

SWEETSER TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

December 8, 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 December 8, 2016, at the Sweetser Town Hall by Council Member Chuck Briede

Roll Call:

Rich Gamble – Absent

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Dave Fox-Absent

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

Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the December 8, 2016 meeting and Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll call:

Dave Fox-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble – Absent

Chuck Briede – Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

Steve Kelley made a motion to approve the bills as entered and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dave Fox –Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Rich Gamble –Absent

Chuck Briede –Aye

Steve Kelley – Aye

III. Public Forum

IV. Department Report

Devin Cole was on vacation. Ken Jones stated the salt spreader is on its last leg. He distributed copies on a couple of options for new spreaders and their cost, he was just starting to do some research on them to provide a guide line. There could be a potential buyer for the current spreader the town has. There's another sinkhole located in the resident's driveway at 414 Broadway, our town maps show no lines (stormwater or sewer) and the hole is strictly on the resident's property, it will be the homeowner's cost to repair.

The Leaf-Vac truck went in for major repairs and it's running extremely well now, apparently the mounting hardware with the radiator wasn't right in the beginning. Last leaf pick up day is December 15th.

Ken said IDEM was up on Wednesday, December 7 at the sewage plant for a inspection, since Devin was on vacation they opted to return on a different date.

Ken said the sewage plant has a condensation problem and it starts with the skylights in the roof of the plant, it's dripping from the skylights onto the top of the trusses. Ken called Jim Sopher with Triad and he was in turn calling Jim Frazell about it.

The guys have all the equipment ready for snow removal.

Marshall Bill said Ryan got new tires on the Dodge Charger. Bill will be attending the Shop with a Cop at Meijer on Saturday , December 10th. He also said their police radios were on order.

We had David Burns and Matt Smith from Solential (Solar panel company) give us a presentation on how solar panels can offset our electric bills at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. They gave a presentation explaining how the program/panels work along with the cost and savings to the town. It would be a base lease , the cost would be approximately \$1660.00 a month for 20 years and they guaranteed a savings of 20 percent per year over what the town pays now for electric at the sewage plant. The town would still pay a connection charge to our current electric vendor. The council thought it was very interesting and will review the information provided.

Harold Smuck (from Mier) gave us a update on the Habitat for Humanity , he said that Habitat is recruiting local churches (5 to 6) in helping construct a new home here in Sweetser come this spring, with the labor and materials. They're leaning towards a Blitz build of one house to complete in 5 days, hoping to do this in July 2017. He said Habitat is working with Marion High School Construction Trade classes to maybe help build the second Habitat home here in Sweetser. Chuck asked Kim Rogers (town attorney) to make sure we have everything we need to transfer the title deeds of the two lots here in Sweetser to Habitat when the time comes.

V. Continuing Business

Storm water fees were added to the December 1st sewage bill. Some residents were not catching the new fee, the clerk asked the board if we could waive late fees for residents as long as their payment was in by the due date of December 25 since most weren't aware of the new stormwater fee added to their bill.

Chuck Briede made a motion to waive the late fees of the December sewage bills and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

There was some discussion about the stormwater fee rate to the beige apartments behind the the previous Sue Linn dress shop.

Steve Kelley and Matt Stewart met to discuss salaries, the clerk treasurer salary was increased by \$100.00 a month. The salaries of the sewage super, sewage super assistant, town marshal and deputy marshal will be reviewed once the town receives the 2017 Budget. The town council did approve compensation time hours for the employees if they work over 40 hours.

VI. New Business

Steve said stone has been laid on the side of the trail , posts have been put in on the new section of the trail, he has enough posts that he can do other sections of the trail as well, he said X-buck signs need installed and some trees need to be cut down.

Chuck read the Resolutions that needs passed at the meeting for the Local Road and Bridge Matching Grant Fund.

Chuck Briede made a motion to adopt and pass Resolution 2016-8 allowing the clerk treasurer to transfer the amount of \$12791.74 from Rainy Day Restricted Fund 261 to Local Road & Bridge Matching Grant Fund, Steve Kelley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Steve Kelley-Aye

Chuck Briede made a motion to accept and pass Resolution 2016-9 allowing the clerk treasurer to transfer the amount of \$12791.74 from the Special LOIT Distribution Fund to the Local Road & Bridge Matching Grant Fund, and Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Matt Stewart-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye
Steve Kelley-Aye

Chuck Briede made the announcement about the special meeting being held on December 14 at 7:00pm over the Additional Appropriation for the Local Road & Bridge Matching Grant Fund.

All voted in favor of adjourning the meeting at 9:05pm.

Tina J Cole
Clerk/Treasurer.

Chuck V. Briede

Richard P. A. Webb

Steve Kelley

Matt Stewart

RDOA