

SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

September 20, 2016

Town Council President Larry Siegel called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 7:03 p.m. Council members also present were Paul Stoelting, Bill Musser, and Larry Martindale. Town Manager Henry DeJulia, Town Attorney Vern Landis, and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present. Tom Hoover was absent.

Larry Siegel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Larry Siegel asked for public comment on agenda items; there were no comments.

The minutes of the August 16, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. Paul moved to approve the minutes; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 1060 through 1204 were presented for payment. Paul moved to approve the claims; Larry Martindale seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paul moved to table the discussion of Ordinance 2016-09 until later in the meeting; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer, gave the first reading of the 2017 Budget, Ordinance 2016-12:

Fund Name	Budget Estimate	Estimated Levy	Tax Rate
Rainy Day	\$130,000	\$0	.0000
General	\$1,921,116	\$750,000	.3736
Local Road & Street	\$30,000	\$0	.0000
Motor Vehicle Highway	\$1,015,310	\$630,000	.3138
Park	\$421,207	\$345,000	.1718
Cumulative Park & Recreation	\$17,000	\$21,000	.0105
Cumulative Capital Improvement – Cigarette Tax	\$0	\$0	.0000
Cumulative Capital Improvement – Property Tax	\$120,000	\$26,000	.0130
Cumulative Capital Development	\$42,000	\$42,000	.0209
Cumulative Sewer	\$5,000	\$45,000	.0224
Special Redevelopment General – T.I.F. – Syracuse	\$20,000	\$0	.0000
Economic Development Income Tax	\$355,000	\$0	.0000
Riverboat Revenue Sharing	\$20,000	\$0	.0000
Law Enforcement Continuing Education	\$2,500	\$0	.0000
T.I.F. – South Benton	\$10,000	\$0	.0000
T.I.F. – Oakwood	\$10,000	\$0	.0000
Total	\$4,119,133	\$1,859,000	

The Council accepted the Budget at first reading.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia mentioned the three quotes that was included in the Council Packets for the paving and sidewalk work to be done around the Town Hall. Henry recommended the work to be done by Niblock Excavating & Asphalt for \$62,000 to be completed by November 4th. Paul moved to approve the quote for Niblock to do the work, Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry requested permission to purchase 10 new decorative lights for \$21,690. Paul made a motion to approve the purchase of the decorative lights not to exceed \$21,690 from Ward Industries and to be delivered within 6 weeks; Larry Martindale seconded. Three voted for the motion; none against. Bill Musser abstained. The motion carried.

Henry would also like to purchase 2 Radar Speed Signs. He explained that this should help deter speeding by placing them throughout the town. The cost would be \$6,630. Paul moved to approve the purchase from Radarsign for an amount not to exceed \$6,630 to be delivered in 2 months; Larry Martindale seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry reported that there was a request from a business entity to possibly have a second Riverfront District area. He is requesting that the council allow him to pursue looking into whether this area is deemed a "Stream River." He states that there is "something" there; but not sure if it qualifies as a stream or river. The council agreed on allowing Henry to pursue looking into it.

Henry then reported that there was a meeting with Tommy Vance productions and was determined that we need some materials for the video. He also stated that everyone should have gotten and email in regards to a workshop for the Comprehensive Plan.

POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked for any questions from the council regarding his monthly report. There were none. He reported that the department is in the process of updating their Standard Operating Procedures. There is roughly 130 to 150 of them with each having multiple points. Larry questioned the difference between our S.O.P.'s and the Indiana State Code. Jim explained that they all are set up per the State Code; however, each situation can be handled differently depending on the type and size of municipality's department and what resources they have access to. Vern stated that, after this batch of 130-150 is completed, Council could approve each S.O.P. as it changes instead of waiting and doing them all at one time.

There were no A.D.A. complaints.

PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson was absent. Nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Rob Merchant reported that after discussing with the Town Attorney, Vern Landis, a letter would be sent out to multiple properties north of town regarding connecting to our Wastewater lines that were installed last year. Our ordinance #08-12 states that a property within the town limits and is within two hundred feet of a sewer line must hook onto that line at the owner's expense within 90 days of official notice.

Rob stated that Phend & Brown issued a separate invoice for \$4,480. This is in regards to extra materials needed to complete the original paving contract. Bill moved to approve payment of the extra \$4,480 to Phend and Brown; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

A request for quotes on a third party review of the issues on the UV structure was sent out to Donahue & Associates, Commonwealth Engineering, and DLZ. Donahue was not interested but did receive quotes from the others. Commonwealth's quote was for \$6,500 and DLZ's was \$13,500. Paul moved to approve the contract with Commonwealth Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$6,500. Jeremy Hardy from Commonwealth explained how the process will work and how long it would take. Paul included in his motion that the work should be completed by November 1st, 2016; Larry Martindale seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob further reported that neither he nor Triad Engineers have received a solution from Aeration Industries regarding their equipment not meeting our needs. Rob states that what was written in the proposal sheet does not match what the machine is actually doing.

Rob introduced Russel Jacobs from R. E. Crosby. Russell is concerned about the date requirement for finishing the project. Rob believes that it is not Crosby's fault that they were not able to meet the deadline due to issues with the aeration equipment and that the UV channel was too high. Larry Siegel asked who was going to correct the UV channel. Rob answered that once the study from Commonwealth Engineers is finished and there is an agreement on what needs to be done, Crosby Construction will start the work as soon as possible and at no cost to the Town.

Russel stated he wanted to counter what Rob said about the design of the system. He stated they are only responsible in providing the equipment that was specified by the engineers. Russel stated that Crosby can qualify the fact that the equipment is working in accordance with the design required. He asked if the equipment is meeting the intent of end user's requirements? He stated he would leave those statements to Rob. Rob stated that the parameters, such as flow rates, given to the manufacturer were not what is actually required of our system. He stated that the manufacturer was given an average flow instead of peak flow. Rob believes that it is up to the engineer to review all the data and determine if it is correct or not. The manufacture told us that we should only need to use one mixer during normal flow rates. In order for the solids not to build up at the bottom, we need to run both mixers. Which causes us to use more power. Even when we do run both mixers, it does not meet Aeration Industries standards of one foot per second. Rob stated that the manufacture did change the propellers but we are still not getting enough air. Russel suggest that there should be a meeting with the Town Manager, Aeration Industries, Crosby, Triad, and Rob and discuss all issues together. Larry Siegel recommended that the meeting Russell suggested should happen within the next two weeks and give the council the results of the meeting. At that point, the council will determine whether we need to have an executive session.

FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott reported that he submits his reports to all of the Council members along with the Township. He stated they collected non-perishable items for the disaster in Kokomo. They had their annual MDA Boot Drive this past Sunday instead of Saturday due to the weather. They conducted a public CPR classes. The new ambulance was received on September 2nd and the old was sold to DeKalb County for \$3,500.

Mickey requested approval for purchase of a new command vehicle. He stated that the '04 Chevy Suburban they currently have is used for towing and hauling equipment as well as a backup emergency vehicle. It has 116,500 miles and is continuously needing repairs. Bill asked if they would do any equipment switching into the new vehicle; Mickey replied they would. Bill also asked if they have exhausted all repairs. Mickey answered that they still have multiple issues; such as a service light comes on at acceleration and the back latch not operating correctly, brakes need replaced, etc. Larry Siegel wanted to know the cost to repair everything that is wrong now. Mickey did not know. Bill moved to allow the purchase of a new vehicle and sell the current Suburban and not to exceed \$39,000; Paul seconded. Larry Siegel asked how Mickey would sell or get rid of the old one. Mickey stated he could sell it outright, go through a public auction, use it as a trade-in worth \$3,000. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Henry introduced Catherine Fanello from Bose McKinney and Jim Higgins from London Witte to answer any questions the council may have regarding the refinancing of the 2004 Waterworks Refunding Revenue Bond. Catherine discussed Ordinance 2016-09 that allows us to refinance the remaining balance of \$3,827,568 on the current bond. Bill asked what the benefits would be for the Town. She stated there could be a possible savings of \$80,000 and we could work at getting an interest rate that is lower than the current 3.19%. Bill then asked if there were any drawbacks. Catherine stated

that there is a cost to refinance, but she believes that the savings will make up for the cost. Jim Higgins explained that we could refinance today; however, there is a 1% call premium that equals to be approximately \$40,000. He stated that if we wait until December, there wouldn't be a premium. He also advises that we avoid placement agent fees by soliciting local financial institutions to purchase the bonds. Paul moved to approve Ordinance 2016-09, Refunding the Waterworks Revenue Bonds of 2004; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

CLERK

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

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report at this time.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Virginia Surso, co-director for Rock Solid, introduced herself. She presented information on the history and future goals for the Rock Solid program. She explained that their mission is to provide a safe place for Middle School and High School kids to go after school. They can get help on their homework as well as play games and have a snack. Rock Solid offers programs to teach life values. They are faith based and multi-denominational.

Jeremy Van Lue, Scout Master for the Boy Scout Troop 728, announced that he brought 3 young men to attend this public meeting in order to earn their Citizenship in the Nation merit badge.

OLD BUSINESS

Larry Siegel received a letter from the Syracuse Library Board asking for an appointment to replace Heidi Heinisch, who resigned recently. Bill made a motion to appoint Diana Clark as a Council Representative to the Syracuse Public Library board; Paul seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

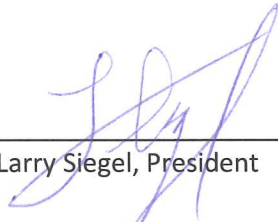
NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report


Paul moved to adjourn; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; none against.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 8:06 pm.

ATTEST:



Larry Siegel, President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer