

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 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 September 22, 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 September 8, 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

The Town Board held an Executive Session Meeting on the evening of September 21 2016. Rich Gamble made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting held on September 21, 2016 and Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the bills as entered and Travis LeMaster seconded the motion. Chuck Briede mentioned that we did pay the final audit bill from the State Audit on the Waste Water Utility.

Roll Call:

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

III. Open Public Forum

IV. IMG - Scott Reeder

Scott Reeder from Insurance Management Group presented the town with a Package Policy for the town. They serve the communities in several different ways. He touched on the breakdown of the policy that would be through Selective Insurance. (other towns such as Swayzee are insured by Selective.) He explained more about the Workman's Comp that we have with Bitco versus who they use IPEP which works closely with municipalities. He said we need to keep track of all incidents that happen whether you turn them in or not. The prices that Scott quoted he said were good until October 1st, 2016. He presented a better package than what the town currently has and the cost is better. Chuck Briede indicated we probably won't make a decision by October 1st. Steve Kelley asked how this could be paid, Scott indicated we could pay quarterly which would be better for the town .

Travis asked how many workman's comp claims we had, and Scott said it was 3. One was for \$80.00 that the town should have paid directly in order to save money. Chuck, Matt and Scott sat down over the last several months and went through line by line on the town's equipment and what the town owns such as property etc....

Chuck asked Scott how their company's experience was with Selective, apparently there has been some issues with other communities and Selective. There was discussion if this policy would also cover litigation. There was also discussion about listing the newly acquired Blight properties we have now so Scott said he will look into that, however those will be turned over to Habitat in the spring.

Mitch Hansel asked if the board had a chance to read through the proposal he brought. He recapped the roads we are looking at resurfacing that will cost \$33,000, \$12,000 on patching the roads and then it will get us towards our \$50,000. Hopefully we'll be spending more on resurfacing than patching. He's looking at re-classifying Main Street for Federal funds, it's a good chance that the town will be awarded. Once we get Main Street listed on the Federal roads list we can then apply for a 80/20 Grant for funding. If we start now we would be eligible by next spring, they only do the 80/20 grant on Main roads. It would cost about \$4000 to get this process started. If traffic data is required, Mitch said they would have traffic counters to put out on Main Street and the cost would be around \$1000. The county may have some traffic counters we could possibly use if need too.

Steve Kelley made a motion to allow Fleis & Vandenbrink to go forward in applying for road reclassification of Main Street in Sweetser in the amount of \$3930.00 and Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

V. Department Report

Devin was not present. Chuck Briede asked Ken if he had anything for the Town Maintenance Dept, and he didn't. Chuck questioned Ken if Devin was applying to rent a milling machine and Ken wasn't sure at the present time.

Marshall Bill said his car has been making a "ping" sound, Ken suggested he put a high Octane Booster in it, Chuck Briede suggested having it checked with he has the oil changed. There's issues with Ryan's car, apparently it's been miss firing and the engine light comes on. Marshall Bill got a quote from Robert Oaks service shop for \$533 but the board suggested he take it to the dealership and get a quote from them also.

VI. Continuing Business

Budget- Chuck reviewed all the funds and amounts and believes we will get the Budget uploaded into Gateway for the Public viewing. This will start our 10 days of advertising before our public hearing of October 13th. He indicated the town might pull some payroll funds from the Storm water fund, along with MVH and the Waste Water fund. Chuck also discussed the conversation that he, Tina, Steve Brock had with Roger Bainbridge (Grant County Auditor) over the town's Tif money. Roger was wondering why we hadn't filled out the Tif's Neutralization Report, and during the conversation we learned the Tif money was entered into the residential properties of Sweetser and not in the commercial side of Sweetser properties. This error was made on the Auditor's side and they will be correcting it. We also brought up the letter we got from the Chief Deputy Auditor that says the Town of Sweetser was ready to go with the Tif program 2015 payable 2016, which was totally incorrect. Roger Bainbridge said he would work on getting this straightened out.

There was also discussion over the new Federal guidelines on paying over time, whos' exempt and who's not exempt. Travis LeMaster said the state of Indiana has filed suit along with other states to stop this new Federal mandate on paying overtime. Steve Kelley said he would rather pay the overtime versus giving them comp.time. Travis said we need to get a understanding of what the hourly rate would be when paying the overtime rate. There was much discussion and debate of going with comp time over 40 hours or paying the employees overtime pay . It's going to require every employee to clock in each day. There was also discussion about who's on a contract, Marshall Bill and Deputy Ryan has contracts and there was question if Ken was on contract also.

VII. New Business

Steve Kelley said the Vectren Foundation gave the Sweetser Switch Trail \$5000 donation and the DNR sent a \$16,000 reimbursement for the Trail.

Travis LeMaster made a motion to adjourn the meeting, all was in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Tina J Cole
Clerk/Treasurer.

Charles V. Brown

Matthew C. Stewart

Steve Kelley
