

## SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

### REGULAR MEETING

April 18, 2017

Town Council President Tom Hoover called the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse Town Council to order at 6:58 p.m. Council members also present were Bill Musser, Paul Stoelting, Larry Siegel and Larry Martindale. Town Attorney Vern Landis and Clerk-Treasurer Paula Kehr-Wicker were also present. Town Manager Henry DeJulia was absent.

Tom Hoover opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom asked for public comment on agenda items. There were none.

The minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting were presented for approval. Paul moved to approve the minutes; Bill seconded. Four voted for the motion; Larry Siegel abstained. The motion carried.

Claims #'s 423 through 552 were presented for payment. Paul moved to approve the claims; Larry Siegel seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Tom presented the Arbor Day Proclamation. Paul moved to adopt the Proclamation and have Tom sign it, Larry seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### TOWN MANAGER

Tom Hoover presented the CF-1 compliance forms for companies who have received tax abatements. Paul suggested approving all the CF-1's at once. Larry Siegel made a motion to find the companies in compliance with the Statement of Benefits for Real Estate and Personal Property. The companies are: JP Incorporated (Jasper Plastics), Patrick Industries (AIA Countertops), Syracuse Properties LLC, Poly-Wood LLC, and P.W. Realty, Inc. Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

#### POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne asked the council if they had any questions on his report. There were none. He reported that the new squad car is scheduled to being outfitted. He announced that the Police Department has received an in-car video camera through a grant that was applied for last year to the Kosciusko County Coalition on Drug Education. The grant was in the amount of \$3,500. The new camera is being installed in the new squad car.

There were no ADA complaints.

#### PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson was absent. No report given.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Rob Merchant asked if there were any questions on the report he has submitted to the council. There were none. Rob gave a list of streets to the crack sealing company that we have used for the past couple years. Larry Siegel informed Rob that he had received some complaints last year about the crack sealing tar being drug from the tires of their cars to their driveways and causing a mess. Rob stated that the company is going to use a smaller wand that will make the seal a lot finer. They could also lay sand down on top of it right away. The job would start as early as next week. Rob asked to spend up to \$42,000 worth of crack

sealing to be done by Paving Solutions. The job is to be done by May 20th. Paul moved to approve the crack sealing; Larry Martindale seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob reported that there was a 28.6% water loss including a 5% adjustment due to an error on the meter. That is equivalent to 2 million gallons of water a month. He stated that we need to be under 25% to be in compliance. Rob believes the loss could be coming from various industries in town that have fire prevention lines that are not being metered or maintained. He suggests that we will want to mandate meters for those fire lines. The council requested that Rob, Paula, and Vern work together to draft an ordinance.

Rob informed the council that the phone system at the Public Works department is very unreliable. He is requesting to spend \$9,626.74 to have CenturyLink install a new phone system. C S Communications, an outside contractor for CenturyLink, would need to install new lines for \$85 per line for 12 lines. Larry Siegel made a motion to approve CenturyLink to repair the phone system and C S Communications to install the lines to be completed within 90 days. Paul seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob reported that he has three vendors getting us quotes for a new Vacuum Truck. The wastewater plant is trying to run the other clarifier to relieve some of the solid waste issues. It was discovered that paint was flaking off and had R.E. Crosby come out to repaint it. They will also be replacing a handrail and install an additional one on the digester. Rob stated that the UV wiring for the meter was to be done today but the repair person didn't show up. Rob is currently working on a Sewer Use Ordinance revision for Fats Oil and Grease. As well as an update to the backflow ordinance. It was discovered that there is no backup generator for the Lift Station at the Technology Park. The generator will need to be installed before future lot owners finish construction.

B.L. Anderson has provided a quote of approximately \$156,000 for the equipment only for the aeration ditches. Discussion was made in regards to being compliant with Indiana Department of Environmental Management and what is needed to get the equipment replaced. Paula informed the council that there is currently enough funds appropriated from the Wastewater Construction Fund and the Rainy Day Fund to purchase the equipment. Paul Stoelting moved to order the equipment from B.L. Anderson for both ditches not to exceed \$156,000 and to be delivered within 60 days. Larry seconded the motion. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob researched and found that the old spreader and vacuum he wants to sell, can be done without advertising since it is property of the Wastewater Department. J P Developers are purchasing the equipment for \$16,000.

#### FIRE TERRITORY

Mickey Scott asked the council if they had any questions about his report. There were none. Mickey then reported that a circuit board has been replaced on the storm siren. They are tested on the first Friday of every month at 11am. If severe weather is already occurring at that time, they will move the testing to the following Friday. There were 124 responses in March; 106 for EMS and 18 Fire. Approximately 30% more than last month. The department training summary includes 347.5 hours spent on various trainings for personnel. Mike Linchberg has accepted the probationary full-time Fire/Paramedic position. A committee is currently working on bid specifications for a new vacuum tank that was budgeted for this year. The annual ground and aerial testing was completed on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The Insurance Service Office field representative was here on April 4<sup>th</sup> and conducted a review. Worker's Compensation representative was given information they needed. A Fire/EMT position is being filled due to a retiring employee. They will be starting next Monday.

#### CLERK

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

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney, Vern Landis, had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Shirley Moore, owner of Yours Ours and Mine at 101 and 103 W Main St, introduced herself. She informed the council that Todd Ramer, owner of All Fired Up Bar-B-Que, leases from her. She is asking the council if anything has been done since the smoke discussion of last month. Tom replied that the Town Council does not see any issue. A letter was sent to Mr. Birch informing him of the Town's opinion. Shirley also stated that the one-way road heading east behind her building is a trap. Cars that are parked on the west side of Huntington Street make it difficult to get out onto Huntington St. from the One-Way. She is suggesting that the one-way be changed so that the exit would be at the Syracuse Hardware instead. Tom and Jim explained why that couldn't be accomplished. Rob suggested changing some of the parking spots to a no-parking area to open up the viewing for exiting. Paul mentioned that it is also difficult to turn south onto Huntington from East Pearl Street.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Musser asked about the status of getting fire hydrants installed up town. Rob stated he had talked to a supplier and there are new items on the market that do not require all the mega lugs and large excavation that was associated in tying into a main line. There is a requirement now that in order to have a fire hydrant, there needs to be a 10" line. Rob doesn't believe there are 10" lines in the uptown area. They could upsize the line right before the hydrant but it wouldn't be to code. There is a hydrant down the road to the west of Main Street. Discussion followed on what is required to have a hydrant installed. Rob will look into other options.

NEW BUSINESS

There is nothing to report.

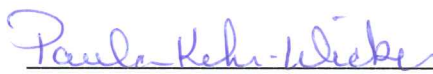
Paul moved to adjourn; Bill seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against.

The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:48 pm.

ATTEST:



Tom Hoover, President



Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer