

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
October 12, 2023

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

Roll Call:

Charles Myers-Present
Matt Stewart-Present
Travis LeMaster-Absent
Kyle Taylor-Absent
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 September 28, 2023, meeting as submitted. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

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

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of October 12, 2023, as submitted. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

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

IV. **Public Forum**

- Gurinder Kaur (via phone) and Ryan Malott from the Area Plan Commission (APC) were in attendance to discuss the proposed liquor store. Mr. Kaur had resubmitted State approved plans to the council and to the Area Plan commission prior to the meeting. Mr. Malott reviewed his findings with the council and concluded that the APC found no reason not to issue a permit for the project.
The council discussed the necessity for a separate sanitary sewer connection for the proposed store. The connection fee was determined to be \$800. The council also noted Mr. Kaur would be responsible for street remediation (if any) after construction and the sanitary sewer connection are completed.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to accept the plans for the proposed liquor store and recommend the APC issue a permit. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

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

V. **Department Reports**

Police Department – Marshal Ryan Hornback was in attendance.

- Ryan reported:
 - 129 calls in the two-week period. He said there have been 3,144 calls year-to-date.
 - The Safe Meeting Zone sign has been installed on the town hall shelter.
 - The prices on new Tahoes are up \$7,100 and all the 2024 models are allocated. Ryan had the dealer put us on the list for the next model year.
- There was a discussion of a possible ordinance for tracking landlords and lessees.

Maintenance Department – Operations Manager Patrick Kendall was in attendance.

- Patrick reported:
 - He replaced the pump in the grinder station on Nancy Drive and cleaned up the brush. There is a challenge with removing the roots because of buried utility lines.
 - He replaced the doorknob on the treatment plant door and adjusted the door.
 - They pulled the pump at Eagle Drive lift station for repair.
 - He has been upgrading the tool kit so they have the proper gear to repair the pumps as needed instead of calling American Pump.
 - He had to call Xylem to come out because the new RAS pump already had a seal failure. Xylem is investigating if the pump is the proper one for the application.
 - He ordered some replacement parts from JDC for the vac truck.

- Chuck reported the speed limit sign at the railroad crossing is missing. Patrick said there is a total of four signs that need set. He will be purchasing an air compressor for use in setting the signs.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was in attendance.

- No report

VI. Continuing Business

- No new information on the sidewalk project.
- No updates on the pending credit card ordinance.
- Patrick said USI had been out rating the streets for the PASER filing.
- Town counsel Michael Hotz is still working on the Dollar General ordinance violation.
- Michael reviewed the ordinance violations that have been filed and those that are pending.
- Michael said the proposed Church Street sale public meeting has been advertised for October 26, 2023.
- No update on the delivery date for the new storm siren.
- Michael reported that the 137 Peterson Drive property had been sold in a recent tax sale and it is now in the redemption period.
- Matt Stewart opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2023-5, the 2024 Budget for the Town of Sweetser. There was a discussion of the Parks Department budget. There was also discussion of the 2024 tax levy. There being no further questions, the public hearing was closed.

After discussion, Chuck Briede made a motion to pass on second reading Ordinance 2023-5, the 2024 Budget for the Town of Sweetser. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Aye

Travis LeMaster-Absent

Kyle Taylor-Absent

Chuck Briede-Aye

VII. New Business

- Ryan Malott of the APC distributed a schematic of the town illustrating the open building permits and the outstanding ordinance violations.
- Halloween hours were set for October 31 from 6-9 pm in perpetuity.
- The next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 7 pm.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Potter
