

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 3-12-18

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on March 12, 2018, at the Ethan City Hall at 6:00 pm. Trustees present were Lisa Hjellum, Jason Koch, Nancy Schoenfelder, Megan Perry and Gregg Thibodeau. City personnel present: Betty Raymond and Dave Duba. Also present: Duane Duba, Dan Boehmer and Mark Endres.

Chairman Hjellum called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. All motions were unanimously voted as aye unless stated otherwise.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was approved on motion by Koch, second by Thibodeau.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the February 12th meeting were approved on motion by Schoenfelder, second by Koch. There were no minutes from the Community Center.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Motion Schoenfelder, second Koch to approve the claims.

General, sewer, water, preservation and community center funds * employee and board wages – board wages \$346.32, Finance wages \$1113.34; Public Works wages \$2490.67; SD Retirement \$560.46; Cody Martin, deposit refund \$85.00; Aaron Electric, emergency lighting \$351.90; Agland Co-op, fuel \$389.09; Badger Meter, monthly charge \$70.09; Brown & Saenger, office products \$23.83; Card Services, misc \$183.75; Daily Republic, publishing \$601.90; Ethan Coop Lumber, supplies \$4.50; Industrial Chem Lab, supplies \$558.48; Menards, supplies \$338.74; Northern Truck Equipment, parts \$1096.24; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$2042.23; Petty Cash, postage and memorial \$82.19; Santel, telephone \$165.98; SD Assoc. of Rural Water Systems, conference \$205.00; SD Department of Revenue, testing \$30.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1290.00; QuickBooks Payroll Services \$3611.47; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$96.26; US Treasury, employment taxes \$1201.00; USDA, loan payment \$1023.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$25.05; Hanson Rural Water, tower/water \$4498.00.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Finance Officer discussed the current financials.

WATER/SEWER REPORT: The Board reviewed water loss report. No issues presented.

CITIZEN INPUT: Finance Officer informed the Board of a citizen who was concerned about motorized vehicles on park grounds. Copies of the ordinance prohibiting this have been posted at City Hall and the Post Office.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Center: Schoenfelder asked if there have been rentals and was told there are at least 2 per month through August.

Railroad Street: Duane Duba presented petitions with 100 signatures from Ethan voters expressing approval to look into extending Railroad Street from Elm to Highway 42. Dan Boehmer informed the Board that Ethan Lumber gets 5 to 10 large trucks per day that would use the road. Mark Endres discussed the high volume of large truck traffic to the elevator as well as the issue of narrow street corners on the existing route making it difficult for trucks with double trailers. Discussion was held regarding maintenance of the road, access to Highway 42 and other concerns. The Board decided to contact District III to start funding applications and to get DOT approval for access onto Highway 42.

Nuisance Property: The Board discussed doing an inspection of the town once the snow is melted. This will be done by Dave and a board member. A couple of properties were discussed that need attention for snow removal from the sidewalk and for tires. The Finance Officer was instructed to contact the owners.

Sale of Lots: It was decided that 2 lots would on Maple Street would be put up for sale with the stipulation that only single family dwellings could be built and that it must be new construction.

Housing Development: The Board discussed the possibility of a development group for the construction of new housing. A similar project has been done in Alexandria, Plankinton and Mt. Vernon. This will be discussed more fully when additional information is received.

Building Permit: The permit for Ethan Co-op Lumber to build a new storage shed was approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Schoenfelder.

GPS Equipment: Dave Duba provided information regarding the equipment pricing for the project which will allow for better mapping of the sewer and water lines. The purchase was approved on motion by Koch, second by Thibodeau.

NEW BUSINESS:

2018 Clean-up Day: Discussed possible dates and locations for the dumpsters. It has been tentatively scheduled for May 17-18 with the dumpsters being picked up on Saturday at noon.

Cell Phones: Since both city employees use their cell phones for city purposes, the Board decided to reimburse each employee \$45.00 per month, Approved on motion by Koch, second by Hjellum.

Safety Policy: Per the inspection done by Safety Benefits for insurance purposes, it was suggested that the town update their safety policy. This updated policy to the employee handbook was presented to the Board and approved on motion by Schoenfelder, second by Koch. It was also noted that quarterly safety inspections will be done by the maintenance department with monthly fire extinguisher checks.

Chip Sealing: The north/south street will be chip sealed this year. Requests for quotes were sent out but only one company responded. This is the company previously used and the cost will be approximately the same as the last time it was done. Quote was approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Perry.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

The next regular board meeting is April 9th at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Hjellum, second by Koch to adjourn at 7:40 pm.

Betty Raymond
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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