

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 4-11-11

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on April 11, 2011 at the Ethan Fire Hall at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Robert Fitzgerald, Dale Meinke, Lisa Hjellum and George Puetz. City personnel present were Sonya Hespe, Bill Kinder and Brett Scott. No others were present.

Chairman Schoenfelder called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.
All motions were unanimously voted as aye unless stated otherwise.

Motion Hjellum, second Fitzgerald to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2011 regular meeting and the March 21, 2011 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Puetz, second Meinke to approve the claims as presented.

General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$3,763.26; Aflac, insurance \$128.42; Agland Coop, fuel \$136.49; BPI, supplies \$91.95; Campbell Supply, supplies \$81.24; Card Services; postage & supplies \$57.03; Ciavarella Design, architect fees \$5,610.50; Daily Republic, publishing \$627.65; Ethan American Legion, donation \$500.00; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$578.26; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$2,499.80; Menards, supplies \$18.70; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$777.17; Parkston Advance, publishing \$25.80; Planning & Development District III, registration \$20.00; Santel, telephone \$121.85; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$83.71; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$12.00; SD Retirement, retirement \$412.69; Sonya Hespe, mileage \$20.80; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,250.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$15.63.

OLD BUSINESS

Updates were given on what board members have researched since the last meeting for the new city building. Fitzgerald said he met with Ciavarella about reducing the size of the building which in turn would reduce the estimated cost. Hjellum said she would like to see a smaller building with no community room and that something is needed soon that will suit the city's needs. Schoenfelder said that local organizations have approached her about meeting with Planning & Development District III to get information on building a community center by the park. Puetz gave a presentation on information he gathered to purchase and remodel the old cheese factory. Board members will look at the dairy again along with various contractors to get a better idea of what would be needed for a remodel.

Quotes were received from A-Tech and Bender's Sewer & Drain to televise and jet the sewer lines in town. A-Tech's quote came in at approximately \$24,150 and Bender's was approximately \$17,775. The best time to have the televising done would be when infiltration levels are acceptable. Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to accept the quote from Bender's to have the work completed. Scott informed the board that an emergency discharge procedure has been started at the lagoon. There was also a general discussion about a complaint from Rich McBrayer.

Second reading of the addition of a new Ordinance # 2011-16 was read. This added ordinance will be adopted 20 days after publication. Motion Puetz, second Meinke to approve the second reading of the added ordinance.

AN ADDITION TO THE BOOK OF ORDINANCES TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Ordinance 2100-16 Natural gas franchise contract renewal

An ordinance granting to NorthWestern Corporation, its successors and assigns, the right to occupy any of the streets, alleys, or public places of the Town of Ethan, South Dakota, for the purpose of transmitting or distributing natural gas.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town of Ethan, South Dakota:

Section 1. The right is hereby granted to NorthWestern Corporation, its successors and assigns, to occupy any of the streets, alleys, or public places of the Town of Ethan, South Dakota, for the purpose of transmitting or distributing natural gas for a period of 20 years from the 1st day of May, 2011, provided, however, that the right herein granted will not be exclusive.

Section 2. NorthWestern Corporation will be liable for all damages due to its negligence in constructing, operating, or maintaining its natural gas system within the Town of Ethan, and shall at all times hold the Town of Ethan harmless from any and all liability arising out of NorthWestern Corporation's negligence.

Section 3. NorthWestern Corporation shall promptly return any construction areas as nearly as possible to the condition or conditions they were in prior to NorthWestern Corporation's construction or maintenance operations.

Section 4. This ordinance shall not be effective unless NorthWestern Corporation files its unconditional acceptance of this ordinance with the Finance Officer of the Town of Ethan within 45 days after the publication of this ordinance.

APPROVED April 11, 2011

Signed: Nancy Schoenfelder, Town President Attest: Sonya Hespe, Finance Officer
First reading: March 21, 2011. Second reading April 11, 2011.

Second reading of the revision of Ordinance 4.5.2 was read. This amended ordinance will be adopted 20 days after publication. Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the second reading of the revised ordinance.

A REVISION TO CHAPTER 4.5 TO CHANGE THIS SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 4.5.2 Plow Routes

Plow routes will be set by current board policy.

APPROVED April 11, 2011

Signed: Nancy Schoenfelder, Town President Attest: Sonya Hespe, Finance Officer
First reading: March 21, 2011. Second reading April 11, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS

Street repairs were listed on the agenda but the estimate did not come in. This will be tabled to the next meeting when the quotes are received.

Hanson Rural Water asked the town board to choose what kind and how many trees were needed by the water tower to replace some that were taken out during construction. The board will request 3 – 4 Maple trees that are already grown and not seedlings.

The landfill will be open on Monday & Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 PM starting May 2nd.

General discussion about an audit being completed. No decision was made at this time.

REPORTS

No reports were given.

Schoenfelder dismissed herself from the remainder of the meeting at 9:27 PM. Fitzgerald took over running the rest of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to enter executive session at 9:28 pm according to SDCL 1-25-2 (1).

Fitzgerald declared executive session over at 9:57 pm.

Motion Hjellum, second Puetz to give a 3.5% increase in salary to Brett Scott. His annual salary will now be \$31,261.89. All benefits will remain the same.

Next regular board meeting is Monday, May 9th at 7:00 pm.

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to adjourn at 9:58 pm.

Sonya Hesse
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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