

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2014

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on August 28, 2014, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Travis LeMaster.

II. Roll Call of Board Members Present:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Travis LeMaster. Prayer was given by Rich Gamble.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2014, regular session. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Aye

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Absent

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

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Absent

V. Department Reports

Town Maintenance Manager Devin Cole –

Devin Cole reported that the sinkhole at Main Street and Davis Street was the result of an improperly repaired storm drain. The repairs are now complete and the street has been patched. He reported that there should be a bill from IMI for concrete coming soon. Devin stated that repairs were also made to Craven Street with concrete. Devin asked that the storm water board consider charging town residents a small fee to begin building up a fund for repairing the storm water drains. Devin stated that the town of LaFontaine charges \$2.00 per customer.

Devin stated that he will be in training on September 17th and 18th for his waste water certification. The training is taking place at the Indiana Rural Water Alliance conference in Fort Wayne. Devin stated that he also has LPA training in October.

Devin told the Board that all of the INDOT paperwork is done and now they just need to wait on the letters of interest to come in.

Devin stated that he is about halfway done with the equipment list for the insurance company.

Devin reported that he is waiting on utilities locates before he moves the railroad sign in Lynch's yard. He is also having locates done for the sign at Osborn & Sherron.

Travis LeMaster asked Devin about the status of the smoke testing letters. Devin stated that he believes they have all been returned and that he will start on the sump pump tests in approximately 2 weeks. He anticipates the testing taking one month.

Devin reported that the fiber optic line has been run up to the back of town hall.

Devin stated that Zachrich construction is waiting on the delivery dates for the clarifier parts before they can give a more firm estimate on the completion date. They are almost finished pouring concrete. Devin asked the Board to consider a change order to add electricity to the storage sheds so that there is power there for the fuel tanks. Discussion was held regarding whether or not the fuel tanks would remain behind town hall. The Board directed Devin to ask Triad to develop a change order regarding running electricity. The Board will then vote on the change order. Devin also reported that it would take approximately two weeks for Zachrich to enclose the maintenance and storage garage. Devin also stated that Doug (from Zachrich) will need a decision soon regarding the cabinetry color and he will be getting Devin a color chart.

Chuck Draine reported that the next progress meeting with Zachrich is scheduled for September 22nd. He also stated that the next bill from Zachrich will be ready for the next council meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the Vac truck. Travis LeMaster stated that the insurance company has been notified about the damage that happened when the tire blew.

Devin stated that the new maintenance truck has been ordered and should be ready for delivery in mid-September. Devin advised that he would begin ordering a different type of diesel fuel for the new truck, that it will not take the off-road diesel that the town currently buys.

Chuck Draine stated that he was informed that there will be a 20 gallon tank on the well at the treatment plant. He was told that a larger tank cannot be used on the well.

VI. Other Business

a. Continuing Business

Waste Water Treatment Plant Progress Report – the report was contained in the Town Maintenance Manager's report above.

Annexation/contiguity report – tabled for the next meeting.

b. New Business

Tax Sale Properties – Chuck Draine reported that there are several Sweetser properties for sale in the upcoming tax sale on September 18th. Two of the homes are in serious disrepair. The process involved in a tax sale was discussed. It was also discussed that a home must go through two tax sales without selling before it will go to a Commissioner's sale. After the Commissioner's sale there is a 120 day waiting period before the purchaser can take possession to give the previous owner time to redeem the property.

Rich Gamble spoke about the cut made by the gas company in the sidewalk near the school. Devin Cole stated that Miller Pipeline did that work. Rich expressed concern that when they repair it they need to make sure it is ADA compliant. Devin will contact Miller Pipeline regarding the repairs they intend to make.

Chuck Draine asked about sending a mailing to waste water customers regarding repairing any leaks and giving information about what not to put down their drains when the treatment plant comes on line. Chuck Briede said the sump pump test should fix some of the infiltration problems. There was also discussion regarding having a prescription drop off day for Bill Freet to take unwanted prescription medications to discourage individuals from flushing their medications down the drain.

Chuck Briede noted that there were no drainage problems apparent during the recent rains.

VII. Open Public Forum

Mr. and Mrs. Treber stated that they were made aware recently that their property was zoned business instead of residential which prohibits them from getting a permit to build a swimming pool. Chuck Briede explained that one option the Treber's have is to get a variance and the other option is to have the property rezoned residential. The cost for both includes a \$75.00 filing fee, the cost of the advertisement in the newspaper and the pool permit fee. The property is located at 110 South Greenberry Street. Discussion was held and Kim Rogers advised that the current zoning ordinance needs to be examined.

VIII. Open Public Forum

Chuck Briede made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Draine seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:41 pm.

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

Eileen D. LeMaster

Steve Kelly

Chuck U. Briede

Chuck K. Draine

Kim Rogers