

**Minutes of Sweetser Town Council**  
**October 13, 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-Present

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 September 22, 2022, meeting as written. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of October 13, 2022, as submitted. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

IV. **Public Forum**

- Sweetser resident Jeff Goff asked when access to the burn pile would be restored. The gate had been locked to prevent dumping from non-residents. Parks President Steve Kelley described the clean-up and reorganization that has been performed in the area. The council okayed restoring access.
- Sweetser resident Debbie Freeman expressed concern about the perceived excessive speed of some Main Street traffic. She asked if the town would consider putting a stop sign where the trail intersects Main Street. Kyle responded that the traffic code currently stipulates those certain thoroughfares, of which Main Street is one, are to be free of stop signs. Marshal Ryan Hornback said his department would increase monitoring of the intersection.

V. **Department Reports**

**Police Department** – Marshal Ryan Hornback was in attendance

- Ryan said the department had responded to 187 calls the two weeks past.
- Ryan gave an update on the ResCare residential situation. He said a representative of Adult Protective Services had been quite helpful and a second shift staff person had been added at the location.

**Maintenance Department** - Michael McKinstry and Patrick Alvord were not in attendance

- Regarding the possibility of adding Oak Hill to the town sanitary system Kyle reported:
  - He is waiting for a response from Steve Brock
  - He is working with Lou Savka and Stu Savka of Triad to get another meeting scheduled
  - With regards to grants for the project there has been a discussion with consultant Michael Kleinpeter about the feasibility of an income survey and which survey to undertake. The Office

of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA) minimum number of households to be surveyed threshold for possible qualification for grant funding is lower than that of the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) for its distribution of funds through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The cost of the OCRA survey would be approximately \$3,000. President Dave Fox asked Kyle to invite Mr. Kleinpeter to the next council meeting and give a presentation to the council.

- Kyle reported that the #1 GMC pickup is still waiting for a sensor replacement. If we do not receive it soon Kyle is concerned with only having one truck for snow plowing.
- Kyle said we are getting a second quote for the lift station repairs.
- Kyle said Andrew King has repaired the Washington Street catch basin and is waiting on utility locates before repairing two others

**Parks Department**—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- Steve said he has decided not to install the bike repair station until the spring. However, he hopes to have the pad poured soon. Andrew King will be providing a quote.
- There is a dead redbud tree on Main Street that needs to be replaced. Dave said they will replace it in the spring.
- Steve said there are some tree branches that need trimmed that are obstructing the view as you leave Dollar General.
- Steve reported that Joan and Dennis Brinkman have indicated they will be scaling back from working on the trail flower beds. They are willing to help train people interested in taking on the work. Travis posted on Facebook that the town is seeking volunteers to tend the flower beds. One resident has contacted Steve about taking care of and sponsoring one flower bed as long as she could put a sign in the flower bed advertising her business. The council approved the concept.
- Steve said he has a revised quote of \$5,150 from the original bidder for remediating the water drainage and erosion issue between town hall and the shelter. The revised quote is contingent on the contractor being able to use our skid steer instead of renting one. Andrew King may also be submitting a quote. After discussion, the matter was tabled.
- The shelter restroom water lines will need to be drained soon.
- The tractor is at TTG for installation of the limb saw.
- Steve said all the flags are repaired and ready for installation for Veteran's Day.
- Steve said LED lights have been installed in the canopy of the shelter by town hall. The lights are on a sensor that controls when they come on.
- Steve reported that money was being stolen from the shelter donation box.
- Steve reported that someone had donated and installed lights and a sensor on the new dog park shelter.

## VI. Continuing Business

- Dave Fox opened the public hearing of the proposed 2023 budget. There were no comments from the public. Dave Fox closed the public hearing.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to pass on second reading the proposed 2023 budget. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Dave Fox-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Kyle resumed discussion of Mike McKinstry's interest in becoming the town's treatment plant operator and indicated another candidate is also interested. There was additional discussion of overall staffing levels. Matt suggested the first task is to develop revised job descriptions prior to making hiring decisions. Matter tabled.

- Kyle suggested the small, enclosed area across the street from town hall be filled with stone instead of trying to grow grass in it. The council was okay with that.
- Matt asked if there was any news on the Bragg Street property demo. Chuck said not yet.
- Kyle said we are still waiting for the date for the new salt spreader to be installed.
- Travis said he had attended the local elected officials dinner. The topic was the installation of fiber optic cable in the county.
- There was a discussion about selling the town's sewer camera. Innovative Pipeline Systems is interested. The council will ask \$50,000.
- Chuck said he talked with Chad of Fleis & Vandenbrink about updating the PAZER ratings (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating). The council will request bids for the PAZER study.

**VII. New Business**

- None

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Potter

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