

**SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 11, 2014**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 11, 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 November 20, 2014, regular session. Chuck Briede 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**

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

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede - Aye

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Steve Kelley - Aye

**V. Department Reports**

**Sweetser Town Marshal - Bill Freet**

Bill Freet reported regarding the meeting at the elementary school with INDOT. Steve Kelley and Chuck Draine also attended. Bill stated that the school is looking into changes that they can make to change the traffic pattern which may include putting in a parking lot and drive at the north end of the school. Bill also reported that the sidewalk and the curb at the school have been repaired. Bill stated that discussion was held regarding altering the intersection at 18 and Main street to allow pedestrians to cross from all four corners. Steve Kelley explained how the traffic pattern might be changed and stated that it is now up to the school to correct as INDOT has stated that there is nothing more they can do with the intersection.

Bill stated that he participated in the Shop with a Policeman program on Saturday. There were three children from Sweetser who went shopping and over 80 children total.

Bill reported that the new tires have been installed on the Charger.

**VI. Open Public Forum**

No comments were forthcoming from the public.

**VII. Other Business**

**a. Continuing Business**

Waste Water Treatment Plant – Jim Frazell from Triad explained why there are 15 lights being installed in the maintenance building. Jim explained that more lights can be installed once construction is complete. Jim provided the Board with copies of the minutes from the November 20<sup>th</sup> progress meeting at the treatment plant.

Jim reviewed the change orders that are listed in the minutes and explained that some of the change orders would provide credits. Jim hopes to have the change orders and the prices finalized for the next Board meeting. Jim stated that there is \$140,000.00 left in the contingency.

Jim explained that the influent screen was stolen in transit from the manufacturer to the treatment plant. It takes 8 weeks to construct a new screen if the stolen one is not located. Discussion was held and Jim explained that the plant can begin operation without a screen but that there will be damages to the plant if that happens. Kim Rogers spoke and explained that it is Zachrich's responsibility if the loss of the screen causes delays.

Discussion was held regarding taking possession of the maintenance building prior to all the construction being completed. The consensus was that it would not be advisable to place town equipment in the maintenance building prior to the building's completion.

Uses for the contingency funds were discussed.

Sign Inventory – Mitch Hansel from Fleis and Vandenbrink stated that the town has received the grant from INDOT for the sign inventory and replacement. Mitch explained that the \$39,000.00 fee includes \$12,000.00 for a retro-reflectometer and a sign inventory in a spreadsheet program. Steve Kelley asked about the old signs that the town already has. Mitch suggested putting the old signs up so that they will be replaced. Mitch also stated that the posts and brackets can be replaced on the street signs and that the town can request new street name signs. Mitch presented the contract to Kim Rogers to review so that they can be signed at the next meeting.

Fiscal Plan – Steve Brock sent an updated copy of the plan today. Kim Rogers still needs to send the changes that he found to Steve Brock.

Sewer Use Ordinance – Stu Savka from Triad is looking at the ordinance and making changes and will email the corrected ordinance to the town. Discussion was held regarding the handling of septic system users who may be annexed into the town in the future. The rate ordinance needs an availability fee for subdivisions or large users.

Income Survey – Travis LeMaster presented the quotes from Cornerstone and Mendenhall to the Board. The cost of the survey is approximately \$2,500.00. Discussion was held regarding the importance of how a survey is done. Discussion was also held regarding the possible uses for the survey.

Steve Kelley stated that he and Bob King met with Todd Ortman from Kokomo Grain and Mr. Drook. They discussed the survey for the future trail and Ortman and Drook felt the survey was fine. The next step is having the properties appraised.

Chuck Draine reported that the town will find out on January 22, 2015, whether or not it will received funds for removal of blighted homes.

**b. New Business**

Travis LeMaster reviewed the letter from Doug Kirby requesting the removal of the late fee that he incurred on his sewer bill from October, 2014. Discussion was held. Rich Gamble made a motion to waive the late fee of \$6.75. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – No

Travis LeMaster – No  
Steve Kelley – No

The Christmas decorations have been refurbished and hung. All are in agreement that they look very good. Discussion was held regarding paying the bill prior to the end of the year. No bill has been received yet for the refurbishment.

Travis LeMaster read a letter from Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellsperman regarding the town hosting the IACT Roundtable.

Steve Kelley suggested the town look into having a dusk to dawn street light installed at the treatment plant as there is currently no light there. Travis LeMaster will call to check on having one installed.

Devin Cole stated that there was a mis-marked sewer line during the fiber optic installation which caused the installers to cut through the line. The line at the home of Dallas Walters was damaged and Mr. Walters has presented Devin with copies of the repair bills and is seeking reimbursement from the town. Devin presented the bills to the Board. Devin explained that the map of the sewer lines for Eagle Estates has no measurements which causes it to be difficult to locate the lines. Chuck Briede made a motion to reimburse Mr. Walters \$672.00 for the repair of his sewer line. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

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

Devin Cole stated that it is time for an upgrade on his cell phone and asked if he can obtain a cell phone for Ken Jones also. Devin explained that once the Mission System is operating on the treatment plant it will be helpful for them to both be able to get alerts on the plant. Currently Ken is using his own personal cell phone. Travis LeMaster made a motion to upgrade Devin's cell phone and also authorize Devin to purchase a phone for Ken. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

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

Chuck Briede made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:17 pm.

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

Travis LeMaster  
Chuck Draine

Chuck Briede  
Rich P. Gamble

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