

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
March 24, 2022

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

Roll Call:

Kyle Taylor-Present

Matt Stewart—Absent

Travis LeMaster—Present

Dave Fox—Present

Chuck Briede-Present

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

II. Minutes

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2022, meeting as written. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

III. Bills

After discussion, Dave Fox made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of March 24, 2022, as submitted. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. Public Forum

- No comments

V. Department Reports

Maintenance Department —Superintendent Devin Cole was not in attendance.

- No report

Police Department – Marshal Ryan Hornback was in attendance.

- Ryan reported
 - The department responded to 92 calls the two weeks past
 - Chips in the 2020 Tahoe windshield have been repaired
 - 2012 Tahoe has been hard to start; will get in in for evaluation

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Steve reported:
 - Steve asked if we could get some gravel on the path to the burn pile. Dave said Devin was going to be placing some millings down.
 - Steve is working with Dennis Brinkman to plan the replacement of the wood border around the flower bed at the southeast corner where the trail intersects Main Street. They have some surplus timbers from prior seasons but will need to purchase additional ones for this job. Cost of the timbers is \$902.16 and rebar cost is \$27.80. Work is scheduled for April 11.
 - There are still two leaks in the caboose roof that need addressed.

- Steve proposed to purchase and install a bicycle repair station. Station would be located by the shelter house. Cost of the unit is \$1,888.85. Dave said he may have a source that could provide a unit at a lower cost. Matter tabled.
- Steve said he would not be here for the May 25th Parks clean-up day. Steve said he has requested about 20 students from the school.

VI. Continuing Business

- Stu Savka of Triad was in attendance to discuss proposed wastewater system improvements and funding sources. Stu presented to the council an Engineering Services Agreement proposal that would address the Preliminary Engineering Report (“PER”) phase. Improvements to the wastewater system would include but not be limited to:
 - Elimination of Inflow/Infiltration into the Sewer Collection System via possible lining, manhole repairs, etc.
 - Upgrades & Improvements to Lift Stations.
 - Improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - Possible addition of new customers including but not limited to Magers Drive, Stanley Steamer, TSR Trucking, and Oak Hill school.
 - Stormwater improvements to improve drainage in select areas and remove VI from the sanitary sewers.
 - Other items identified or added during this preliminary engineering phase.

Services under the agreement would include:

- Prepare the application to the SRF for funding
- Attend meetings as necessary with the SRF, etc.
- Field work necessary to outline the scope of work to be included in the PER
- Prepare the Preliminary Engineering Report per the requirements of the program
- Prepare the proper environmental documents for review and approval.
- Coordinate and attend the required Public Hearing to present the report
- Provide follow-up and get final approval of the PER from the SRF
- The total fee for the services would be \$43,000

A prerequisite to completing the PER is a cleaning and televising of the system to gauge its condition. This work needs to be completed as soon as possible. The town has the equipment but not the labor resources to perform the work in a timely fashion. As part of the proposed agreement, Triad would seek quotes and engage a firm or firms to perform the work. A rough estimate is the work would take 2-3 weeks with a cost in the range of \$35,000 to \$50,000.

Funding for the phases would most likely be:

- Cleaning & televising of system - ARP funds
- Preliminary Engineering Report
 - ARP funds, or
 - Wastewater operating funds, or
 - Bond Anticipation Note
- Improvements
 - State Revolving Fund (“SRF”), and
 - ARP funds, and possibly
 - State Water Infrastructure Fund (“SWIF”)

After discussion, Dave Fox made a motion to accept the Triad Engineering Services Agreement for the Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report Phase for a fee of \$43,000. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

- At the March 10 meeting Kyle had presented for consideration the Keep On Trucking app-based vehicle tracking system. The cost would be \$60/month for 4 vehicles and would require a 3-year commitment.

After discussion, Dave Fox made a motion to approve the acquisition of the Keep On Trucking vehicle tracking app and authorize Kyle Taylor to purchase and sign for the town. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

- Kyle suggested that the council should address the dog being kept at the treatment plant. Matter tabled.

VII. New Business

- Kyle reported that there is approximately 1/4 acre that may be available just beyond the train cars on the south side of the trail and wondered if the town is interested in purchasing for park expansion. Matter tabled.
- Travis proposed that the town eliminate the comp time provision of Ordinance 2021-7, the 2022 Salary Ordinance.

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to adopt on first reading Ordinance 2022-1, an ordinance stating whereas the General Assembly gives the town the power to set and fix the level of compensation for all its members and employees under Indiana Code 36-5-3.2, and whereas the town council did assign a fixed level of compensation for calendar year 2022 in Ordinance 2021-7, now therefore be it ordained by the town council of Sweetser, Indiana that Section 2 General Provisions sub-section D ("Comp Time") of Ordinance 2021-7 is hereby repealed, effective upon passage of this ordinance. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

Travis LeMaster made a motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance 2022-1, an ordinance stating whereas the General Assembly gives the town the power to set and fix the level of compensation for all its members and employees under Indiana Code 36-5-3.2, and whereas the town council did assign a fixed level of compensation for calendar year 2022 in Ordinance 2021-7, now therefore be it ordained by the town council of Sweetser, Indiana that Section 2 General Provisions sub-section D ("Comp Time") of Ordinance 2021-7 is hereby repealed, effective upon passage of this ordinance. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

Travis LeMaster made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt on third and final reading Ordinance 2022-1, an ordinance stating whereas the General Assembly gives the town the power to set and fix the level of compensation for all its members and employees under Indiana Code 36-5-3.2, and whereas the town council did assign a fixed level of compensation for calendar year 2022 in Ordinance 2021-7, now therefore be it ordained by the town council of Sweetser, Indiana that Section 2 General Provisions sub-section D ("Comp

Time”) of Ordinance 2021-7 is hereby repealed , effective upon passage of this ordinance. Kyle Taylor seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to adjust the salary rate of the Deputy Town Maintenance Manager per Ordinance 2021-7 from \$34,944 annually to \$16.80 an hour plus overtime for worked hours in excess of 40 in a pay period, effective for the pay period ending April 1, 2022. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion that any comp time accrued and unused in 2022 be paid in a lump sum on the April 8, 2022, pay. Dave Fox seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Absent
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Dave Fox-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

- Executive sessions for employee reviews were scheduled for March 30, 2022, at 6 pm, and March 31, 2022, at 6 pm. Both sessions will be at town hall. Clerk will post and send public notifications.
- Chuck said there is a modified procedure for reporting trash pick-up issues to Republic Services.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Potter

