

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
December 8, 2022

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chuck Briede at 7:00 pm; the roll was called as follows:

Roll Call:

Kyle Taylor-Absent

Matt Stewart-Present

Travis LeMaster-Present

Chuck Briede-Present

The roll was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

II. **Minutes**

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2022, meeting as written. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of December 8, 2022, as submitted. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. **Public Forum**

- No comments

V. **Department Reports**

Police Department – Marshal Ryan Hornback was not in attendance

- No report

Maintenance Department - Patrick Alvord was not in attendance

- There was discussion about Innovative Pipeline Systems (“IPS”) storing some of their equipment in the treatment plant.
- There was a discussion of the issue that some residents are having with their toilets backing up when IPS is cleaning the sanitary lines. Per Stu Savka of Triad this is not all that unusual and is not an indication that there is a problem in the line.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Tom Walters is donating a picnic table for the Dog Park.
- The two trees that fell on the covered bridge have been removed and the bridge repaired. The cost was \$1,200.00.

VI. **Continuing Business**

- There was discussion staffing needs and concerns:
 - We need to secure a treatment plant operator by January 1, 2023. Stu Savka of Triad had some possible candidates. Triad can also provide an operator on a contract basis. Stu will provide more details to the council.
 - We need to identify who is available for plowing snow

- It was decided that we need to hire an Operations Manager before we hire for the two support positions
- Discussion of the 2023 Salary ordinance was initiated. The clerk will compose a draft reflecting the new positions and the recommended maximum for each position. Draft ordinance will be considered at the December 22, 2022, meeting.
- The council vacancy was discussed. The clerk will get with town counsel Michael Hotz and make sure the clerk of the court is notified of the vacancy.
- Beth Johnson and Mitch Hansel of USI Consultants reported that the PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) ratings for the town had been updated. The town will need to obtain a complete reevaluation in 2023.
- Mitch inquired about possible CCMG paving and and/or storm water projects for 2023.
- Mitch said that USI may be wanting to rent the town reflectometer for about three months next year at \$5,000 per month.
- The final phase of the sidewalk project was discussed.
- There was no new information about the income survey process. The clerk will follow up.
- Chuck reported the Bragg Street property demolition is on the county's to do list but no date has been set.
- Matt inquired what recourse the town has to address the dilapidated structure at 113 Peterson. Chuck said we could ask Area Plan to inspect the property.
- Stu provided an update of the status and initial results of the televising and cleaning of the sanitary sewer lines.

VII. New Business

- Chuck reported the town has received notification from IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) that the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Semi Public and Minor Municipal Permit Application is due by June 30, 2023.
- The town has received quotes to install security camera systems at town hall and at the treatment plant. The quotes are from Rec Collins Electric, Inc. Matter was tabled.
- The council considered the proposed 2023 fire protection agreement with the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department. The proposal is for \$11,884.40 and is a 10% increase over the 2022 agreement.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a made a motion to approve the 2023 fire protection agreement with the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$11,884.40. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.
 Kyle Taylor-Absent
 Matt Stewart-Aye
 Travis LeMaster-Aye
 Chuck Briede-Aye

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VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09.

Respectfully Submitted,
 John Potter

