

Minutes of Sweetser Town Council
November 9, 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-Present

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Present

Kyle Taylor-Present

Chuck Briede-Absent

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

II. **Minutes**

After discussion, Charles Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2023, meeting as submitted. Travis LeMaster seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Absent

III. **Bills**

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to approve the Bills Docket of November 9, 2023, as submitted. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

Charles Myers-Aye

Matt Stewart-Absent

Travis LeMaster-Aye

Kyle Taylor-Aye

Chuck Briede-Absent

IV. **Public Forum**

- No comments

V. **Department Reports**

Police Department – Marshal Ryan Hornback was in attendance.

- Ryan reported:
 - 152 calls in the two-week period. He said there have been 3,454 calls year-to-date.
 - Deputy Jim Kinzie and Ryan went through Emergency Vehicles Operations Training.
 - He and Jim will receive CPR training on November 18, 2023.
 - He has an emergency medic bag and yellow evidence tape in his vehicle and wants to have the same for the second vehicle.
 - He had no new information about the proposed new police vehicle.

Maintenance Department – Operations Manager Patrick Kendall was in attendance.

- Patrick reported:
 - On the replacement options for the Short Street lift station railing, pumps, and controls. He said he has not yet determined which would be the best option.
 - They are currently running one clarifier at the plant.
 - The raw load has a lot of water content; he is contacting Boyer and CEI to see if we could obtain some of their byproduct as a filler.
 - They have been replacing lights at the plant.
 - He has been working with Huston Electric to develop a proposal to relocate the electrical control panels within the plant.

Parks Department—President Steve Kelley was not in attendance.

- No report

VI. **Continuing Business**

- Discussion resumed of the potential sale of the Church Street property. Town counsel Michael Hotz reported the sale has been advertised and bids are due by November 30; any bids received will be opened at the council meeting on the 30th.
 - No updates on the pending credit card ordinance.
 - Mitch Hansel and Beth Johnson of USI Consultants were in attendance and distributed estimates for engineering, paving, and drainage work for 12 streets on the north side of State Road 18. Total estimate is approximately \$1,200,000. Mitch reviewed the scope and goals of the proposed project.
 - Mitch reviewed the timing of the advertising for bids for the CCMG project letting in January 2024.
 - The town needs to appoint an authorized signed to execute INDOT agreements.

After discussion, Travis LeMaster made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-6, a Resolution of the Town of Sweetser, concerning Authorization for Execution of INDOT agreements, granting the President of the Town Council the authority to execute any INDOT agreements and all documents related thereto. Charles Myers seconded the motion.

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

VII. New Business

- Kyle reported he and Patrick have had discussions with a representative of Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) about the READI 2.0 (Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative) grants from the State. The initial application is due November 17, 2023. There may be the possibility of partnering with IWU on a proposed project that could include a fire station, town hall, and early childhood development center. Kyle distributed pictures of a similar project in Union City. Estimated cost is \$350-400 per square foot and the estimated facility size is 10,000 to 12,000 square feet. The Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Department is also interested in the project. Kyle and Charlie will put together the application.
- Kyle distributed information about a potential portable radar project in coordination with the Sheriff's Department. Kyle explained the intention of the use of the equipment as well as its capabilities and limitations. The estimated town financial commitment is \$2,500. The council will further explore the operational and financial details of the project.
- Kyle reported that Patrick has been interviewing engineering firms to develop options and proposals for improving the safety, performance, and efficiency of the treatment plant. The firm of Jones & Henry Engineers LLC is one of those firms, and two of their representatives were at tonight's meeting. Their firm is a dedicated environmental engineering firm specializing in water, wastewater, storm water, and pollution control systems. There was a wide-ranging discussion of:
 - the condition, issues, and needs of the plant and sanitary system.
 - the current preliminary engineering report
 - the projects under consideration
- The next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 7 pm.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Potter

