

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2014

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 10, 2014, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Vice President, Steve Kelley.

II. Roll Call of Board Members Present:

Rich Gamble, Chuck Draine, Chuck Briede, Steve Kelley

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Kelley. Prayer was given by Rich Gamble.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

Rich Gamble made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2014 meeting. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

IV. Review and Approval of Bills

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the bills as submitted. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the pay application #4 for the WWTP in the amount of \$139,861. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Aye

Chuck Draine – Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley - Aye

V. Guest speaker Steve Niblick, Grant County Area Plan Director

Steve discussed abandoned buildings in town. The two houses mentioned were in the 200 block of Meridian St. and 500 block of Broadway St. There is one house in Sweetser that they are monitoring and one has an active permit to remodel. Taxes are due on the Meridian and Broadway homes and will go up on the tax sale on 9/18/14. If the properties do not sell, they would go to a commissioner's sale in early 2015. At this time, the town could acquire the properties. Then if the town does acquire the properties, Area Plan is willing to assist with the demolition costs. Steve also mentioned a Receivership Program that could be used to improve properties, but did not feel like this route would work because of the high tax liens on the properties.

General discussion was held concerning wind turbines, the county wide land use plan, and that Steve is now signing off on all permits.

VI. Department Reports

Town Maintenance Manager Devin Cole –

Devin stated that the Case station is back up and running. The power is tripping at the Bank station but he does not know why. Devin will talk to Ryan Hornback about monitoring the lift station alarm lights while on patrols at night until the on call notification system is installed.

Devin recommended installing a check valve on Charles Kelly's sewer line to prevent overflows at his cleanout. The Board agreed with the approval of Mr. Kelly. The town will pay for this expense.

Spectra Tech was in town to look at warranty work needed for three manholes in Eagle Estates. They will be back to fix the problem.

The fiber optic work in town should be complete in about a month and a half.

The clarifiers for the WWTP should be finished by next week.

Devin clarified that the Vac truck is only dumping storm drain clean out at 600 W.

Devin gave a list of things that needed to be finished to A-1 Exteriors before final payment is made.

The landscape in front of Town Hall is complete.

In the next few weeks, Devin & Ken will be filling in potholes, sealing cracks in the street, and begin checking sump pumps.

Devin will order signs from Pro Prints to be put out at each trailhead when spraying for weeds.

Devin presented quotes for a new work truck. The truck preferred is from Matthews GMC & is \$39,005.00. After discussion, the Board directed Devin to gather financing information from Matthews GMC. The Board will review this at the next meeting. Also presented was a quote for a snow plow for this truck.

VII. Other Business

a. Continuing Business

WWTP progress- the Board decided that the exterior of the building will be white with grey trim and a grey roof. The Board will be reviewing change orders at the next meeting.

Kim Rogers stated that the Sewer Rate Ordinance public hearing will be the first meeting in August.

Steve Kelley and Devin Cole met with Mitch from Umbaugh about the sign inventory / replacement. Mitch felt that this project could be funded sooner than anticipated. Street name signs may also qualify for replacement. Originally thought to be a 80/20 grant, is now a 90/10 grant.

b. New Business

The Board discussed a potential 3% increase to the PTVFD for the town's 2015 fire protection contract, per their request. Once a contract is presented, the Board will take a vote.

Kim Rogers will draw up a Resolution naming Chuck Briede and Steve Kelley land purchasing agents for the Sweetser Switch Trail.

Kim will draw up a Resolution to adopt changes to the Employee Handbook for the next meeting.

Steve Kelley made a motion to raise the crossing guard's pay from \$15 to \$20 per day. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble- Aye

Chuck Draine- Aye

Chuck Briede- Aye

Steve Kelley- Aye

Steve Kelley mentioned that there is a LEO dinner coming up on 7/30/14 at Taylor University. Reservations are due by 7/21/14.

Steve reminded the Board that employee reviews need to be completed by the end of July.

VIII. Open Public Forum

There were no open comments.

Chuck Briede made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jami Briede, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Jami P. Briede
Steve Kelley

Chuck V. Briede
Chuck Draine
