

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council

January 9, 2020

- I. The meeting was called to order by President, Dave Fox at 7:00 pm, the roll was called as follows:

Chuck Briede-present

Dave Fox—present

Travis LeMaster—present

Matt Stewart—present

Rich Gamble—absent

The roll was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer offered by Matt Stewart

II. Oath of Office

Town attorney, Michael Hotz led members of the Town Council in the oath of office as newly elected officials. Nominations for yearly officers followed. Dave Fox was nominated to serve as president by Chuck Briede with a second from Travis LeMaster. Dave was subsequently elected by voice affirmation vote. Chuck Briede was nominated by Dave Fox to serve as vice-president for the coming year with the motion seconded by Travis LeMaster. Chuck was subsequently elected by voice acclimation vote.

III. Minutes

Minutes from the December 19, 2019 meeting were tabled for approval until the next meeting as they were not available.

IV. Bills

After a brief discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the paying of the bills except for repairs to the Leaf Vac truck until such time as the equipment was returned to the town.

The motion was seconded by Travis LeMaster.

Chuck Briede—yes

Dave Fox—yes

Travis LeMaster—yes

Matt Stewart—yes

V. Public Forum

Damon Ormsby from the new lot on Hubert St. spoke to the Council about an issue with his neighbor on Jackson St. related to excessive junk near the property border. Mr. Ormsby stated that Marshall Hornback had spoken to the property owner at one point and the junk was removed. However, there has been a regrowth in the items on the property since that time. This led to some discussion regarding the recently passed nuisance ordinance. Matt Stewart, police liaison, will contact Marshall Hornback about various nuisance ordinance violations brought up.

VI. Department Reports

Police Dept.—Marshall Hornback not present at the meeting. It was noted that speeding stops and violations have been more frequent, leading to traffic slowing down especially at school dismissal.

Maintenance Dept.—Devin Cole not present at the meeting. Devin sent a request regarding a trailer for the sewer/stormwater camera as the Jeep it is currently housed in is inadequate. The matter was tabled until next meeting.

Parks Dept.—Steve Kelley reported on a boat show featuring the “Rails to Trails” program at which pamphlets about the Sweetser Switch trail could be distributed. Steve asked if he could

investigate the cost of printing a tri-fold brochure about the town's trail for distribution. By consensus the town council authorized Mr. Kelley to determine the feasibility of tri-fold brochures for this purpose.

VII. Continuing Business

There were no items for action under continuing business. However, several updates with ongoing business were given. The Church St. property issue has still had no response from the county records office. The Leaf Vac. has been repaired but has not been returned yet. As an update on the status of employment of the part-time maintenance assistant, Matt Stewart ascertained that Patrick Alvord's employment is still ongoing and that the search for another part-time assistant was in anticipation of Patrick's departure sometime this summer.

VIII. New Business

2020 Salary Ordinance—Normally the salary ordinance is passed in the previous year. Though it was not completed in the previous year it can be changed during the current year. It was decided by consensus that a draft for the current year would be brought to the next meeting.

Inventory—John Potter and Devin Cole have been working on this project. It is needed for auditor and insurance purposes and it should be completed soon.

Fire Dept. Contract—A service billing contract was received from the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$8741.00 to be paid semi-annually. Chuck Briede made a motion and Dave Fox seconded the motion to pay \$8741.00 to the Pleasant Township Fire Department in two installments.

Chuck Briede—yes

Dave Fox—yes

Travis LeMaster—yes

Matt Stewart—yes

Sesquicentennial Meeting—The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2020. Travis LeMaster suggested that the town plan to conduct a community meeting this year in conjunction with plans for the celebration. Chuck Briede added that the community meeting include discussion on potential future projects for the town.

Thermal Tech—The town council was informed that Thermal Tech has transferred ownership. This does not affect stormwater or sewer billing. This led to further discussion on residents that are short on payments for billing and those homes which are undergoing transitions. The town is trying to find a way to track addresses and contact information for new home owners for less disruption in revenue.

Electric Bill—Chuck Briede brought an issue to the attention of the town council regarding an unusually high electric bill on the Short St. lift station for the month of December. A message has been sent to Devin to ascertain a logical reason for the increase or if the matter needs further investigation.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chuck Briede to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Travis LeMaster and passed by voice acclamation. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matt Stewart