

**SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 9, 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 June 9, 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Member Travis LeMaster

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Absent

Matt Stewart-Absent

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 June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting and Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Travis LeMaster -Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley – Absent

Matt Stewart-Absent

Chuck Briede and Travis LeMaster asked the clerk to change the Brown Equipment Invoice to be paid all from Waste Water Account rather than splitting the invoice between MVH and Waste Water since the repairs was all on the town's jetter.

Chuck Briede then made a motion to accept the bills as written and changing the Brown Equipment Invoice to all be paid out of Waste Water Fund , and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble –Aye

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Chuck Briede –Aye

Steve Kelley – Absent

Matt Stewart-Absent

Doug Kingseed from Liberty Baptist Church was here to inform the town council that Liberty Baptist Church and Oak Hill Community Schools has decided to expand and connect the parking lots between Sweetser Elementary School and the church. At the present time Shane Edwards from Oak Hill High School board is checking on the by-laws. When that has been done, it will go through the school board and the church board, if both boards approve of this it would allow the schools buses to exit through Church Street side of parking lots. The town council wrote a letter of approval on this proposal, Chuck Briede read the letter out loud. Travis LeMaster made a motion to sign the letter of support and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Church Street property- that little loop in that addition. Kim found the record of ownership, it's kind of a mystery whether it exists or not. Kim said the town could do a declaratory resolution then do a permanent resolution. Community can do this Kim talked with people in this addition and most of them mow their little section and take care of this little piece of land. Some residents who were contacted would like to see a nice little park made of it.

Chuck stated Ross Working recently purchased a house on E. Penn street, there is a vacant lot next to it that the town owns, he's possibly wanting to purchase this vacant lot. This lot is across from the train car/trail. Chuck's not sure what he wants to do with it and he isn't sure what the park board intentions are and what Ross's intentions are. The board said an appraisal would need to be done.

Travis LeMaster saw where Swayzee was having a 5K run, Kirk Hornocker is spear heading this, he thought about trying to have Sweetser do one. Travis is going to get with Kirk in the future on this.

Rich Gamble said there was a house adjacent to the trail that had evergreen's cut down, he just wanted to make sure that we did this, Devin indicated yes the guys cut them down as they were all dead.

Rich Gamble also talked with Marshall Bill over the culvert repair at Main and Peterson Drive, this happened in Sept.2015. The guys had about \$500 in repair, plus labor costs etc...Devin said it could be from \$1000 to \$1500 total. Rich said the person who hit the culvert was in her 70's and has State Farm Insurance. Rich thinks we might need to pursue her insurance to recoup the town's cost on repairs. Rich asked the guys to get the amount of the bills/cost to him so they can draft a letter to the insurance company.

Chuck Briede spoke with Ben Hawk Youth Director from Mt.Olive United Methodist Church, he has 10 kids wanting to donate time to do about 2 hours of community work for Sweetser Trail on a Sunday evening in the very near future.

Chuck Briede indicated that Tina had gotten a letter from the state about the recent audit that the town contested, it showed we were delinquent. Tina called the state and forwarded all the emails to them about why we were contesting the amount. They indicated it would take about 2 weeks before we hear anything.

Discussions were held about upcoming meetings.

Travis LeMaster made a motion we adjourn, all was in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.  
Tina J Cole  
Clerk/Treasurer.

Travis LeMaster

Matthew C. Stewart

Rich P. Small

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### III. Department Reports

Marshall Bill Freet presented the board a report on this National Gang Ring that's been robbing people at cementaries during burial services. He commented that they've been real busy. Marshall Bill also indicated Deputy Marshall Ryan Hornback has been real busy too and doing good work, they are both working on 3 cases at the present time. Ryan stated he stopped and arrested extremely impaired driver on Saturday evening, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### IV. Continuing Business

There was discussion on the town's mowers, Devin wants to trade in the town's old mowers and the Ford Tractor (that never gets used) along with the tractor attachments for two John Deere mowers. The lease payment will be less than the tractor payment and after 3 years it is a \$1.00 buyout on the lease. The town board hates they just bought the tractor but if it's not being used and we can get 2 brand new mowers that are bigger and better and by keeping the payment under what we pay for the tractor it's a good deal.

Travis LeMaster made a motion for Devin to work with Tri-Green and CNHI to obtain the 2 new mowers, Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Chuck brought up Storm water, Travis thought he would have heard a update from Steve Brock as he was going to tweak some things in the language, and as soon as Travis gets that they will call a Storm water board meeting next month. Chuck really hates that we will have to implement a storm water fee but just this past week the guys had to do some major repairs on Craven Street that could add up to about \$2000 to fix a sink hole. This is the second big sink hole we've had this year, plus many in the past at various locations here in Sweetser. The board realizes we have to set a fee, we are the only town in the county that doesn't have a storm water fee at this time.

Chuck said that Kirk Hornocker is on vacation this week but he dropped off a new binder to Chuck and describe why the cost didn't go down, when Kirk returns the town board will need to review it. Chuck said we did budget 13,000 for the insurance but we need to look at it a little more closely.

### v. New Business.

Devin and Travis met with IDEM on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. A inspector came with a special lady (she belongs to a special unit of IDEM) they go around talking with towns, and that Sweetser has been placed on early warning list for the Sewer Band. What that means if you are on the sewer band list you cannot add on any new sewer lines or tap lines. They are basing this on the capacity of flow that is measured every month and our average was at 117 percent, if you go above 90% you are put on the warning list. The government wants to know what you are doing to correct this. The inspector wanted to know what the problems were like infiltration etc...Devin showed them the Commonwealth plan from about two years ago. They realize that since the plant started we had one of the most rainy seasons in history. Chuck Briede said that's just another reason why we need a storm water fund. Devin has to keep track of every storm water repair so when they come back in a year he'll have the info to show them. Hopefully, it won't be a problem next time when they return. If we get on the sewer band it could harm the town as no new homes or businesses could be built.

Solicitation Ordinance, there was discussion on this Ordinance that a group such as Seventh Day Adventist provide a tax exempt certificate and they should be able to provide this paperwork, this applies to any groups of 5 or more wanting to solicit in town.

Budget Planning - Rich has been working on some things but will have to wait until after June books close. We did find out we don't need to be reviewed by the county on our Budget.