

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2018

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 June 14, 2018 at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Rich Gamble.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Rich Gamble – Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rich Gamble. Prayer was given by Matt Stewart.

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

Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2018 meeting and Chuck Briede Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to accept the bills as written with the notation that the expenditure for the Fleis & Vandenbrink invoice of \$6,935.76 for the topographical survey should be changed from the general fund to the CCD fund. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Let the record show that the regularly scheduled council meeting of May 24, 2018 was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

III. Public Forum –No comments or questions from the public.

IV. Department Reports

- Town Marshall – no report
- Town Maintenance - no report

V. Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

- Rich reported he has been in contact with Jim Sopher of TRIAD; TRIAD reports they are working on estimates, contractors, and scheduling but have nothing definite at this time.

VI. Parks Department

- Steve reported that spraying for weeds is needed along the trail near the intersection with county road 700. He said all the vegetation needs removed from the hill abutting the parking area because the vegetation is encroaching on the parking area.
- Shelter roof repair completion is scheduled for June 27, 2018, commencing at approximately 3 pm. Chuck said the Lion's Club is still committed to help finish the project.

VII. Continuing Business

- Rich reported that after discussion with Fleis & Vandenbrink that they have all they require for now regarding the resurfacing and drainage project proposed for Main Street, Winger Estates pond, and east on Eagle Drive.
- Dave reported that the fix to the Ignite Fuel excess discharge into the lift station would have to wait until after harvest. Chuck reminded the council that the leaking manholes were the not on town property and thus not the town's responsibility to fix. He suggested we give the owner of Ignite Fuel until 90 days after harvest to correct the problem. Rich said that with Devin's input the council will draft a letter to Ignite Fuel giving them up to 90 days after harvest but no later than the end of the year to effect repairs.
- Regarding Ordinance 2009-1 that deals with untagged and/or abandoned vehicles, town attorney Kim Rogers said that he thinks the Ordinance needs to be updated to clarify some ambiguous passages and conform the ordinance to current law. Rich said he would coordinate with Kim on drafting the changes.
- Steve reported that he had received two quotes from Rex Collins Electric for streetlights: one from Main to Peterson for \$97,000 and the other from the railroad tracks to Eagle Estates for \$70,000. Steve suggested the town consider purchasing LED lights. He also reminded the council that whatever was decided regarding the streetlights, it would make sense to have that work done before the sidewalk project is started.
- Regarding the town billing and accounting software program, Rich reported that he had spoken with Randy concerning the future viability MEGA (our current program; we are operating without support). Rich concluded that it does not appear there is much incentive for Randy to resurrect the software or attempt to find a buyer. Chuck reported that he, Rich, the deputy clerk/treasurer, and the clerk/treasurer had attended a demo of GASI (Governmental Accounting Solutions Inc.). They are based in Ohio but have several Indiana towns as customers. The towns are generally of similar size to Sweetser. Their software is Indiana SBOA (State Board of Accounts) approved. The cost of the program is \$700 to set-up and then \$875 per quarter for five years. It is the opinion of the Chuck, Rich, the deputy clerk/treasurer, and the clerk/treasurer that the software would be sufficient for the town's needs, would be an upgrade from MEGA, and is reasonably priced. Clerk/Treasurer will ask GASI to draft a proposed contract for review.
- Via email to the council, Devin reported that INDOT has requested that the council consider moving up the sidewalk project to 2020 from 2021. This would result in the repaving project and the sidewalk project happening at the same time. By moving up the date the town could save the 5% per year inflation factor built into the project cost estimate. Mitch of Fleis & Vandenbrink said it may be possible to roll the projects into one and that there could be potential savings from having both contractors here at the same time. Rich suggested that the timing was not good considering the town's current financial position and that we should not add additional distress to the town's finances by doing the project earlier than planned. Chuck questioned whether the projects could actually be combined. Steve stressed that we need to try and stick to the 5-year street repaving plan.
- Parks Department
 - Chuck reported that the Parks Dept. board suggest paying off ½ of the line of credit this year and acknowledges that the loan needs to be repaid as soon practical.
 - Steve notified the council that the train car roofs will soon need some work.
 - In a previous meeting the Parks Dept. had requested permission to rent equipment and roll the areas adjacent to the trail. The discussion resumed this evening. After discussion:

Chuck Briede made a motion to 1) okay rolling of the trail berms, the timing of which will be determined after obtaining a professional opinion as to whether it is okay to do this in the fall or if it should wait until the spring , and 2) to repay 1/2 of the Parks Dept. loan. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Nay

Steve Kelley-Aye

VIII. New Business

- Matt Stewart initiated a discussion concerning recommended changes to the employee handbook. Specifically, the handbook should be updated to clarify the employee's options as to which day to take off as the holiday when the holiday falls on their weekend of or on another scheduled day off. Also discussed was the need to clarify additional time off policy if the employee has to work on a holiday. Rich asked Matt to draft proposed changes for the council's consideration.
- Rich said he had been gathering data with the aim of developing a worksheet that displays all of the town's current projects as well as upcoming projects to which the town has committed. He said he will work with Devin and Mitch to develop this document.
- In regards to the dead tree on Main Street, Rich and Steve both reported that they had sought quotes from Keyscapes to replace the tree but to date neither has received a response. They will seek additional quotes from other sources.
- Chuck Briede reported that The Grant County Area Plan Commission has proposed modifications to the Area Plan Fee Schedule. In order for the changes to take effect the modifications must be approved by the local governmental units.

Chuck Briede made a motion that the Town of Sweetser adopt General Ordinance 2018-3 to amend Grant County Code Section 36-7-4-600 (Area Wide Zoning Ordinance) as requested by the Area Wide Plan Commission. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

- Steve reintroduced the discussion of the possibility of the town purchasing an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) unit. The town does not presently have one. Steve suggested purchasing one for the town hall vestibule. Chuck suggested perhaps one for the wastewater plant as well. Matt recommends that we have them in the police vehicles. Rich ask Ryan to discuss with Bill what we should have and where. Dave suggested that if we do purchase one or more AED's that we should ascertain if we could purchase them through the county as this would potentially be a savings over the town purchasing them directly.
- Ryan said he would like to our police vehicles equipped with the same emergency kits as used by the county. He and Bill don't currently have kits. He also recommended the town consider supplying the police with stop sticks.
- Steve Kelley brought up the issue of golf cart registration. The town has an ordinance requiring registration of golf carts if they are driven on the streets of the town. It was noted by the council that some carts in use are registered and some are not. As the discussion continued various options were proffered:
 - Enforce the ordinance as written
 - Repeal the ordinance
 - Reduce fees and enforce ordinance
- Steve is resigning from the council effective June 30, 2018. He currently serves on the East Central Indiana Planning District Board. The council declined to maintain a presence on the Board after Steve's resignation.
- The town is a participant in the AIM Medical Trust. The Trustees amended the Trust Agreement and have requested all participant to adopt the amended Trust Agreement.

Chuck Briede made a motion that the Town of Sweetser adopt Resolution No. 2018-3 adopting the second amended and restated agreement declaration of trust of the AIM Medical Trust. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

- There was discussion of the Marion Animal Control invoice the town has received. It seems unlikely that the animal's owner will be able to reimburse the town. Kim recommends asking the judge to enter judgement in the town's favor.
- Chuck Briede initiated a discussion of the timing of the wastewater rate increase. The goal is to meet all the requirements so the increase will be effective for the August billing that goes out September 1.

IX. Next Meeting

- Next Council Meeting is June 28, 2018, 7:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Meeting Minutes taken by:
John Potter / Clerk Treasurer
