

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
July 14, 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 23, 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Member Chuck Briede

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble – Aye
Travis LeMaster-Absent
Chuck Briede-Aye
Steve Kelley-Absent
Matt Stewart-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 June 23, 2016 meeting and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye
Travis LeMaster -Absent
Chuck Briede – Aye
Steve Kelley – Absent
Matt Stewart-Aye

There was some discussion about the fence posts and fencing for the trail that was purchased from Big R, and what fund to pay it from. The board decided to have the fence posts and fencing come from Parks Non Reverting and our line of credit. Chuck said to keep everything consistent for the new trail expansion we will pay all invoices pertaining to the trail extension from the line of credit.

Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the amended bills with the Big R bill for fence posts and fencing from the line of credit and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble –Aye
Travis LeMaster - Absent
Chuck Briede –Aye
Steve Kelley – Absent
Matt Stewart-Aye

III. Trail Bids

Chuck Briede said the Parks Department received four trail bids. Terry Renbarger gave the names and amounts of the bids. E& B Paving for the base coat and top coat bid 93,210, Gaunt had a bid of 73,630, Scott had a bid of 74,360 and Brooks was 92,198.26. The Park Board decided to go with Gaunt as they have previously done work for the town before and was pleased with the results. Gaunt was actually the low bidder. Bob King then presented the Park Board with a summary of where they stand financially with the new trail expansion. Chuck Briede indicated the Park Board has more than enough money to cover the Gaunt bid. He said in what the Park Board has spent out and what we have coming back that there will be grant money left. The original grant was 80/20 but now that has changed to 90/10, so the Park Board only needs to come up with 10 percent. That doesn't

have to be in cash, in can be in-kind labor etc... He said there's a possibly the Park Board will not have to touch the donation money the town has. Devin said he wants to put the wood fence posts in before they lay the asphalt.

Rich Gamble made a motion to accept the Park Departments bid from Gaunt at 73,630 and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Steve Kelley-Absent

Open Public Form – no one came forward.

IV. Department Reports

Devin said the new Kennel suites on 300W wants to hook up with the town sewage, there was discussion if they could hook up with Mt. Olive. Chuck said we would need to do some research, the Kennel would like a private line and not share. Devin said the town could run a private line with the telephone company help. Rich ask what the costs would be on materials, and Devin said he hasn't gotten that far. Devin said the Kennel is getting ready. Matt asked since were under a warning with IDEM are we allowed to install a new line, Devin said we need to act on this right away, he will look at the church line. Chuck said if we run a new line we would have to run it down the east side of road to the lift station. Chuck asked Devin to start checking prices on materials and such.

Devin said they take water out of the Marion Hydrant to flush out the sewer lines, he can get it out of their garden hose but that takes about an hour and a half, to much down time. He said Byron Cooks has a six inch well on his property that feeds the dog park and he pays the electric bill on it. Bryon is willing to let the town use the well to fill up the jetter from this well. The fire department would like to use it also. The town and fire department could split the costs on a new water pump so that both the town and fire department could use the well. This would also allow the fire department to get back in the business of filling pools for the residents and earning some extra money. Devin said it's something for the town board to think about, but it would be a good thing for everyone.

Chuck did talk to Rich about the Kritzer resident in Eagle Estates. There is a 18 inch stormwater tile that runs east /west right under their drive way and it's 15 feet under the ground. On the west side of their drive way there is a stormwater catch basin, there's a sink hole developing, Devin has sealed up around the joints of the catch basin. Devin had Dick Bragg come out with a camera, it showed an old field tile runs under their driveway and through the town's easement. Chuck believes this is the town's responsibility. Devin said they can do the concrete work on busting it up, but it's going to be a bit costly. Chuck doesn't think we can work on it right now due to lack of funds, Chuck says that once we implement the stormwater fee and get some cash in the account we will have to put this hold until then.

Ken asked where we are with the storm water fee, Kim Rogers said he spoke with Steve Brock and they're still trying to get all necessary information put together.

Marshall Bill said he spoke with Mark Bardsley about getting some new or updated police radios, he said they cost about 3000 to 3500 each. He said the Marion Police Department is replacing all their radios now and he's hoping he can get some 911 funds to use toward the purchase of new radios. He also gave a update on an arrest of a male and female that was in on the robbery at the Maple Grove Cementary a few months back. He said they have filed at least 4 or 5 felony cases, he said they are staying busy. He took Ryan's car in for a recall on the timing chain, oil was changed and tires were aligned. He thought Ryan might need some new tires next year.

V. Continuing Business

Chuck said there will be a Pre-Demolition meeting on Wednesday, July 20th here at town hall with Merritt's Truck and Auto. Kim Rogers talked with the surveyor and he was going to be over in the next week.

Budget update- Chuck wants to set some dates for a budget meeting, he asked if next Thursday , July 21 if everyone would be available. Chuck needs to get a public notice out for the Chronicle Tribune for a budget workshop.

Insurance Update- Chuck said we're actively soliciting a quote for the town's insurance, he's not sure if the town is getting a good buy, so he's working with IMG (Insurance Management Group) to get us some quotes. We were paying the construction costs last year on the sewage plant. Norris Insurance sent us an insurance bill that they had already paid , so we will go forward and pay them but the town is actively looking to get other quotes.

IDEM Letter- Chuck did respond about the letter on the sewer band warning, the sewage plant is now at 85, chuck added to the letter that we had done some updates.

Rich Gamble asked what the latest is on the SBOA audit , Tina gave the board the adjustment amount that was made on the audit invoice. Chuck Briede called IACT and spoke with someone there over the town's audit invoice and this person was going to do some investigating with others in the IACT community to see if they knew they hourly rate that the state is charging.

Rich had some questions about the balance in the general fund, he said we've spent a lot and we need to watch our spending.

VI. New Business

The town received notice that Mt.Olive United Methodist Church was no longer going to participate in the Pumpkin Walk this year, they decided this was not in the direction they want to go with their Outreach Program. Chuck said within the next week people in the community from some of the churches, park board , town board will be meeting to discuss on putting this together.

The Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department presented their contract for the year 2017, the contract amount for 2017 is \$8240.00. The board voted to accept the contract. Rich Gamble made a motion to accept the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department Contract for 2017, Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Steve Kelley-Absent

Chuck received an email from EMA , the town normally has some representing the town at these meetings. Chuck Draine use to do it, they meet once a quarter and normally during the day . He believes the next meeting is in October. Matt asked what day it is, Chuck thought it was Tuesday, so Matt offered to go.

Devin along with Mitch Hansel attended a INDOT meeting in Ft.Wayne last week. INDOT asked if they couldn't come up with the funds on the sidewalks work etc.. INDOT was just asking if the town would be willing to pay for 100 percent of the engineering costs for over 500,000 worth of sidewalk work. Devin said he would ask the town, so it's something to think about.

At the park board meeting if you remember down at 800 and Meir there's a small jog over 800 to the Converse part of the trail. The county gave the park board permission to use this right of way but DNR would like to see some kind of documentation that the county gave the town to use that easement. Chuck asked Kim to work on getting this recorded.

Chuck said as far as vacations , he asked that the board members be emailed when they're on vacation.

Chuck made a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Tina J Cole

Clerk/Treasurer.
