

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

August 25 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 August 25 , 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Member Chuck Briede

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Briede. Prayer was given by Matt Stewart.

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

Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the August 11th , 2016 meeting and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Travis LeMaster -Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the bills as entered and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble –Aye

Travis LeMaster - Aye

Chuck Briede –Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

III. Open Public Forum

We had some guests visit to observe and learn the functions of a Town Board Meeting.

IV. Department Reports.

Devin attended the INDOT presentation on the 50/50 grant the town is involved in, he accepted the \$25,000 grant that was awarded the Town of Sweetser. There will be a meeting on the pre-construction/bid process on September 19th that he will attend with Mitch Hansel from Fleis & Vandenbrink. Devin will be meeting with Mitch in a week or so over the streets, they had to add a few more streets in order to obtain the \$50,000 grant.

Devin attended the ADA Conference at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, he gave all the information to Rich Gamble the ADA Coordinator. He indicated we need to stay compliant with ADA in order to get more money from INDOT as that is who they are controlled by. We need to keep the dialogue open, for example he said the Dog Park needs to become Handicap accessible, and the new trail needs to have handicap signs , he suggested we need to do a couple things a year and to stay active on ADA.

The only day it rained was last Thursday afternoon, the screen that collects all the trash has 4 trending wheels that are shot, the drum slipped down and created this situation. Devin called the company and ordered a new set of wheels, the parts were over \$530 and the company that makes them wanted over \$4000 to come down and install them. Devin also ordered an extra set of wheels . Devin, Ken and Jim Sopher from Triad are going to try and install them together. These are coming direct from the manufacturer.

Chas. V. Brown

Thomas J. LeMaster

Geo. Kelly

John P. Kelly

Matthew C. Stewart

Devin said the Case lift station was running wild from all the rain we've had, but gravel water is coming in from somewhere.

Police Dept., Marshall Bill has been in communication with Commissioner Mark Bardsley over the police radios. Bill said the Commissioner has offered to give the town \$200 credit towards the old radios the town will turn in. The Commissioner has also offered to pay for two new radios if the Town of Sweetser will purchase one radio, so this will give the Police Department 3 new Motorola Radios. Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve and purchase from the Local Law Continuing Ed Fund for one new Motorola APX 6000 radion and Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Travis asked Deputy Ryan Hornback about the Sweetser Trail Donation Box located at the Shelter that was broken into, Steve Kelley said he's going to look at installing a different lock on the box.

V. Continuing Business

Update on the Blight Elimination - The houses are both torn down and lots are leveled. Habitat of Humanity will probably start Spring of 2017. We have had one claim returned on the Blight grant. Devin suggested for us to possibly release so we're not liable for mowing and maintenance on these properties. The sidewalk was left on the Meridian property and it's nasty, the town will have to see what's left in the BEP money to see if we can work on this.

Budget- Most of the numbers are together, wants to set down with Tina to plug the numbers in the computer. The state has changed it this year that we don't have to advertise in the paper, just possibly online.

Insurance- Matt and Chuck met with Scott Reeder from IMG located in Marion, the sewer plant was sticker shock on the insurance costs, the town is making comparisons with other companies making sure we have everything covered and getting the best possible pricing.

Storm water- The town is actively implementing a stormwater fee for Sweetser, the town will hold a public meeting on September 8th at 7:00pm on this fee. We've advertised this in the paper and three public places.

VI. New Business

Steve Kelley was discussing with Tina Cole, Clerk/Treasurer about the people who don't ever pay their sewage bills, we just feel it's not right for the people who do pay their bills monthly. We have several people in the community who never pay their bill, they still reap the benefits of getting their trash picked up. The people who don't pay incur several fees when liens are filed against their property taxes. Kim Rogers the town's attorney will be looking into this to see if the town can do anything additional. Travis LeMaster stated one family has never paid their sewage bill since 1977 when the sewers were installed.

No other business.

Chuck Briede then explained to our guests (home school children) how the town works, and how the town gets money from different taxes in order to operate.

Travis LeMaster made a motion to adjourn and Matt Stewart seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Tina J Cole

Clerk/Treasurer.