

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2015

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 23, 2015, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Travis LeMaster.

II. Roll Call of Board Members Present:

Rich Gamble - Absent, Chuck Draine, Chuck Briede - Absent , Travis LeMaster, Steve Kelley

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Travis LeMaster. Prayer was given by Chuck Draine.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2015. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Absent

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede - Absent

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Steve Kelley - Aye

IV. Review and Approval of Bills

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the bills with instructions to the Clerk to hold the check for Overhead Door until additional information is gathered regarding the possibility of the bill being covered by a warranty. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Absent

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede - Absent

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Steve Kelley - Aye

The Clerk requested authorization to submit to the SRF for payment three invoices from Hach totaling \$597.00. The disbursement is request #42. Steve Kelley made a motion to approve submitting disbursement form #42 to the SRF for payment. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Absent

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede - Absent

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Steve Kelley - Aye

The Clerk asked for permission to prepay an invoice to Hach for lab equipment needed at the waste water treatment plant. Devin Cole informed her that he needs to order supplies the first of next week and Hach may require prepayment because of the three invoices that are not paid yet but were just approved to be submitted to the SRF. Steve Kelley, Travis LeMaster and Chuck Draine all gave their consent to prepayment of this one order.

V. Department Reports - Sweetser Town Maintenance Manager - Devin Cole

Devin Cole reported to the Council regarding the issues at the Ferguson residence on Magers Drive. The heavy rain event caused the force main to back up into Mr. Ferguson's home. Bright's Septic made repairs and took care of the cleanup. Last Sunday Mr. Ferguson contacted Devin to alert him that the sewer was in danger of backing up again. Devin inspected and made contact with the town engineering firm and Byron Cook excavating. After investigation Devin determined that he had inadvertently told Brights that a high pressure check valve was installed by Byron Cook when in fact it was a high pressure ball valve. The town purchased the check valve and Bright's installed it on Mr. Ferguson's sewer line. Devin also stated that the other issue was that the pressure from the town's new pumps exceeded the capability of the check valve on Mr. Ferguson's line. Devin reported that all the repairs have been made and the town's line will no longer be able to back feed onto Mr. Ferguson's property. The cost of the check valve is approximately \$545.00. Discussion was held regarding potentially increasing the town's tap fee to cover the cost of installing a check valve. Devin also reported that Mr. Ferguson would like the town to replace his clothes dryer which shorted out when the sewer backed up. Devin instructed Mr. Ferguson to come to a meeting and discuss it with the Council.

The sewer catch basin has deteriorated on Gayle and they will be repairing it on Monday. The only cost is for the caulk seal tape and the concrete.

Devin stated that the tree on Meridian Street is removed and the large stump has been taken out. A smaller stump was left at the residents' request.

Devin reported that the digester pad is ready for the concrete to be poured. Maddox construction has been there all week and they drained the digester on Monday and Tuesday and on Wednesday they installed the base. The pump was installed and power was run to it today. Devin will email pictures to the Council. Devin stated that he will have someone in to determine what they will need for the polymer and they have to have that determined prior to installing the dumpster. Devin also stated that an invoice will be coming in for the testing that had to be done on the sludge.

Devin stated that they are now keeping a dog at the maintenance shop. Devin has contacted Kirk Hornocker regarding the insurance/liability of having the dog. The dog is kept inside the fenced area, it is 5 years old and named Hoss. Devin and Ken Jones are sharing the costs related to the dog including veterinary care.

Steve Kelley asked Devin if he has performed Dennis Cole and Ken Jones' reviews yet. Devin stated he has not and he needs forms to perform the reviews.

VI. Open Forum

No comments were forthcoming.

VII. Other Business

a. Continuing Business

BAN for trail expansion – Discussion was held regarding the amount of the loan. Kim Rogers requested a special meeting to be held on August 6th at 7:00pm to approve the Ordinance authorizing the loan. Kim will be correcting a couple of typographical errors in the ordinance prior to its approval.

The Sewer Use Ordinance is being published in the newspaper tomorrow. Kim Rogers requires the Council's signatures on the ordinance but requires that the full board be present for the signing.

Kim Rogers reported that Chuck Draine sent in the report on the Blight Elimination Project that was due 7.25.15.

Kim Roger stated that Steve Johnson sent a letter to Jason Smoker regarding the repair of the sidewalk at 310 N. Main. The letter was sent certified mail. The receipt has not been returned yet.

Kim stated that he still needs to complete the letter that the State Board of Accounts requested regarding the town's audit.

Kim is preparing an appearance for the foreclosure suit to which the town has been named a party.

Travis LeMaster asked Kim Rogers if the ordinance regarding the BAN for the trail expansion needs to be passed on first reading tonight. Kim stated that it can all be done at the special meeting on August 6th.

Discussion was held regarding changing the appropriations for CCD. Kim is reviewing the instructions to be sure it is done correctly.

Steve Kelley explained that the Park's Department received an email from Dawn Crowe regarding the moving of the trail from the south side of the tracks to the north side, the engineer who drew up the information stated that it has to be re-drawn at an additional cost of \$6,000.00. Discussion was held regarding the BAN and the amount of money coming from the grants that have been awarded for the trail expansion. The additional \$6,000.00 will have to be paid from the Parks Non-Reverting Fund from donations made to the trail expansion.

Kim Rogers stated that all the notices have been sent out regarding the blight elimination project and that the deadline for responses to those notices is August 5, 2015.

PILOT – Discussion was held previously about the inability to move the entire \$52,000.00 from Waste Water Operating to the General Fund. It was proposed that a monthly transfer of \$3,500.00 be made instead and a Resolution was presented for consideration. Travis LeMaster stated that without the transfer there will be a budget shortfall in the General Fund. Chuck Draine stated that according to his calculations if \$3,500.00 is paid each month from the Waste Water Fund to the General Fund it will leave \$1,900.00 left over in the Waste Water Fund. Steve Kelley made a motion to pass Resolution 2015-7 authorizing the PILOT in the amount of \$3,500.00 from the Waste Water Operating Fund to the General Fund. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Absent

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Absent

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

The Clerk was instructed to begin the transfers effective 8.1.15.

b. New Business

Redevelopment Commission – The Redevelopment Commission is required to file a report with the Town Council annually. Chuck Briede, Commission President, provided Travis LeMaster with a report which Travis read aloud to the Council. Travis then provided the Clerk with the report to be filed.

WWTP Fencing – Travis LeMaster reported that the claim for \$13,200.00 for the chain link fence at the treatment plant was denied by the SRF because the vendor who installed the fence did not comply with Davis Bacon wages. The town has to pay for the fence. Discussion was held regarding the shortage of funds in waste water operating and asked for input from the other Council members regarding how the invoice may be paid. Discussion was held and Steve Kelley made a motion that \$5,000.00 of the bill be paid from MVH Capital Outlays, \$1,000.00 be paid from General Fund Capital Outlays, \$1,000.00 from Parks and Recreation Capital Outlays and the remaining \$6,200.00 come from Waste Water Operating. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Absent

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Absent

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Discussion regarding the budget was held and it was noted that the tentative date for the budget hearing is October 8, 2015.

Travis LeMaster informed the Council that he recently met with representatives from Oak Hill United School Corporation regarding the potential for the school to become a waste water customer for the town. Travis stated that the representatives seemed interested in the options that are available to the school.

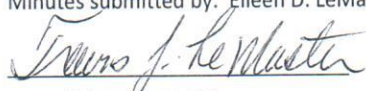
Devin Cole informed the Council that Bright's Septic expressed an interest in emptying their septic truck into Sweetser's system. They currently empty their truck in Marion and pay the city approximately \$25,000.00 a year. Travis instructed Devin to look into the possibility with the town engineers. Travis stated that a contract would need to be drawn up with specifications and limitations regarding what they can dump into the system.

Travis reminded everyone that there is a special meeting at 7pm on August 6th and a regular meeting August 13th at 7pm. The hearing regarding the change in appropriations will be held at the August 27th regular meeting.

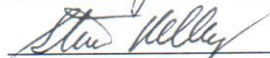
Steve Kelley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:05 pm.

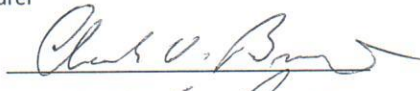
Minutes submitted by: Eileen D. LeMaster, Clerk/Treasurer



Travis LeMaster



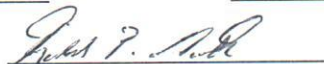
Steve Kelley



Chuck Draine



Chuck Briede



Eileen D. LeMaster