

**SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 23, 2014**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:10 p.m. on October 23, 2014, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Travis LeMaster.

**II. Roll Call of Board Members Present:**

Rich Gamble, Chuck Draine, Chuck Briede, Travis LeMaster, Steve Kelley

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Travis LeMaster. Prayer was given by Rich Gamble.

**III. Review and Approval of Minutes**

Rich Gamble made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2014, regular session. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

**IV. Review and Approval of Bills**

The bills were reviewed and discussion was held. Devin Cole explained a bill for sewer pump repairs and stated that one pump is no longer able to be repaired. He has taken off any parts that are still working. Devin also stated that Culy is working on repairing the pumps now as the person at Wright Repair who repaired the pumps is no longer employed there.

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the bills as submitted. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Disbursement request from Zachrich Construction – Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve request #21 from Zachrich Construction for \$95,487.00. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

**V. Other Business**

**a. Continuing Business**

Mitch Hansel spoke regarding the roads survey and provided the Board with a color-coded map of the town's streets. The different colors represent the conditions of each road. Mr. Hansel explained the map and discussed with the Board how repairs might be made on the roads most in need of repairs. Mr. Hansel explained that the winter months are the best time to solicit bids on road repairs and paving.

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Adoption of the 2015 Budget – Travis LeMaster explained the reductions needed in various funds. Chuck Briede made a motion to adopt the 2015 Budget as advertised. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye  
Chuck Draine - Aye  
Chuck Briede – Aye  
Travis LeMaster – Aye  
Steve Kelley – Aye

Travis LeMaster reviewed the following appropriation reduction resolutions:

Resolution 2014-13 reducing the CCI fund by \$1,792.00. There were no objections.  
Resolution 2014-14 reducing CEDIT by \$18,600.00. There were no objections.  
Resolution 2014-15 reducing Local Roads and Streets by \$5,000.00. There were no objections.  
Resolution 2014-16 reducing MVH by \$6,500.00. There were no objections.  
Resolution 2014-17 reducing Local Law Continuing Education by \$7,016.00. Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new safe for the police department but there were no objections to the reduction.  
Resolution 2014-18 reducing CCD by \$5,300.00. There were no objections.  
Chuck Briede made a motion to approve Resolutions 2014-13 through 2014-18 reducing the appropriated amounts for the funds listed above. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye  
Chuck Draine - Aye  
Chuck Briede – Aye  
Travis LeMaster – Aye  
Steve Kelley – Aye

Resolution 2014-19 was introduced and read by Travis LeMaster which would transfer \$5,000.00 from the General fund to the Sidewalks Non-Reverting fund. Discussion was held. Rich Gamble made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-19 transferring \$5,000.00 from the General Fund Capital Outlays to the Sidewalk Non-Reverting fund.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye  
Chuck Draine - Aye  
Chuck Briede – Aye  
Travis LeMaster – Aye  
Steve Kelley – Aye

2015 Salary Ordinance – The salary ordinance was passed on first reading at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chuck Briede made a motion to pass Ordinance 2014-5 Salary Ordinance on second reading. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye  
Chuck Draine - Aye  
Chuck Briede – Aye  
Travis LeMaster – Abstain  
Steve Kelley – Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to pass on third and final reading Ordinance 2014-5. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye  
Chuck Draine - Aye  
Chuck Briede – Aye  
Travis LeMaster – Abstain  
Steve Kelley – Aye

**b. New Business**

Bill Freet explained that he is going to Auburn to look for a safe for the police office. He believes a heavier, better quality safe would be the best investment. The safe they currently have is too small and cannot be secured. Discussion was held regarding available funds for purchasing the safe.

Bill also told the Board that the upstairs storage is now clean and that \$129.00 worth of scrap was recovered.

Waste Water Treatment Plant update – The progress meeting was held Wednesday evening and the update email from Duane Anderson was read. The trees have been planted. The Board was given a paint color chart to choose the colors for inside the plant. The next progress meeting is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. The contractor is still waiting on the clarifier equipment and it should arrive mid-November.

Devin Cole stated that they have been sealing cracks on Main Street and making repairs on Broadway. Devin also stated that he has his ERT certification updated and it is good until next year. Devin addressed the proposed access from Allen Drive to Church Street and explained that he learned in his training last week that the town should not contact the landowners until they have gone through NEPA. NEPA does land contracting.

Devin stated that he had to do a utilities locate on Majors Drive because the homeowner at 4020 Majors Drive is putting in a new septic system. Devin stated that this needs to be brought to Area Plan's attention prior to a permit being issued because the homeowner is within 300 feet of the town's sewer line. Chuck Draine will look into stopping any permits from being issued.

Chuck Draine spoke regarding demolishing the blighted homes in town. Devin will contact Area Plan to see who can do the scoring on the homes. Devin will handle the scoring for the town. Bob Highley from Area Plan will send the paperwork to Chuck Draine.

Chuck Briede asked about the sump pump inspections and Devin Cole stated that he is trying to make appointments with the homeowners.

Kim Rogers spoke regarding the process surrounding the town receiving property from the County Commissioners. Kim explained how the Commissioners gave the town an abandoned property in the past.

The sign inventory has another week and a half before the letters of interest are due. Devin Cole stated that he requested letters of interest from 5 companies. The due date for the letters of interest are due November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm.

Chuck Briede stated that the State of Indiana has advised Golars that they can stop their remediation efforts at Sweetser Food Mart as of September 19, 2014.

Rich Gamble asked Devin Cole about the street cuts made by the fiber optic installation and stated that there are two holes cut in Main Street near the elementary school that have not been patched. Devin Stated that he will let them know.

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Travis LeMaster spoke regarding the IACT Roundtable that was held at the Sweetser Wesleyan Church. 43 people were in attendance and the meal was catered by Weaver's. Those in attendance included several towns from around the region and the Chief of Staff for the Lieutenant Governor.

The Pumpkin Walk will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> along with Trunk or Treat at Liberty Baptist and the Chicken Noodle Dinner held by Sweetser United Methodist Church.

The LEO Dinner will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Van Buren Legion.

**VII. Open Public Forum**

No comments were forthcoming from the public.

Chuck Briede made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:21 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Eileen D. LeMaster, Clerk/Treasurer

Travis LeMaster

Charles V. Briede

Steve Kelley

Charles K. Deary

Richard P. Smith