

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2015

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Sweetser Town Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 24, 2015, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council President Travis LeMaster.

II. Roll Call of Board Members Present:

Rich Gamble, Chuck Briede , Travis LeMaster, Steve Kelley

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

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2015, Regular Meeting. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble - Aye

Chuck Draine - Absent

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

IV. Review and Approval of Bills

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the bills with a correction to the McGavic bill paying 2/3 of the bill from Parks and 1/3 of the bill from MVH. Chuck Briede seconded the motion with the correction.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Absent

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

V. Public Hearing – 2016 Sweetser Town Budget

Travis LeMaster introduced the budget for public hearing and a sign-in sheet was passed around the members of the public. Travis explained that the adoption meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2015. No comments were forthcoming from the public and the hearing was closed. Rich Gamble made a motion to pass on first reading the 2016 budget for the Town of Sweetser. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Absent

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

VI. Open Forum

George Weaver, owner of Weaver's Main Street Grill, explained to the Council that the restaurant was closed permanently on September 7, 2015. Mr. Weaver asked that the waste water bill for the restaurant be reduced to the minimum monthly charge of \$58.28 until such time as the restaurant is

purchased and reopened. Chuck Briede made a motion to reduce the billing for waste water for Weaver's Main Street Grill to the minimum of \$58.28 a month effective on September 1, 2015. Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Rich Gamble – Aye

Chuck Draine - Absent

Chuck Briede – Aye

Travis LeMaster – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

VII. Department Reports

Town Maintenance, Devin Cole

Discussion was held that the turn-out for the Open House at the waste water treatment plant was good.

Devin provided the Council with a handout regarding the sludge collection/removal system provided by Blue River Technologies. The handout included the schematics for the system and an itemized estimate of the costs of installing the system. Devin explained that there is a problem with the pump on the digester and that it will need to be addressed prior to installing this system from Blue River. Devin stated that Jim Frazell and Duane Anderson have been contacted to determine how much money is left on the SRF loan and if there is enough to purchase a new pump. They are also determining if the cost of the sludge removal system can be paid for from the SRF loan. Travis LeMaster stated that Jim Frazell should be at the next Council meeting regarding infiltration and storm water. Discussion was held and the need for 3 quotes to get approval from the SRF was pointed out. Devin is also going to talk to Doug from Zachrich to see if this project may be handled through them and thus eliminating the need for 3 quotes. Devin stated that Blue River would be willing to break the cost of the project up into multiple payments.

Hueston Electric came on Tuesday and fixed the electrical issues at the treatment plant. B.L. Anderson will come in next week to recalibrate the chart recorder.

Devin stated that he has asked both Zachrich and Triad for the as built on the plant and has never received them. He requested that someone on the Council ask for them.

Devin reported that he is waiting for the okay from Kim Rogers before he puts the stop signs in at Peterson and Main. He has several sign posts that need to be installed and is hoping to only have to rent the equipment to drive the posts one time. All the speed limit signs have been changed on Main Street.

Devin requested that the Council set a rate for water testing at the treatment plant. Devin explained that he has had several requests from residents that their tap water be tested for e-coli. Devin stated that the Town needs to recoup the costs of testing supplies. Devin was directed by the Council to look into what other labs charge for similar water testing.

Devin presented the Council with a quote for fire extinguishers at the treatment plant. Koorsen quoted \$300.00 for four fire extinguishers. Discussion was held regarding not being able to use Thompson because there is an issue with the insurance and a lack of coverage in the case of a fire. Devin was instructed to get an estimate on the cost of all the fire extinguishers for the town and let the Council know.

Travis LeMaster told Devin he did an excellent job at the Open House on Saturday explaining the process to the visitors. Devin thanked Dennis and Ken for their hard work the week before the Open House.

VIII. Other Business

a. Continuing Business

Travis LeMaster announced that the Town received two donations from Scott and Victoria Winger. The Wingers made a \$20,000.00 donation to the trail expansion and also gave \$3,500.00 to be used for signs which will alert motorists about the trail crossing on Main Street. Steve Kelley stated that he sent a thank-you to Mr. and Mrs. Winger.

Steve Kelley reported that they are still waiting on the title work to be completed for the trail expansion. The survey apparently was not recorded within 60 days and therefore has to be corrected and re-recorded. Steve also stated that two land owners have been approached about the Town's need to purchase an additional 20 feet of land but neither party has indicated whether or not they are willing. Steve stated that he spoke with David White about the drainage issue and David believes that a smaller pipe can be used if drainage does have to be installed and David believes it can be completed for \$6,000.00. Steve explained that the drainage pipe will only be necessary if they are unable to obtain the additional 20 feet of land.

Steve Kelley stated that he has secured the line of credit and that the money is available whenever the title work is complete.

Discussion was held regarding what type of sign to purchase for the trail crossing on Main Street. The benefits and drawbacks of solar and electric signs were discussed. Bill Freet is still seeking another quote for signs and should have it by the beginning of next week. The two solar powered signs cost \$2,930.00.

The volunteers who were rained out on Saturday cannot be rescheduled. Steve Kelley reported that he is trying to get as many of the jobs that were scheduled for the volunteers completed as possible.

The LEO dinner is next Wednesday in Matthews.

Rich Gamble asked about the status of the stop signs on Main Street at Peterson Drive. Travis explained that Kim Rogers is reviewing the code that Mr. Bettegnies gave him but believes that the Town is within its rights to place the stop sign. Travis stated that he also consulted with Triad and their opinion is that the Town is within its rights to install the sign because it is not on a state highway.

b. New Business

Pumpkin Walk – Chuck Briede expressed a need for extra help cooking hot dogs at the shelter during the Pumpkin Walk. Flyers with a schedule of events should be out soon. Discussion was held regarding changing the hay ride route and whether or not there is room for the wagon to go west on the trail to 600.

Devin Cole stated that the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department would like to do some training in the blighted homes prior to their demolition. Travis LeMaster asked that the fire department write up a proposal and submit it for the Council's review.

Chuck Briede made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rich Gamble seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:06 pm.

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








