

Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2025

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly workshop and called meeting on Monday, March 28th, 2025 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Doyle F. Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, JoAnna Jinks, and James H. Stutts. Commissioner Richeson was absent as was City Attorney John W. Cleveland. A quorum was present.

A public hearing was opened to take comment on Ordinance No. 1048 to amend the privilege tax upon the occupancy in any hotel, short-term rental, air B&B on second and final reading. No one was present to make comment. The hearing was closed at 5:03 p.m.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve ordinance 1048 to amend the privilege tax upon the occupancy in any hotel, short-term rental, air B&B on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, and Stutts. Nays being Commissioner Jinks. The motion was carried.

No one was present to make comment on actionable items.

The board discussed the addition of a crosswalk signal at Hunter's Café. The item was added to the May 5th agenda.

The City Administrator informed the board that Sweetwater Utilities Board has offered to transfer maintenance of traffic lights to the city. The city is required to pay SUB a percentage of the infrastructure cost for them to maintain the traffic lights which they do through Stansell Electric Company. The city can take ownership of the traffic lights and contract directly with Stansell and potentially save money based on a review of past maintenance calls. The contract would include an initial amount for inspection of all traffic lights and equipment associated with the lights followed by an annual preventative maintenance fee per intersection. Repairs would be charged per call. It is proposed that the city send three employees to training to be able to do simple repairs to save on service calls which could save money and time that a light might be malfunctioning. The county has agreed to pay maintenance calls on the western light to be placed at exit 60. The item was added to the May 5th agenda.

The City Administrator gave an update on the 150th celebration and informed them that the committee would like to add a drone show for the fair with funding already included in the budget.

The City Administrator discussed with the board coding of state revenue from the City Transportation Modernization Act which is collected as a registration fee for electric vehicles. She informed them that we currently code this revenue to State Street Aid but have been informed it is not restricted by the state. The board would need to vote to restrict this revenue to continue to post those funds in State Street Aid. The item was placed on the May 5th agenda.

The City Administrator informed the board she has approved for an employee to be on unpaid leave and the continuation of health insurance benefits which is allowed under the current employee hand book.

The City Administrator gave a quarterly financial report for 3/31/2025. This report included an update on outstanding grants as well as grants that have been closed this fiscal year.

The board discussed playground resurfacing of the two playgrounds which have pour in place surfacing. The surfacing is worn and it was recommended by our insurance carrier that the surfacing be replaced. Mulching is an acceptable substitution and less cost prohibitive. The pour in place surfacing quote is \$65,000 and is not included in the 25/26 budget. The City Administrator informed the board that there is still time to change the budget to include money to do this project if they wish.

The City Administrator informed the board that Commissioner Richeson would be requesting additional funds be added to the 25/26 budget to purchase future items that are currently being purchased by the employees through gun pay.

Mayor Lowe reviewed the agenda for the May 5, 2025 meeting. Planning Commission recommended to close a portion of Rose Lane. The City Planner checked with SUB and there were no utility easements. The adjacent property owner had no opposition to the closure.

No further action was taken. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

This the 28^h day of April, 2025.

Mayor

Attest: _____

Recorder