

**Minutes of Sweetser Town Council**  
**February 13, 2020**

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

Rich Gamble—present  
Matt Stewart—absent  
Travis LeMaster—present  
Dave Fox—present  
Chuck Briede-present

The roll was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer offered by Chuck Briede

**II. Minutes**

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2019 meeting as revised. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble-Aye  
Matt Stewart-absent  
Travis LeMaster-Aye  
Dave Fox-Aye  
Chuck Briede-Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting as revised. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble-Aye  
Matt Stewart-absent  
Travis LeMaster-Aye  
Dave Fox-Aye  
Chuck Briede-Aye

**III. Bills**

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the paying of the bills as written. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Rich Gamble-Aye  
Matt Stewart-absent  
Travis LeMaster-Aye  
Dave Fox-Aye  
Chuck Briede-Aye

**IV. Public Forum**

No comments.

**V. Department Reports**

**Police Dept.**—Marshall Hornback not present at the meeting.

**Maintenance Dept.**—Devin Cole was present at the meeting and the following was reported or discussed:

- INDOT awarded the 2024 Sidewalk Project. Devin and Mitch will meet and begin working on plans for the project.

- A motor and transformer for the screen malfunctioned; replacements and backups have been ordered.
- 607 Allen Drive had a failed sewer tap. A root ball was discovered and remediated.
- The sinkhole near the Fields property on Elm & Main led to a failed tap. Repairs have been made.
- The current thinking on the Grays' drainage issue along Gayle Drive is to run a line to the existing catch basin across the street. Mitch Cook and Devin will get with the Grays to discuss the option.
- The snow plow caught a hidden catch basin at the intersection of Washington and Jackson streets; the resulting damage to the street will be repaired in a few days.
- A link in the belt of the salt spreader broke. Labor and equipment for a new belt is approximately \$1,700. Devin recommends we seek a poly spreader to replace our current one of metal; a new spreader would be approximately \$7,600.
- A new pump panel has been ordered for the Eagle Drive lift station. The problem reported at the last meeting was, as suspected, a massive clog. While relieving the clog, it was discovered that the pipe in the pump pit is broken. The existing pipe is galvanized steel. The recommended replacement is stainless steel pipe (it was asked if plastic or poly pipe would work and Devin said it could not handle the torque from the pump motor). Devin suggested that while the pipe is being replaced, we also have the guide rail system in the pit be reconfigured to allow the pump to more safely and efficiently raised from the pit when repairs and/or inspection is required. American Pump estimates the cost to replace the existing pipe and reconfigure the guide rail system at \$10,992 plus freight. Devin will seek other quotes as well.
- Devin received a quote from American Pump to install new conduit at the Case lift station and cap off the Ignite Fuel source from inside the pit. He will also request a quote from CIC.

**Parks Dept.**—Steve Kelley was not present at the meeting.

- Travis reported that Steve is looking into some new signage for the trailhead.
- Dave Fox reported that two more parking meters had been vandalized.

## **VI. Continuing Business**

- Town counsel Michael Hotz provided an update on the Church St. property and the Knight property:
  - We are waiting on the final result of the title search on the Church Street property. The quiet title process will take about three months
  - Grant County State Bank obtained the Knight property in a Sheriff's sale
- Travis LeMaster provided an update of the Sesquicentennial Committee efforts:
  - Next committee meeting is February 24
  - Committee goal is to meet every Monday
  - A donation solicitation letter has gone out and is already bearing some fruit

## **VII. New Business**

- Chuck mentioned that he saw the property on Burge and Franklin was to be in a Commissioners' sale. A discussion ensued of what, if any, action the town could or should take regarding the property. The consensus was to continue filing sewer liens.
- Travis initiated a discussion of the animal control ordinance. There seems to be some confusion as to what fines on a violator are appropriate when county animal control is engaged. It was decided that the council liaison will review the ordinance with Marshal Ryan Hornback.

## **VIII. 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 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Potter