

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 4-7-14

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on April 7, 2014 at the Ethan City Hall at 5:00 pm. Members present were Lisa Hjellum, Nancy Schoenfelder, Robert Fitzgerald and Howard Caylor. No members were absent. City personnel present were Sonya Hespe & Brett Scott. Others present were Leon Baier, Gallus Thill, Dale Meinke, Camden Hofer, Cindy Kaiser & Kelly Tobin.

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

Motion Schoenfelder, second Caylor to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Schoenfelder, second Fitzgerald to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2014 regular meeting and March 13, 2014 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Fitzgerald, second Schoenfelder to approve the claims as presented.

General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$5,849.12; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$3,823.50 and loan payment \$423.00; Agland Coop, fuel \$225.50; Brown & Saenger, supplies \$44.41 and printer/copier \$400.00; Card Services, postage & supplies \$576.36; Daily Republic, publishing \$427.14; Janice Feiner, election worker \$125.00; Karen Petrik, election worker \$125.00; Lemke Digging, repairs \$1,065.31; Lyle Signs, stop signs \$1,451.24; Marlys Paulsen, election worker \$125.00; Menning Backhoe, construction \$41,943.69; Mitchell Iron & Supply, repairs \$77.70; Morgan Theeler LLP, legal \$1,829.00; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1,031.90; Renee Moysis, water deposit refund \$75.00; Santel, telephone \$119.55; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$13.00; SD Finance Officer Assoc, workshop fees \$75.00; SD Retirement, retirement \$660.74; SPN, services \$12,816.35; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,270.00; SD Assoc of Code Enforcement, workshop fees \$50.00; Intuit, fees \$3.07; Aflac, insurance \$100.68; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$1,337.02; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$84.76; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$26.42.

CITIZEN INPUT

Leon Baier introduced himself and said he is running for Davison County Commissioner. He informed the board of some of his plans if elected.

OLD BUSINESS

DENR has awarded a grant for 57.9% up to \$103,000 of the estimated project cost for Ethan to switch to the remote read water meters. The \$75,000 balance of the estimated project cost will be issued in a Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Fund loan at 2.25% interest for 10 years. The loan is contingent upon the Town adopting a bond resolution. Scott and Hespe presented statistics on the water loss gallons & costs that would be able to be recouped with the remote read system which would bring back enough profit to make most or possibly all of the loan payment. Caylor expressed concern about paying down the current USDA loan first and getting rid of some debt before getting a new loan. There is some money in CD & money market accounts that could be used towards the loan. Motion Schoenfelder, second Fitzgerald to approve the loan and grant pending the contingency and after paying down some principal on the current USDA loan in the Water Fund.

Camden Hofer informed the board that Menning Backhoe is about done with installing the force main on the wastewater treatment facility project. The lift station is being built but won't be ready until the end of May. Once the force main is installed construction will cease until the lift station is ready and then resume.

Kelly Tobin informed the board of the members on the preservation advisory committee. Members are Kelly Tobin, Cindy Kaiser, Bob Endres (all of Ethan), Jerry Graves (Pierre) and John Erpenbach (Sioux Falls).

Ethan Coop Lumber submitted an estimate for putting up a steel fence along the north property line by city hall. Clark Paving submitted an estimate to pave the parking lot at city hall. Motion Caylor, second Hjellum to approve the paving estimate from Clark and proceed with the work.

Clean-up day and nuisances were briefly discussed but no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Schoenfelder informed the board that the trees that are to be planted on the Weiland property as part of the lagoon project won't be able to go in the ground until 2015.

NorthWestern Energy is replacing power line poles in Ethan. They will need to replace the pole with the lines going to city hall and would like to switch to single phase instead of the current 3-phase. This may require a new panel in the building and some electrical work. Approval given.

Approval was given for Hespe to attend the Code Enforcement workshop in Pierre on April 30 & May 1 and to attend Finance Officer school in Oacoma June 11-13.

REPORTS

Monthly reports from sheriff's office, lagoon & tower readings were available to the board for review.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, May 12th at 5:00 pm. There will be a special meeting on Monday, April 14th at 5:00 pm to canvass votes from the election on April 8th.

Motion Schoenfelder, second Hjellum to adjourn at 7:47 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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