

Special Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 12-22-11

The Town of Ethan board met in special session on December 22, 2011 at the Ethan School at 5:30 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder (arrived 6:04pm), Lisa Hjellum, Robert Fitzgerald and Dale Meinke. Member absent was George Puetz. City personnel present was Sonya Hespe. Others present were Tim Bottum (left 6:15pm), Terry Aaker, Eric Ambroson (arrived 6:18 pm), Marilyn Hart (arrived 6:18 pm) and Tom Freidel Jr (arrived 6:54 pm).

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

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to approve the agenda.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to enter executive session at 5:37 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3).  
In addition to board members & personnel, attorney Tim Bottum and engineer Terry Aaker were present in executive session.  
Hjellum declared executive session over at 6:17 pm.

Motion Meinke, second Schoenfelder to approve a claim to Morgan Theeler LLP for the easement agreement.  
Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to have the attorney proceed with further negotiations with landowners for easement agreements.

#### BUSINESS

Eric Ambroson from Planning & Development District III presented the loan financial information for the wastewater project. The project is estimated at \$1,017,870. He is presenting a loan with 50% forgiveness from DENR for 30 years at 3.25% interest. This would make the payment \$26,812.00 annually. According to the rate analysis, the charge for sewer service to customers would have to increase to \$39 monthly per user to cover loan and operating costs. He suggested \$15 of this be a surcharge to cover the loan payment. Discussion was made about what rates to charge for the apartment buildings and the school. It was decided the rate for 2012 would stay at \$30 (motion passed for this rate at December 7, 2011 meeting) for all but the following new motions. Motion Schoenfelder, second Fitzgerald to increase the sewer charge for the apartment buildings to \$60.00 per month for 2012 usage. Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to increase the sewer charge for the school to \$160.00 per month for 2012 usage. The charge for the duplex was brought up and rates for duplex & apartments were debated. Motion Schoenfelder, second Hjellum to rescind the motion to charge the apartment \$60.00 per month. Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to increase the sewer charge for the apartment buildings to \$80.00 per month for 2012 usage. Motion Hjellum, second Schoenfelder to increase the sewer charge for the duplex to \$40.00 per month for 2012 usage.

Terry Aaker from SPN explained the wastewater discharge process to Tommy Freidel Jr. Freidel had questions on how the discharge would affect his property and livestock.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to approve the resignation of Sonya Hespe as Finance Officer. The resignation was given at the December 7, 2011 meeting.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Schoenfelder to adjourn at 7:58 pm.

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Sonya Hespe  
Finance Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Hjellum  
Vice-Chairman

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