

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
December 22, 2016

I. Call to Order/Roll Call of Board Members Present/Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 8, 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Member Chuck Briede

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble – Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye
Steve Kelley-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Briede. Prayer was given by Matt Stewart.

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

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve and accept the minutes as written from the December 22, 2016 meeting and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Dave Fox-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Rich Gamble – Aye
Chuck Briede – Aye
Steve Kelley – Aye

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve and accept the bills as entered and Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox –Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Rich Gamble –Aye
Chuck Briede –Aye
Steve Kelley – Aye

III. Public Forum

IV. Department Report

Devin said he would be attending a early coordination meeting on January 10th on the sidewalks. He also told the board that Air Products has sent him emails as they would like to be a customer and hook up to our sewage/trash. There was some discussion with the board members about testing and other information that needs to be addressed to Air Products before the town council will permit them to come aboard. Devin said Jim Frazell is aware of this customer and indicated that their water would need to be tested, it's up to the customer to absorb the costs of the tests.

Devin thought he would be using less Alum next year, he said they're having some issues with wires to clairifers and blowers. Wires are there for the blowers but not the clairifiers, the wires were never pulled for the clairifer. BL Anderson was up to check on this.

Steve Kelley said he call Jim Frazell over the trusses in the sewage plant, they are growing mold. Steve said he thinks the sky lights in the roof need to be removed as a lot of moisture is coming from them and causing the trusses to rot and have mold. He said everything in the plant is soaking wet due to all the moisture.

Knee's electrical is coming to wire up the heat tape in the plant.

Marshall Bill said the radios are on order and hopefully will be in soon.

V. Continuing Business

Mitch Hansel from Fleis Vandenbrink came to the construction contract signed for the sign replacement project that will be happening in 2017. Bids will be going out in July 2017 so the work can start in August 2017 to December 2017. The project is 90/10, the state pays 90 percent and the town pays 10 percent. The signs being replaced are only the regulatory and informational signs. (red, yellow and white state signs). We will pay installments up front then will be reimbursed, the town was already approved by the state for this project. It was estimated the project will be 45,000, the total fee by Fleis Vandenbrink was \$8471.00, billing from them won't start until the project is done in August. Steve Kelly made a motion to accept the Fleis Vandenbrink LPA contract to replace all the regulatory and informational signs in the town and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Rich Gamble-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye
Steve Kelley-Aye

Mitch said the 50/50 Grant on the asphalt /paving project is complete, Mitch said we are one of the first towns to get their check from INDOT on this grant. We still need to spend the additional \$2500 for concrete, crack seal etc...

Mitch just got a list of contractors for the Railroad Crossing Grants, it is 100 percent from the state.

Chuck explained to the board a resolution that needs passed, it is to transfer funds from different line items to make up where certain line items in certain funds were over spent. The clerk treasurer can move certain funds within the same fund and line items without permission but to move it from different sections in that fund needs the board approval.

Steve Kelley made a motion to accept and approve the Resolution 2016-11 to transfer \$745.00 from MVH-Other Supplies to MVH-Capital Outlay-Motor Equipment and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Rich Gamble-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye
Steve Kelley-Aye

Chuck informed the board that the clerk treasurer had to pay a portion of the PTVFD contract from the Area Plan Commission Fund due to the over spending in the General Fund.

Salary Ordinance:

Steve Kelley and Matt Stewart has been working on salaries, along with the other town council members they determined to go on a comp time basis for the employees. They made the decision to go with a 40 hour work week and anything over the 40 hours would be paid in comp time. The board would like for the comp time to be used as soon as they can use it, possibly in the same week or within the month it was accumulated.

The clerk treasurer and town council decided to start 2017 with payroll being bi-weekly. A increase in salary will have to wait until the town receives their 1782 notice (Budget) from the state. Any new salary increases will be retro-active to the 1st of January.

Matt Stewart suggested a 3 percent wage increase across the board, but we must wait until we receive our Budget notice from the State.

The clerk treasurer was given a \$100 a month raise and the town council will not receive any raise, the Deputy Clerk Treasurer increase to \$11.00 a hour and Town Maintenance Assistant to \$11.50 a hour.

Matt Stewart stated that our employees are the town's most valuable resource, he thinks we can make cuts somewhere else in order to award the salary increases.

Matt Stewart made a motion to accept and approve a 3 percent increase in salaries for 2017 and Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Rich Gamble-Nay
Chuck Briede -Nay
Steve Kelley-Aye

Rich Gamble was asking what this Monthly Investment Report on the W/W Operating system is about, the amount is the same each month on the report. It was determined it needed to be researched.

Steve Kelley asked the town council if they wanted to pursue the Solential Solar project , Chuck explained the program to Rich Gamble and Dave Fox as they were absent for that meeting. Solential indicated they will have a town or school online with the Solar panels sometime in January 2017 if the town council members wanted to view them. Matt Stewart thinks the line of trees near where the panels might set would be in the way and would need to be removed. Rich Gamble said that he thought Crawfordsville had a huge Solar field, Dave Fox thinks we need to get more information.

VI. New Business

Rich Gamble indicated in the future he would like more discussion about how we use and spend the money we collect for Storm water fee.

The clerk treasurer and town board president (Chuck Briede) met with John Norris from Norris Insurance over a billing statement the town received after they cancelled the town's insurance with Norris. After discussion John Norris said he would review that billing and let the town clerk know his findings. It was determined that the adjustment from the Workman's comp audit was not adjusted off the billing statement. Once that adjustment is made the town will receive a final billing statement from Norris Insurance .

Some residents have reported seeing coyotes in their back yards, the town council asked Marshall Bill to contact the DNR to see if they do anything about trapping them.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.
Tina J Cole
Clerk Treasurer

Chuck V. Briede Rich P. Gamble
Steve Kelley Matthew C Stewart
EDD TX