

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
June 22, 2023

I. The meeting was called to order by Kyle Taylor at 7:00 pm; the roll was called as follows:

Roll Call:

Charles Myers-Present
Matt Stewart-Present
Travis LeMaster-Absent
Kyle Taylor-Present
Chuck Briede-Present

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

II. **Minutes**

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2023, meeting as written.

Charlie Myers seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Absent
Kyle Taylor-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of June 22, 2023, as corrected. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Absent
Kyle Taylor-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. **Public Forum**

- No comments

V. **Department Reports**

Police Department – Marshal Ryan Hornback was in attendance.

- Ryan:
 - Reported 178 calls in the period. He said there have been 1,832 calls year-to-date.
 - He will be meeting with the crossing guard at her request. He thinks she will be resigning.
 - The dealership thinks the problem with the 2020 Tahoe may be the starter.

Maintenance Department – Operations Manager Patrick Kendall was in attendance.

- Patrick reported:
 - He has hired Edward Arenas for the full-time Street Maintenance Assistant position.
 - CIC was at the plant unplugging clogged valves to the screen.
 - The phosphorous levels have been a little high and he is trying to determine the source and then enact a fix by deploying alum.
 - The monthly report to IDEM has been filed.
 - He needs to order a return activated sludge (RAS) pump as a back-up. Approximate cost is \$6,600. He currently has three of them and two working pumps are sufficient. However, all three of the current pumps have varying degrees of seal failures. Thus, having another pump will provide him with a margin of safety while the repairs are undertaken.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the purchase of a new RAS pump for approximately \$6,000. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- That he and Mitch Hansel of USI Consultants had worked together to produce recommendations for street projects for the upcoming CCMG project submission window. Their focus was on those streets that are not anticipated to have significant storm and sanitary sewer work performed in the near future.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Steve reported that the bicycle repair station installation is complete. He said he is getting a quote for a vinyl cover for the station for winter.
- Steve said he is working on getting a quote to have the dead trees removed from along the trail.

VI. Continuing Business

- No update on obtaining a credit and/or debit card for the town.
- Town counsel Michael Hotz reported he has sent a letter to Dollar General about the water issue.
- Regarding the potential SRF and OCRA project, Eric Woodmansee of AME reported that he sent a letter demonstrating that the town should receive an additional five points of scoring due to IDEM letters the town has received. Eric said the “green sustainability” points would be difficult to obtain.
- Also, with regard to the potential SRF and OCRA project, Kyle said we had received a proposed Environmental Study agreement from Kleinpeter & Associates and a proposed engagement letter for financial consulting services from Thurber & Brock. After discussion it was decided to wait to take any action on the proposals until after we find out if we are awarded a grant and the size of the grant relative to the proposed project.
- No updates on the Church Street property appraisal.
- Matt said the Bragg Street property needs mowed.
- Discussion resumed of Ordinance 2023-4, and Ordinance amending the 2023 Salary Ordinance. There were some errors in the draft, and, after discussion, the matter was tabled pending corrections.

VII. New Business

- Mitch Hansel of USI Consultants presented a proposal to apply for CCMG funds for some street projects. The focus is on the southern subdivision and its four streets. The estimated cost is \$203,500, with about \$51,000 of the total in town matching funds. New PASER ratings and construction engineering could amount to approximately \$15,000. There was extensive discussion of the town’s finances and the timing, cost, and scope of the completion of the sidewalk project, to which the town is contractually committed, and other sewer, storm water, and streets projects that the town is contemplating.

After discussion, Kyle Taylor made a motion to approve the application to CCMG in July of 2023 for project 2023-3, a \$203,000 streets project for the spring of 2024. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Mitch introduced the concept of a CCMG force account. CCMG would reimburse the town 75% for expenditures on raw materials for sealing and patching of streets. There is no reimbursement for time and equipment. The town would have 18 months from the expenditure to submit receipts. Mitch said USI would assist with the application and the close-out paperwork.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the application to CCMG for a \$10,000 Materials Reimbursement Force Account, to be used for sealing and patching town streets. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Potter
