

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
March 11, 2021

- I. The meeting was called to order by Dave Fox at 7:00 pm; the roll was called as follows:
Kyle Taylor-Present
Matt Stewart—Present
Travis LeMaster—Present
Dave Fox—Present
Chuck Briede-Present

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

II. **Minutes**

Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting as written. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
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. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. **Public Forum**

- No comments

V. **Department Reports**

Maintenance Dept.—Superintendent Devin Cole was in attendance.

- Devin reported that the State of Indiana had awarded the sidewalk contract for State Road 18 and Main Street to Olco Inc. of Batesville, Indiana. The winning bid was \$392,620.65 and is approximately \$40,000 below the engineer's estimate. Within 30 days INDOT will be requesting from the town the approximately \$80,000 which is the town's financial responsibility for the project.
- Devin reported that he had received the locates for the State Road 18 bridge project.
- Devin said the blower issues at the treatment plant had been corrected. However, a new top blower mount for one of the blowers still needs to be ordered. Estimated cost of the unit is about \$6,000.
- Chuck inquired of the plant flow levels following the snow melt and rain of recent days. Devin said there were two very heavy days of flow but nothing excessive.
- Devin had been to Brown Equipment to inspect the proposed vac truck and determined that it was in good working order and reasonably priced. Devin signed the quote and said it would 1-2 months before it will be ready for delivery as they will need time to acquire and install the agreed upon attachments and paint the unit.
- Devin had been to I-69 Trailer to inspect the proposed trailer for the camera. Devin reviewed the trailer features and distributed a proposal with an estimated price of \$4,971.

After discussion, Dave Fox made a motion to approve the purchase of the trailer for the camera for approximately \$4,971 from I-69 Trailer. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

- Matt asked if the obsolete assets related to the pending vac truck replacement had been declared surplus. They have not been so designated yet. The council will need a resolution with descriptions of the assets to be designated as obsolete. The plan is to have that resolution prepared for the next meeting.
- Devin proposed that after being declared surplus, we put the vac truck up for bid. He said he had an offer of \$2,000 for unit as is. Council decided to do so and set a minimum of \$2,100. Details of where to advertise the unit were discussed with placement to be decided after the unit is designated as surplus.
- Regarding the upcoming CCMG project, Mitch reported that in discussions with Bragg Excavating there was a discrepancy discovered in the amount of pipe required for part of the project. The contract will need to be amended to reflect an increase of \$6,016.90. Even with the adjustment, the Bragg bid is still well below any of the other bids received for the project.

After discussion, Kyle Taylor made a motion to approve the \$6,016.90 increase to the contract with Bragg Excavating for the 2021 CCMG Resurface and Storm Drain project along Davis and Main Streets. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

- Mitch said the town's Transportation Asset Management Plan will need to be updated for 2022. Mitch will submit a proposal at the next council meeting.
- There was a general discussion of potential projects, areas of emphasis, and finances after the current projects are completed.

Police Department Dept.—Marshal Ryan Hornback was not in attendance.

- Dave said Ryan reported he may need to hire an additional deputy to pick-up some hours that the current deputies are unable to cover at this time.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Steve said he had given Hutchens Construction the go-ahead to initiate repairs to the caboose. Hutchens ordered the windows, and he anticipates they will arrive by the end of the month.
- Steve has been in contact with the Oak Hill School Corporation to get 10-15 students to help paint the train cars on Kid's Day.

VI. Continuing Business

- The second reading and public hearing for Ordinance 2021-1 "An Ordinance Regulating Vehicular Traffic on Trails, Multi-Use Paths, and Sidewalks" will be held at the March 25, 2021 meeting. Clerk will make sure the public notice is published.
- The consideration of the acquisition of new and additional Christmas lights was continued. Kyle has a person who is preparing an estimate to run electricity to the poles. Matter was tabled pending receipt of cost information.
- Consideration of the Hometown Heroes banner project resumed. Travis has had discussions with a council member from Wabash about their experience with a similar project. Devin and Travis have been researching costs for the banners and brackets for mounting the banners. The cost for the banners will be \$60/each. Bracket hardware will be approximately \$1,300 for 50 poles or \$2,300 for 100 poles.

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the purchase of the banner hardware for approximately \$2,300. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Travis reported that town counsel Michael Hotz said we would need to draft a memorandum of understanding with Mr. Newhouse for the use of his property for the Sesquicentennial. Michael will work on a first draft.
- Consideration and discussion of department liaisons resumed.

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to appoint Kye Taylor as council liaison to the wastewater plant and street maintenance departments. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Chuck resumed discussion of the current phone/answering machine situation for the police department. Council will discuss options with Marshal Ryan.
- There was a discussion of what to do with the jeep that has been declared surplus.

VII. New Business

- Cindy Rollins and TJR Equipment submitted written requests to waive late fees for their utility bills. Both situations appear to be the result of issues with the mail.

After discussion, Dave Fox made a motion to waive the late fees for Cindy Rollins and TJR Equipment. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Chuck said that no bids have come in for the trash service. Specs for the new contract were discussed. Chuck will rework the request for bids and submit the info to potential bidders. Matter tabled until next meeting.
- There was a discussion of the capacity of the current recycling containers and the perceived need to police the usage of the containers and the need to acquire additional capacity and/or increase the frequency of pick-ups (currently two times a month) Matter tabled pending gathering of additional information.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Potter
