

## SYRACUSE TOWN COUNCIL

### REGULAR MEETING

January 19, 2016

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

Larry opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the December 15, 2015 meeting were presented for approval. Paul moved to approve the minutes; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Claims #1 to #153 were presented for payment. Brian moved to approve the claims; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Ordinance 2016-01, Amending Town Code Sec. 8-115, No Parking Zones, was presented. Brian moved to approve the ordinance, Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Henry DeJulia reported that the Town hosted the Kosciusko Leadership Academy meeting this morning. Henry made a purchase request to buy a 2016 Jeep Patriot. The cost would be \$19,728.00. He would be able to get \$5,000 on a trade-in for his current town vehicle. He stated that the Police would also be able to use the new vehicle at night when circumstances like snow and ice requires a 4-wheel drive vehicle. Brian questioned why we couldn't get another Charger so that it could really have a dual use for a police vehicle. Henry stated that was a consideration but the Patriot was found under a state bid program. Bill asked how often the police use the Town Manager's vehicle. Jim Layne stated it would depend on the weather; possibly several times a year. Bill moved to approve the purchase of a 2016 Jeep Patriot; Tom seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

#### POLICE

Police Chief Jim Layne reported there were 443 calls for service in December. There were 24 written reports. There were 8 property damage accidents. In regards to Arrests, there were six file-for-warrants, 1 drug, 1 driving while suspended, 1 battery, and three disorderly conducts. Jim stated that he has no ADA complaints to report.

#### PARK

Park Superintendent Chad Jonsson presented the 2015 Tree Summary prepared for the Arbor Day Foundation every year. He reported that the Adult Basketball program started two Sundays ago. March 5<sup>th</sup> will be the Annual Indoor Yard Sale. Currently all booths are sold out. The Ice Rink at Harold Schrock Complex is now open. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, Kiwanis is hosting a Soup Supper at the Community Center and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February will be the Winter Carnival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

## PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Rob Merchant reported an additional water main leak on State Road 13 making 5 that we have had in the last 4 weeks. We have made some headway on the State's Wellhead Protection Phase 2 requirements; information was sent out with the utility bills yesterday. Letters were sent out to 9 businesses within the Town that could pose some problems with the Wellhead Protection. Rob contacted the Fire and EMS Chief, Mickey Scott, to see if First Responders were notified and given education materials regarding the Wellhead Protection Program as per state requirements. It was confirmed that it was taken care of in 2003. The only requirement left to do is update the Wellhead Protection map that shows industries and potential contaminant sources.

Rob presented a purchase request for a 1023 Utility Tractor from Greenmark Equipment. To be used in the Street Dept. for a total cost of \$16,575.75. Original cost is \$18,322.00, but we were given a \$1,746.25 trade-in for our old tractor. Paul made a motion to allow the purchase of the 1023 Utility Tractor from Greenmark Equipment, for an amount not to exceed \$16,575.75, and delivery within 30 days; Bill seconded. Brian asked the age of the old tractor. Rob answered that it was at least 10 years old. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob made an additional purchase request for a lawn tractor for the Wastewater Department. It is a Husqvarna YTH24V28 24-HP-Twin. Three quotes were given for this tractor; \$1,999.00 from Bobcat of Warsaw, \$1,999.00 from Lowe's of Elkhart, and \$1,995.00 from Joe's Engine Shop. Joe's Engine Shop will give us 21% off the list price; making the cost to be \$1,579.96. Discussion was made on the necessity of this tractor. Paul made a motion to approve the purchase of a Husqvarna 24-Horse Power Twin mower from Joe's Engine Shop not to exceed \$1,579.96 with delivery by Spring; Tom seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rob reported that the Scadata controlled RTU that is located on the water tower was damaged by lightning. He filed a claim with the insurance company and was informed of the \$1,000 deductible. The circuit board part to be replaced is \$1,495.00. The insurance company will provide a check for the \$495.00. Rob requested permission to purchase a backup RTU for \$2,695.00. If one goes down, we would need to take one from the water plant and use it until we are able to get another one; which could take several weeks. Discussion was made on the location of the RTU and prevention of damage in the future. Brian made a motion to approve the purchase of a backup RT unit not to exceed \$2,695.00 to be delivered in 30 days; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

Rick Pharis from Triad Associates introduced himself. He announced that Jeremy Sponseller is now on their team and will be the inspector at the Wastewater Plant Construction site. Jeremy gave an update of the Construction project, stating they are short on time because of the weather. Work has been sporadic, but overall things are going well and we are within budget and no major issues beyond the first change order. Brian asked for a status update for the UV system installation. Jeremy answered that it would have to be done before April 1<sup>st</sup>. More discussion followed on the UV System and its installation and purpose. Rob commented about the contractual obligation to the workforce of R.E. Crosby with regards to the increment weather situations. He stated that work needs to be done in the press building which is inside and wanted to know if that was something that could be addressed with Crosby. Jeremy stated he would talk to them.

CLERK

Clerk-Treasurer, Paula Kehr-Wicker, announced that she has presented a list of checks that over two years old that have not been cashed and will be voiding them. Paula requested approval of the 2015 Forwarded Encumbrances for \$170,623.73. Bill made the motion to approve the encumbrances; Paul seconded. Five voted for the motion; none against. The motion carried.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Vern Landis had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There were none.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

None.

Bill questioned the notice of the increase in Mediacom charges. Paula informed the council that we have a contract with Mediacom for them to pay us franchise fees. We do not pay anything to them.

Brian reported on the Fire Territory Board. They would like us to name a replacement to the Board. Nothing was discussed.

Larry asked Bill for an update on the video to advertise the Town. Bill answered that they have worked on it for most of the summer but it has fallen through. He concluded that the prices for the video that they were quoted, were not the right prices and were very expensive. Henry explained that whether we go local or not, the price is equivalent. Larry suggested that we continue to get more information and costs on getting a video to promote the town.

Paul moved to adjourn; Brian seconded. Five voted for the motion; the motion carried. The Syracuse Town Council adjourned at 7:35pm.

ATTEST:

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Larry Siegel, President

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Paula Kehr-Wicker, Clerk-Treasurer