

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
January 26, 2023

- I. The meeting was called to order by Kyle Taylor at 7:00 pm; the roll was called as follows:
Roll Call:
Kyle Taylor-Present
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 January 12, 2023, meeting as written. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of January 26, 2023, as submitted. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. **Vacancy on Town Council**

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to appoint Charlie Myers to fill the vacancy on the Sweetser Town Council. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye
Matt Stewart-Aye
Travis LeMaster-Aye
Chuck Briede-Aye

The clerk performed the swearing-in ceremony.

V. **Public Forum**

- Resident Becky Lynch was in attendance and reported that she was collecting signatures in opposition to the proposed liquor store. Town counsel Michael Hotz summarized the process in Indiana for obtaining a liquor license.

VI. **Department Reports**

Maintenance Department – Operations Manager Patrick Kendall was in attendance.

- Patrick reported:
 - He had been busy plowing snow.
 - The silver GMC is back and working well.
 - The plow for the silver GMC was repaired and is working well.
 - The dump truck is using oil and is riddled with rust. It will need to be replaced in the near future. Kyle reported that we will also need a new plow.
 - The testing has been coming out well and the screening dumpster passed the paint filter test.

- The check valves in the return activation sludge pit will need repaired or replaced.
- Kyle indicated the treatment plant office will soon need a new computer.
- Patrick said there is an issue in the Short Street lift station. American Pump is preparing an estimate of the needed repairs.
- Purchasing authority for the plant and the maintenance department resides with Jeff Speicher.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to transfer purchasing authority of up to \$2,000 to Patrick Kendall from Jeff Speicher. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Charlie Myers-Aye

- **Police Department** – Marshal Ryan Hornback was not in attendance.
 - Kyle reported:
 - There were 121 calls the two weeks past.
 - The radios are becoming obsolete and will need to be replaced.
 - The town will also need to purchase a new police vehicle.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Steve said he will be attending a meeting in Peru about the Nickel Plate Trail.

VII. Continuing Business

- Kyle said he was getting another quote for security cameras. Matter tabled.
- The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal application is due by June 30, 2023. Patrick said he had not worked on it yet but had completed the NetDMR Subscriber Agreement with IDEM.
- No update on the income survey.
- Lou Savka of Triad said that two individuals would be in Sweetser tomorrow to meet with Patrick and review operations and equipment. Lou and the council also discussed rehabilitation of three buried manholes.
- Lou reminded the council that the town will need to submit an asset management plan as part of the grant application process as well as the PER. They are due April 1. Stu reviewed with the council the various items of information that will be needed.
- Stu summarized what had been done thus far regarding generating cost estimates and possible funding for Oak Hill High School and Middle School tying into the town sanitary system.
- Chuck reported on the Bragg Street demolition: the party that was to demolish the Bragg Street property may be interested in salvaging the structure.
- Chuck reported the 137 Peterson Drive property had been reported to Area Plan Code Enforcement. It was reported that the property was recently purchased in a tax sale. Michael will research the towns' options.
- The clerk reported on the status of the codification project.
- Kyle distributed a quote from Kingdom Roofing Systems of \$1,500 to repair some issues with the town hall roof. The quote does not include the needed masonry repairs to the chimney.

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the quote from Kingdom Roofing Systems of \$1,500 to repair the town hall roof. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

Charlie Myers-Aye

VIII. New Business

- The clerk proposed a resolution to permit investing the town's excess cash in a short-term government money fund. Matter tabled.
- Kyle reported that they had conducted an annual review with Marshal Ryan. The review went well and Ryan is eligible for a wage increase. Matt discussed some of the options. Matter tabled.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Potter
