

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council  
August 24, 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-Absent  
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 August 10, 2023, meeting as submitted. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent  
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 August 24, 2023, as submitted. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent  
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:
  - 173 calls in the two-week period. He said there have been 2,608 calls year-to-date.
  - The in-car police radios will be obsolete by mid-year 2024. The price of a new radio for a police vehicle is \$3,246.32. The price includes installation. Ryan recommends purchasing one for the 2020 Tahoe now and purchasing one for the 2012 Tahoe after the first of the year.

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the purchase of a new in-car radio for the 2020 Tahoe for \$3,246.32. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

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

**Maintenance Department** – Operations Manager Patrick Kendall was in attendance.

- Patrick reported:

- That there is an easement between Greenberry and Short Street and there should be an alley there. However, there is a fence in part of the easement and there may be a plan to replace and/or extend the fence. There was a discussion of the need to alert the fence owner of the easement and the ramifications of building in the easement.
- The phosphorus limits at the plant have been removed and we will not need to treat the waste with aluminum sulphate going forward. We also will be able to return the rental tank.
- The parts arrived for the vac truck, and it is back in operation.
- Next week they will begin clearing and cleaning up the lift stations.
- CIC pulled one of the pumps from the Case lift station and that pump will be replaced. CIC will also provide a quote for installing rails in the station and rerouting the electrical connection.
- CIC replaced the bushings for the rails at the bank lift station.
- Toric Engineering was called in to diagnose issues with the electrical panel at the treatment plant. One of the blowers kept kicking off. They were able to get the A/C working again but the panel display still is not working correctly. They are preparing a quote to address the issues.
- Safety lights on his truck have been repaired and are working properly.
- Recommended purchasing a service body for the other pick-up truck. He will get a price quote.
- Recommended enclosing the poly pump and installing a small heater for the cold weather. He will gather the information for an estimate.
- Chuck inquired of Patrick if we were still seeking a third full-time person. Patrick said with winter coming that he did not see the need at this time.
- Chuck inquired of the status of the leaf vac. Kyle summarized the previous discussions of the options for leaf pickup:
  - The town leaf vac truck will require some repairs and it does require significant labor time to pick up and dispose of the leaves.
  - The town has an estimate of \$7,500 for leaf pickup from Sweetser Maintenance. The estimate is for 60 loads at \$125 per load and \$125 per load for any over 60.

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to accept the estimate of \$7,500 from Sweetser Maintenance for leaf pickup of 60 loads at \$125 per load and \$125 per load for any over 60. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to declare the town leaf vac truck surplus property and post it for sale. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to authorize Kyle Taylor to negotiate with Sweetser Maintenance for the sale of the leaf vac truck and bring an offer back to the council. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- Kyle asked Patrick to clean-up and install stone in the enclosed area east of Main Street between Main Street and the Newhouse gravel lot and to do the same with the area bordering the Sweetser Switch Trail sign.

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

- Steve would like to purchase 40 2' x 4' concrete blocks to enclose the burn pile and the leaf pile. Cost is \$65 per block plus delivery. Matter was tabled pending resolution of cost and method of delivery.
- Steve said he bought new wire fencing for the dog park as the existing chicken wire was torn up in several places.

## **VI. Continuing Business**

- No update on the Sidewalk Project.
- No update on the credit card policy proposal.
- Mitch Hansel of USI Consultants presented a proposal of \$7,000 for performing the PASER updates for 2023. Matter tabled for now.
- No update on the Dollar General issue.
- Stu Savka and Lou Savka of Triad and Associates attended remotely and reviewed the status of the town's SRF application. Lou presented some financing proposals and estimates prepared by Steve Brock. Kyle related that in order for the town to obtain the maximum grant of \$700,000, the town will need to come up with \$2.8 million. Stu said Triad will rework the project proposal at that level of financing. Kyle asked Triad to solicit a quote for smoke testing the entire sanitary system.
- No update on the sale of the Church Street property.
- Matt reported on the current status of the chicken applications and permits issued thus far.
- Matt said he had not yet heard from Habitat for Humanity about possible interest in the Bragg Street property.
- No update on codification.
- Kyle presented a proposal from Federal Signal and Security Systems of \$33,937 to install a new rotating electrical mechanical siren. The proposed siren would provide coverage of the entire town. There was discussion of the location of the new siren.

After discussion, Matt Stewart made a motion to approve the purchase of a new rotating electrical mechanical siren from Federal Signal and Security Systems \$33,937, with the location to be determined. Chuck Briede seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

## **VII. New Business**

- Kyle said he has had informal discussions with the Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department about the possibility of a new shared facility housing the fire department and town hall.
- Kyle reported that he received an email from a resident asking for more gravel for the alley running between Main and Meridian. Patrick said he wanted to make sure the alley was graded properly before applying additional gravel so that we avoid potential drainage issues.
- There was a discussion of the storm water drainage issue on the east side of the gas station and using GPRS (Ground Penetrating Radar System) to locate the issue or issues at that location and others.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the purchase of a half day's GPRS work to try and locate the storm water issue east of the gas station. Matt Stewart seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Absent

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Aye

- There was a discussion of the proposed change to the allocation of LIT within the county. No action was taken.
- The next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7 pm.

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Potter

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