

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2019

I. Call to Order/Roll Call of Council Members Present/Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 pm on January 10, 2019 at the Sweetser Town Hall by Chuck Briede.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Rich Gamble – Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Briede. Prayer was given by Matt Stewart.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes / Review and Approval of Bills

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2018 meeting as written.

Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to accept the bills as corrected. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

III. Nomination and Election of Council Officers

- Travis LeMaster nominated Dave Fox to serve as council president. Dave accepted the nomination.

On the question of Dave Fox serving as council president for 2019:

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

- Matt Stewart nominated Chuck Briede to serve as council vice-president. Chuck accepted the nomination.

On the question of Chuck Briede serving as council vice-president for 2019:

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

IV. Open Public Forum

- Parks President Steve Kelley reported the picnic tables need to be picked-up and placed in storage for the winter. He also relayed that the railroad car roofs are rusting and will need to be repaired. In addition, the Parks Department needs a post hole digger so some new posts can be installed to replace those that have rotted.

- Steve asked the council if the Parks department could spend budgeted dollars without the approval of the council for each expenditure. After discussion the consensus of the council is that the spending authority is not something the council is able to delegate. Chuck and Matt suggested that there may be a way to approve some expenditures in advance. Matter was tabled for now.

V. Department Reports

- Police Department
 - No report.
- Waste Water plant and town maintenance
 - No report.

VI. Continuing Business

- Ordinance 2018-7 Town of Sweetser 2019 Salary Ordinance was passed on the first reading during the December 20, 2018 council meeting. After discussion:

Chuck Briede made a motion to pass on the second reading Ordinance 2018-7, Town of Sweetser 2019 Salary Ordinance. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye
 Matt Stewart-Aye
 Chuck Briede-Aye
 Rich Gamble-Absent
 Travis LeMaster-No

Chuck Briede made a motion to pass on the third and final reading Ordinance 2018-7, Town of Sweetser 2019 Salary Ordinance. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye
 Matt Stewart-Aye
 Chuck Briede-Aye
 Rich Gamble-Absent
 Travis LeMaster-No

- Matt inquired as to the status of the leaf vac repair. No update at this time.
- Matt & Travis will have a follow-up discussion with town attorney candidate Michael Hotz and report back to the full council with a recommendation.
- Matt asked for an update on the Ignite Fuel situation. Dave said that contractor Mitch Cook told him he was wrapping up another project and since the ground was hardening the Ignite Fuel field work would be next.
- Chuck initiated a discussion around some challenges facing the Parks Department in staging the Pumpkin Walk in 2019. Clown Seekers has disbanded and the Oak Hill fall break is the week before the Walk, which means a significant number of volunteers are not likely to be available. Moving the date of the Pumpkin Walk either conflicts with other area events or incurs a higher risk of inclement weather. So Chuck asked that the council and the Parks board give some thought as to how to compensate for those issues.

VII. New Business

- Chuck reported the town Workers Compensation renewal premium is due. Insurance Management Group will finance installments for us. Clerk affirmed that the funds' cash position was sufficient to pay the full premium and avoid any finance charges or fees.
- Chuck distributed the council meeting schedule for 2019.
- Chuck inquired as to why the Verizon service cost had risen above the recent trend. Clerk will make inquiries.
- Travis floated the idea of an ordinance creating a non-reverting fund to accept donations in support of the town Sesquicentennial He indicated that a few people have expressed interest in providing some financial support. Travis distributed a draft of a possible ordinance to establish the fund. Matter was discussed and tabled for now.

Next Meeting

- Next Council Meeting is January 24, 2019 7:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Meeting Minutes taken by:
John Potter / Clerk Treasurer
