would be for a new car. Tony advised Lakeside Chevrolet has a 2009 Impala for \$19,159.00; the trade in amount would be between \$1,200.00 and \$1,500.00. Total price would not exceed \$17,960.00. Discussion followed on a used versus a new car. Brian moved to allow Tony to purchase the 2009 Impala from Lakeside Chevrolet at a cost not to exceed \$17,960.00; Paul seconded. Paul asked about going to smaller cars in the future. Tony provided information on the Impala specs; he added Ford is going to discontinue the Crown Victoria model. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Transfer Ordinance 09-11 to transfer funds from the police account for Gas & Oil to New Equipment; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson reported Breakfast with Santa was last Saturday; the Kiwanis served approximately 650 people. There will be a Daddy

Daughter Dance on February 6. Chad advised he is working on the application for Tree City USA and a Tree City Growth Award.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jeremy Sponseller advised for the belt filter press room at the wastewater plant, 2 of the 3 original furnaces from 1988 have quit working. The present three furnaces each have a 60,000 BTU rating with 78% efficiency. Jeremy advised they can purchase a 75,000 BTU radiant tube heater that is 93% efficient; they can install it and have it up and running for under \$2,000.00. The radiant tube heater will heat the whole building. If they make the replacement with something similar to what is in place, the cost would be \$450.00 each plus installation. Jeremy requested permission to order the radiant heater. Brian moved to approve the purchase of the 75,000 BTU infrared heater at a price not to exceed \$1,200.00, to be delivered in 15 days. Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Jeremy advised the all the stormwater projects were completed and came in under estimates. Areas completed were Forest Park, the area east of the Post Office, Workman and Steele Drive, and the swale area at the park. A total of \$20,000.00 was spent. Jeremy would like to do one more project for the stormwater created by the new street department garage. He would like to pour concrete over the storm line. The estimated cost is not to exceed \$3,000.00; Jeremy would like to do this project in the spring. Brian made a motion to approve the purchase of concrete for the stormwater line at the street department for \$3,000.00; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

CLERK

Clerk Treasurer Julie Kline discussed the SRF loan for the water project. She advised she has checked with Jeremy, Henry, and Tom Miller, and they do not feel there will be any additional expenses to submit to SRF. She asked the council if she could ask the SRF to close out the loan. Once SRF received the request, they will re-amortize the loan. It was the consensus of the council to proceed.

Julie presented the 2010 insurance renewal for our liability, auto, and property insurance. The cost of the renewal is \$53,317.00, an increase of 1.6%. Brian moved to accept the 2010 insurance renewal; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

A subordination agreement from Mutual Bank was presented. Julie explained one of the recipients of an owner occupied rehab loan would like to refinance her house; the bank requires the agreement if she refinances. Paul moved to allow Julie and Cassie to sign the subordination agreement; Larry seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Mike Reed had nothing further to report.

The appointments for 2010 were presented. Henry's report included a list of appointments that the council needs to make. Larry moved to approve the

appointments as recommended by Henry; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Cassie so appointed those designated as appointed by the council president.

The 2010 appointments were as follows:

Town Marshal/Police Chief	Tony Ciriello
Town Manager	Henry DeJulia
Tree Board	Paul Hoffman 3 year term (2010-2013)
	Paul Stoelting 3 year term (2010–2013)

Kosciusko County Board of Zoning Appeals	
Dan List	Town Council President's Appointment
Don Cowan	Town Council
Ben Plickerd	Town Council

Park Board	
Shirley Connolly	3 year term (2010-2013)
Dave VanLue	School board appointee

Town Council Appointment to the Turkey Creek Library	
Heidi Heinisch	Town Council

Syracuse Redevelopment Commission	
Dan VanLue	Town Council President Appointee
Ernie Rodgers	Town Council President Appointee
Paul Stoelting	Town Council President Appointee
Larry Siegel	Town Council Appointee
Brad Jackson	Town Council Appointee

Town Attorney	Mike Reed
---------------	-----------

Cassie turned the meeting over to Town Attorney Mike Reed for the election of council president for 2010. Paul nominated Brian Woody to serve as council president for 2010; Larry seconded. There was no discussion. Mike Reed asked if there were any further nominations; there were none. Cassie moved to close the nominations; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried. Council members voted on the motion to appoint Brian Woody as council president. Three voted for the motion; none against. Brian abstained. The motion carried. Brian will appoint a vice president at the January meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Brian updated the council on the fire department. Within two weeks, they should receive a new tank for the tanker. The fire department is taking bids on a new vacuum tanker, and one person resigned.

NEW BUSINESS

Brian stated he appreciated the job the department heads are doing. He believes they are doing better and better every year. Larry added things have been running smoothly and departments are working together. Cassie agreed.

Larry moved to adjourn the meeting; Brian seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Cassandra Cowan, President

Julie Kline, Clerk Treasurer