

City Clerk's Office
January 12, 2015
5:00 p.m.

The governing body of the City of Syracuse met in regular session on January 12, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Clerk's Office. Councilmembers present were: Matt Gould, Michele Boy, Vance Keller, Steve Schell and Mayor, Dustin Doze. Employees present were: Brian Bloyd, City Administrator, Linda Dinkel, City Clerk, Sarah Carter, City Treasurer, Joy Bezona, Animal Control Officer and David Stimatze, Fire Chief. Also in attendance were Marcus Ashlock, Jennifer Michael, Alyse Pollart, Tonya Pollart and Chris Pollart.

The meeting was opened by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Doze asked for any public concerns. Jennifer Michael was concerned for the safety of her small dog because there are a lot of very large stray cats around her residence. She asked that the City Council consider taking some measure to control cats. Councilmember Gould stated that he thought the city council should consider doing something about the feral cats.

Mayor Doze presented Alyse Pollart with the Citizen of the Month Award. Alyse Pollart finished a race she had entered and instead of stopping after the finish line, returned to the race to encourage her fellow racers to finish.

Councilmember Boy made motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilmember Keller. Motion passed with all members voting aye.

Councilmember Gould made motion to approve appropriation ord. #906 in the amount of \$108,908.64, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Keller. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief, David Stimatze presented the annual Fire Chief's report which was accepted on motion by Councilmember Schell, seconded by Councilmember Boy and all councilmembers voting aye.

The Wheatland franchise was moved to the end of the meeting.

City wide clean-up was discussed. Administrator Bloyd is writing a letter to our citizens about some of the services we offer.

The animal control committee recently met about the topic of chickens being in the city limits. There was discussion about the different issues that might be associated with chickens being kept in the city. Councilmember Boy made motion to have the city attorney draft an ordinance to allow laying hens in the city, with reasonable restrictions, for further consideration at the next meeting. Councilmember Keller seconded the motion. The vote was: Aye: Keller and Boy
Nay: Gould and Schell

Mayor Doze broke the tie by voting aye.

Council meeting dates and holidays, as set out in ordinance #635 and the employee handbook were approved on motion from Councilmember Schell and seconded by Councilmember Keller. All councilmembers voted aye.

Councilmember Schell made motion to allow Administrator Bloyd to spend up to \$4500 for insulation and improvements on the pound/storage building. Motion was seconded Councilmember Keller. Motion passed unanimously.

Dinkel, City Clerk asked to close the City Office on January 23, 2015 for training. The League of Kansas Municipalities is holding a training session in Syracuse on Ethics and Civility. Linda Dinkel and Sarah Carter are both going to attend. The training session is open to anyone who would like to attend; registration is through the League of Kansas Municipalities. On motion duly made and seconded, permission was granted to close the office on January 23, 2015.

Councilmember Keller made motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 11 minutes and return to open session at 6:00 p.m., motion was seconded by Councilmember Schell. Motion passed with all members voting aye. Council returned to open session at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Schell made motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel until 6:12 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Keller and all voted aye. Council resumed open session at 6:12 p.m.

Councilmember Schell made motion to give a 3% raise to Brian Bloyd, Sarah Carter, Linda Dinkel, Glenn Hess, Gary Nielsen, Craig Norton, Jerrin Phillips, Carl Schouten and Roger Newman. Brian Bloyd and Linda Dinkel will receive 2% merit raise for training and education achieved. Jerrin Phillips will receive a merit raise of \$1.50 per hour. Mayor Doze's, Judge Blake's, and Fire Chief Stimatze's salaries will be increased to \$300 per month. Zoning Administrator Mitchell salary will increase to \$270 per month, Animal Control Officer Joy Bezona's salary will increase to \$900 per month and City Attorney Gale's salary will increase to \$1300 per month. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Boy. All councilmembers voted aye.

The franchise agreement with Wheatland Electric Cooperative was discussed. Councilmember Schell made motion to direct the city attorney to draft and present to the council a franchise agreement with Wheatland Electric Cooperative that would continue the franchise fee at 2% and be for a term of 5 years. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Boy. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

Economic Development: Written report was in the agenda packet.

Sand Park: Sand Park Committee would like to take out an ad with Wild West Country. Advertising on the Radio and sharing ad time with the Golf Course and Chamber of Commerce were discussed. A new building for the showers and office is going to be a priority in the future.

City Administrator: There was a water leak on January 2, 2015 when the temperature was nine degrees. Fixing the leak went well and took only a few hours. Safety audit with Dennis Burk from Kansas Department of Labor went well on January 8th. Allen Nichols from Kansas Department of Health & Environment will be here on January 13th to review the water department. Bloyd stated that he was looking into surveillance systems through Wheatland Broadband. The storage tanks are due to be inspected this spring.

Mayor: Mayor Doze stated that he had noticed that some of the east/west streets are shaded and get slick after snow and ice storms. He asked if the streets could be sanded or have the snow removed to keep them from getting so slick.

City Clerk: Not much happening. Everything in the office is going smoothly.

Roundtable: Matt Gould stated that he thought the City should purchase some wild animal traps to lend to citizens. Michele Boy thanked Brian Bloyd for removing tumbleweeds from the walking path over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Councilmember Boy made motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Gould. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Linda Dinkel, City Clerk

Dustin Doze, Mayor