

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

April 28, 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 April 28, 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Chuck Briede.

Roll Call:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Briede. Prayer was given by Rich Gamble.

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

Rich Gamble made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the April 14, 2016, Regular Meeting. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

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

Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the bills as written, Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

III. Open Public Forum - No one came forward.

IV. Interviews for Open Council Seat

The Town of Sweetser had 3 applications submitted for the vacant town council seat, David Fox, Matt Stewart and Trevin Butler applied. Chuck Briede indicated he thought there was some legal issue that if a person on the Volunteer Fire Dept could or could not occupy a seat on the town council. Chuck was informed a person on the Volunteer Fire Dept would be allowed to occupy a seat on the town council however this person would not be allowed to vote on the town budget. Chuck didn't think it would present that big of a problem, just as long as we have 80 percent of town council board present to approve the budget. Council members must be a registered voter, all three candidates were registered voters.

Each candidate came up to the podium and gave a description about themselves, where they work, live in Sweetser and why they're interested in the town council seat. Chuck Briede indicated in addition to the town council meetings twice a month there will be times when you must meet to start preparing on the town budget for the following year, plus other duties such as a Liaison to specific departments of the town.

Travis LeMaster was pleased that we had 3 applicants interested, but only one seat. He asked all three candidates if they didn't get voted for the town council seat would they be interested in serving on some of the other town boards, such as stormwater board, redevelopment commission board etc. Steve Kelley said the Park Board has a seat available if anyone is interested. The board heard each applicant and then voted. Matt Stewart received two votes, David Fox received one vote and Trevin Butler got one vote. Matt Stewart was then sworn by town attorney Kim Rogers.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble-~~Aye~~ *MATT STEWART*

~~Travis LeMaster-Aye~~ *TREVIA BUTLER*
~~Chuck Briede-Aye~~ *MATT STEWART*
~~Steve Kelley-Aye~~ *DAVE FOX*

V. Departments

Devin had another camera company come and do a demo from Inviro Site out of Indianapolis, they're with Best Equipment. It's considerably more money but it's definitely better than the Proteus, he explained all the features of this camera to the board and stated the picture quality was far better than the Proteus, it comes with a 1000 foot reel where the Proteus came with only a 600 foot reel. Steve Kelley presented a video on the TV in Town Hall showing the Proteus camera in operation when they did the demo. Should maintenance be required on the InviroSite Rover Camera the turnaround time is 72 hours. The total cost of InviroSite camera is \$82,000, they do have a lease fee that was presented to the board. There was additional quote on the camera with less options for \$71,400.00. This camera also has a GPS system where the town can map out the storm sewer along with a footage counter.

Travis said if the town is going to implement the Stormwater Fee the town will need to create a budget for this, he asked Devin to make a list of what the town spent last year that was related to stormwater, cost of pipe etc. as we have to explain why we're doing the fee.

Steve checked with several loan companies to see what interest rates would be on a camera figuring \$85,000 loan. The Indiana Bond Bank has rates from 1.4 to 2.25 percent, USDA Rural Development has a 3% for 10 years and Grant County State Bank is 4% for 10 years. Steve gave all the paperwork to Travis as it will be discussed by the Stormwater Board.

Chuck Briede asked if the Remote Lift on this camera at the price of \$12,000 was necessary, Devin said yes and explained why it's important to have it.

Steve then asked the other boards members where their thoughts were on this camera. Rich indicated he feels it is definitely needed and would like the town to own one, Steve said finding the leaks is expensive but having this camera and fixing the leaks would be easy for the guys to do. Travis said the biggest thing is finding a way to budget for it and make it work. Devin said starting with the \$71,400 quote we could possibly add on the \$12,000 remote at a later time.

Chuck Briede said Shane Edwards from Oak Hill Schools called him and they want to re-black top the south parking lot there at St.Rd 18 by the apartments, they're wanting a roll off and tying into the drain. Their getting prices to see if they can do it this year.

Marshall Bill Freet said his department is in the people business, a lot going on in the community. He introduced his deputy Ryan Hornback to Matt Stewart the newest board member. He said Ryan got new brakes on his police car and they're up to date on their vehicle maintenance. Bill has had one person apply for the Reserve position, she's a female dispatcher at the Marion Police Dept., she's 26 years old but she needs the 40 pre-basic 's brought up to code, Bill 's going to call her in for a interview. Steve Kelley asked Bill if he goes around checking the high grass and weeds. Chuck Briede said we do have a weed ordinance with fees, it needs to be published in the paper again. Bill said he's been busy the past week with filing domestic abuse charges.

Chuck Briede said Steve Gill from Republic Services couldn't come to the meeting. Kim Rogers looked over the Republic Service Trash Contract and said everything was in order and if the town or the Wabash Valley wasn't happy with the services either party can terminate the contract after 30 days. The new contract starts on May 1, 2016 and goes until April 30, 2012. Chuck said once we get the contract tweaked by Kim we will get it to Republic.

VI. Continuing Business

Mitch Hansel was here to discuss the sidewalks, upgrading, replacing and adding ADA Ramps from Eagle Drive to State Road 18. He indicated one of the biggest cost is when you come up to a railroad when putting in sidewalks that you must negotiate with the railroad tracks, there are several restrictions and regulations that they require.

Steve Kelley said the town knows the railroad owner and we could possibly get this project accomplished with the railroad over the sidewalk issue and possibly get the cost reduced . Total cost is about 367,000 with the cost of inflation of 25 percent over 5 years. The town's portion is 73,500 and the town would need to come up with about 14,000 a year for the next 5 years. We need to identify where the money comes from up front , as there is no in-kind available. Mitch said a judiciary letter needs to be done, he said he can prepare this letter and bring to the next meeting. The town will need letters of support from residents, school and businesses in the town. The biggest thing is figuring out where the money will come from as we must have about 26,000 up front to do this project. The town wouldn't be under contract until December 2016 or January 2017.

The second option #2 for upgrades is to do sidewalks from north east side of Sweetser so residents can have access to the trail . The town board will need to make a decision by May 16th to see if they want to do both options on the sidewalk expansion or just concentrate on one.

Again, we will need letters of support for option 2 from town residents.

Mitch also went to a seminar on the 50/50 grant for preventive maintenance on the road resurfacing. We can only fund it through wheel tax, rainy day fund for resurfacing, fog sealing, crack sealing. He said INDO wants towns to submit projects, Mitch said he could come up with cost estimates on this.

Kirk Hornacker with Norris Insurance was to be at the meeting but he didn't show up, Steve Kelley said he received a Insurance binder from Kirk but it had no prices on it. Travis thinks the town is over insuring , he thinks we need a new quote. Travis said that Steve Brock is supplying him a list on what the replacement cost would be on the different buildings such as the treatment plant and garage.

The monthly notices have been filed on the Blight properties, we need to get the guide lines on how to proceed with bidding packages. Kim Rogers said the last quiet title suit on the Voland property has been filed. It will then give the town ability to turn over to the full title to Habitat of Humanity. Devin indicated we already had bids previously to demolish these properties but the town must check all the guidelines and they need advertised. The town hopes to have bids by the next meeting. We need to release these liens as soon as we can in order to get the money reimbursed. Kim Rogers said he has a list of the ones recorded but we have some that haven't been recorded.

VII. New Business

Travis sent a copy of a Resolution establishing Materiality policy on shortages, loss, theft of variances \$100 or over needs to be reported to State Board of Accounts. This was part of a directive from the State.

Travis LeMaster made a motion to pass Resolution 2016-4 and Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart- Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Steve Kelley said he has another bill from Byron Cook for \$3500.00 for additional draw from the town's line of credit for work on the Trail.

Travis LeMaster made a motion authorizing Steve Kelley to make a withdrawal of \$3500.00 from the town's line of credit to Bryon Cook for work on the trail, Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart- Aye

Rich Gamble – Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede –Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Travis LeMaster made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

.Minutes submitted by: Tina J.Cole, Clerk/Treasurer

Chas. W. Bred

Richard P. Smith

James J. Hester

Matthew C. Stewart
