

**SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 12, 2015**

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2015, 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**

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2015, 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 Police Department - Marshal Bill Freet**

Bill Freet presented a proposal to the Council to install security cameras on town hall using the video equipment in the Police office. The bid was for \$1,398.93. The cameras would video the front of town hall of Main Street and include the crosswalk for the Sweetser Switch Trail and also the rear of town hall. Bill stated that he thinks it would be good to put to use the video recording equipment that the town already has. Bill also recommended a camera in the garage area at the rear of town hall and in the shelter area next to town hall. Rich Gamble addressed potential privacy issues for the homes near town hall. Discussion was held regarding attorney Kim Rogers looking into any potential issues for homeowners. Chuck Briede stated that he thinks it might be helpful to have the cameras in the future. Steve Kelley asked if the new treatment plant could be added to this system. Bill explained that the treatment plant is too far away to use the video recorder that is in the Police office. A discussion of the amount of recording time available was also held.

Bill asked the Council who he should contact about extending the time on the dusk to dawn light installed on the corner of Main Street and State Road 18. He was advised that AEP should be contacted about lengthening the time the light stays on.

**Town Attorney Kim Rogers**

Kim Rogers asked Don Wimmer to attend the meeting to address parcel numbers that are not included in the annexation proposal and ordinances. Mr. Wimmer explained that on the Cates property the Grant County GIS system shows part of the property already located inside town limits. Mr. Wimmer stated he will rewrite that description to include the right of way for State Road 18. Mr. Wimmer started to explain that the Miller-Newhouse parcel did not include the Binkard property located on State Road 18. At that time it was discovered that Mr. Wimmer was not provided with the most current annexation plan. Discussion was held and Mr. Wimmer was given the most recent annexation plan from February, 2015. Chuck Briede expressed concern that the town is spending a great deal of money on this annexation. Rich Gamble expressed a similar sentiment. Travis LeMaster reviewed the money spent so far on the annexation and stated that the largest expense has been for the maps created by Triad. Approximately \$10,000.00 has been spent so far. Steve Kelley asked what the final cost would be and Travis LeMaster expressed that the town is approximately halfway through the project. Discussion was held and questions asked of Rich Gamble relating to the annexation spreadsheet that he provided the Council before the last meeting. Discussion was held. Kim Roger expressed that squaring the town's boundaries through these annexations is done for long term benefit to the town and that the costs of the annexations will not be recuperated quickly.

Kim reported that he would like to make a technical amendment to the Redevelopment Commission ordinance referencing the advisory member to the Redevelopment Commission from the Oak Hill School Board. Kim has also become aware that the Redevelopment Commission members all need to be bonded and he is working with Norris Insurance on acquiring those bonds. They will also be writing a bond for Deputy Ryan Hornback and the renewal of the Clerk's bond. The bonds are for \$15,000.00 each.

Regarding the special meeting held on March 11, 2015, about the Blight Elimination Program, Kim has filed the documents electronically and sent Fed Ex. Rayanna Binder granted the town a two week extension on the forms. There is a report due on April 21<sup>st</sup> that must be filed electronically and it must be done all the way through January, 2016.

Kim Rogers stated that he emailed the Council with the revisions to the Sewer Use Ordinance. He made all corrections and is asking the Council to review the ordinance. This ordinance will need to be recorded and published and there should be a public hearing because of the penalties attached to violations. Kim stated he is working on an abbreviated notice for this ordinance.

Kim Rogers made recommendations for corrections to the Police Department SOP and Steve Kelley had the corrected copy printed and four copies bound. The Council should review the SOP and prepare a resolution for the next meeting to adopt the SOP.

Chuck Draine asked Kim Rogers about the Commissioner's sale on April 16, 2015. Kim stated that he is working with Kyle Persinger, legal counsel for the Commissioner's and will ask that the Commissioner's remove the Shane and Voland properties from the tax sale. Chuck Draine also asked about the hearing that the BEP representative needs to attend. Kim stated that he wants to verify that the contract is satisfactory prior to scheduling the hearing.

#### **VI. Open Forum**

No comments were forthcoming from the public.

#### **VII. Other Business**

##### **a. Continuing Business**

Waste Water Treatment Plant – Duane Anderson was in attendance from Triad Associates and provided the Council with an update regarding the progress on the treatment plant. Duane stated that last Friday the plant began receiving live sewage and that the force main under Stated Road 18 and 400west is

complete. Approximately 18,000 gallons of sludge was hauled to the plant from LaFontaine on Thursday of last week. As of tonight's meeting the plant has been operating for one week. Duane stated that the needed adjustments are being made. Duane advised that B.L. Anderson made corrections to the wiring on the influent meter and screen. Other adjustments include the chemical feed system and the return sludge station working. The conversion of the Kelly lift station to new pumps and controls are in place but not connected. Other items to be completed include lights in the lab and finish work, outlets, fume hood and the flooring. Duane anticipates Kelly lift station being completed tomorrow. The treatment plant will be processing 90% of the town's flow. The plan for next week is to convert the bank lift station and possibly the Case lift station also. With the conversion of those two lift stations the project will achieve substantial completion. Also needing to be completed is the installation of lights in the plant and the garage. Duane projects that total completion will occur in 30 to 45 days including punch list items. Chuck Draine asked Duane how many gallons are flowing to the treatment plant per day. Duane advised that the flow is 190,000 gallons per day. Discussion was held regarding the next bill from Marion being an estimated bill because the flow meter was moved to the treatment plant. Duane advised that IDEM was notified that the plant is operational. Chuck Briede asked Duane if there would be a need to clean the line between the bank station and the Case station. Duane advised that the line should be fairly clean. Travis LeMaster asked if Zachrich Construction offered any explanation regarding so much of the finish work is still incomplete. Duane stated that some of the cause is that steps have to be followed and certain things must be done in order. He also said that some items could be finished already and that Triad is looking into why those items haven't been done. Duane predicted that the finish work will move quickly and that the outside work will be completed when the ground dries. Duane stated he is focusing on getting the functional and major items finished such as lighting. Chuck Draine asked about the high flow and discussion was held regarding infiltration and ground water issues. Duane stated that infiltration will be addressed and explained that the clear water coming into the plant indicates an infiltration problem.

Devin Cole spoke and explained to the Council that when the flow meter was moved from the Case station to the treatment plant there was a large influx of water from the East. Devin explained that the line from Air Products (EPCO) comes in at a straight T into the town's line flowing to Marion and that there could be some backfeed through the town's meter, which would account for the high flow rate to Marion. Devin stated that they push 25 gallons a minute all day long from Air Products. Discussion was held.

Chuck Draine asked about the status of tying in the Ferguson property to the town's line. Devin explained that it is currently too wet and that Mr. Ferguson is still waiting to hear from the contractor he hired. Discussion was held regarding if the tap should be changed to facilitate future properties tapping onto the town's line. Duane Anderson will check with Jim Frazell regarding his research into the issue.

**b. New Business**

There was no new business before the Council.

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

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:01 pm.

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

Travis LeMaster

Charles V. Briede

Steve Kelly

Chuck Draine

Jim P. Frazell