

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 4-6-15

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on April 6, 2015 at the Ethan City Hall at 5:00 pm. Members present were Lisa Hjellum, Howard Caylor and Dale Meinke. Member absent was Robert Fitzgerald. City personnel present were Sonya Hespe & Brett Scott. Others present were Jason & Arin Riggs (arrived 5:25, left 6:54), Marty Royston (arrived 5:23, left 7:00), Chad McGuire (arrived 5:25, left 6:54), Betsy Raymond (arrived 5:48, left 6:54) and Chris Lingemann (arrived 6:01, left 7:00).

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

Motion Caylor, second Meinke to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Caylor, second Meinke to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2015 regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

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

General, capital outlay, sewer, water and preservation funds - employee and board wages \$5,895.22; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$3,449.70 & loan payment \$423.00; Agland Coop, fuel \$47.15; Brett Scott, cafeteria plan reimbursement \$390.00; Campbell Supply, supplies \$69.20; Card Services, postage & supplies \$185.50; Colonial Research Chemical Corp, supplies \$208.59; Commercial Asphalt, street repairs \$70.20; Daily Republic, publishing \$196.09; Davison County, quarterly sheriff protection \$1,800.00; Hatzenbeller Appraisal, appraisal fees \$450.00; Jed Einrem, deposit refund \$85.00; Larry's I-90 Service, repairs \$74.49; Menards, repairs & supplies \$456.62; Morgan Theeler LLP, legal \$908.70; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1,057.83; Santel, telephone \$156.82; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$15.00; SD Finance Officer Assoc, registration \$75.00; SD Human Resource, registration \$100.00; SD One Call, locates \$2.10; SD Retirement, retirement \$669.08; Sonya Hespe, travel \$74.40; SPN, engineering \$360.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,270.00; Intuit, fees \$3.39; Aflac, insurance \$100.68; Farmers State Bank, supplies \$100.00; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$95.19; USDA - RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; US Treasury, payroll taxes \$1,249.10; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$34.65, and a transfer from general fund to the preservation fund for \$500.00 for the matching grant that was approved at the March 9, 2015 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion Caylor, second Hjellum to approve the appraisal for the lots on Main Street that was prepared by Hatzenbeller Appraisal. The 3 lots together were appraised at \$5,100.00. The lots will be listed for sale through Maxwell & Bowar Agency.

Brett Scott & Howard Caylor drove around town to check nuisance properties. A list has been made and letters will be mailed to the property owners. A new concern for this year was the number of tires which is a mosquito nesting place. It was also noted that progress has been made on the Kretschmer properties with some debris removal.

City-wide clean-up will be set for Saturday, May 30. Dumpsters will be available for iron and garbage.

Scott presented estimates to have the streets chip sealed this summer. Approximately \$50,000 was approved by the board to allow Scott to have the 6th Street project completed, chip seal, crack seal, gravel and culverts for 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Lingemann asked the board when the ditch along the county road will be seeded. There has been miscommunication between the county and Town about whose responsibility it was to finish the project that the county started last summer. Ethan will check with the county to see how this can be resolved in a timely manner. Lingemann also asked if he could replace the culvert in his driveway along the country road and widen the driveway. Permission was granted.

Will Andersen was listed on the agenda but was not present.

Motion Caylor, second Meinke to approve building permits that were submitted by Gary & Sheila Terrill and Mary Petrik. Terrill's would like to put in a chain link fence that would be flush with the current unattached garage. Note that the garage was grandfathered in to remain in the city right-of-way. If the garage is ever removed for any reason, it and the new fence will need to follow setback guidelines as established in the most current edition of Town of Ethan Ordinances.

Two estimates were received to cut concrete and install two new doors in the shop bathroom. The approved estimate was from Perry Construction.

Finance Officer Hespe informed the board that notice was received from Hanson Rural Water that there will be an increase of \$0.10 per 1,000 gallons on the water rate effective July 2015. There was also an increase of \$0.10 per 1,000 gallons in 2014. Hespe advised the board that we wait and see what the fund balance looks like after the audit is done in June and the new billing system is in full operation before we determine if an increase is needed to cover the additional expense that HRW is charging the town.

Marty Royston on behalf of a pre-committee for the potential community center presented information to the board regarding the feedback that was obtained from the three town hall meetings. He told the board that everyone seems to be for the Town purchasing the Holy Trinity Church and converting it to a community center. He described some of the potential uses that were discussed, the expenses and what the pre-committee suggests to offer the church & diocese. Finance Officer Hespe told the board that the purchase and operating expenses could be paid by the city, especially since there would be some revenue coming back in from rentals. The bigger items such as remodeling would either need to be budgeted as a long-term project or fundraisers, donations and/or grants would be sought. Motion Hjellum, second Caylor to write up a proposal to the Catholic Church to purchase the church and lots for \$10,000.

CITIZEN INPUT

No citizen input.

REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed. The dump will open for the summer starting Monday, April 13. The hours will be Monday and Thursday from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Hjellum, second Caylor to enter into executive session at 7:01 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2.1.
Hjellum declared executive session over at 7:11 pm.

Motion Hjellum, second Caylor to increase Brett Scott's annual salary to \$37,440.00.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, May 11th at 7:00 pm. There will be a special meeting on Wednesday, April 15 at 7:00 pm to canvass votes from the election on Tuesday, April 14th.

Motion Hjellum, second Caylor to adjourn at 7:21 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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