

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 12-7-09

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on December 7, 2009 at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Robert Fitzgerald, Chad McGuire and Josh Franks. Others present were Sonya Hespe, Jim Montgomery, Dale Meinke, Patti Scheich, Rich McBrayer, Gallus Thill, Pat McCann, Jason Riggs and Arin Riggs.

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

Motion McGuire, second Fitzgerald to approve the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

The agreement between Town of Ethan and RBS WorldPay for the credit card machine was briefly discussed. It was decided that no maintenance protection would be purchased with the machine.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion McGuire, second Fitzgerald to open a public hearing for the 2010 liquor licenses. No one in attendance had any comments.
Motion Fitzgerald, second McGuire to close the public hearing. Motion Fitzgerald, second McGuire to approve the 2010 liquor licenses for Chubby's Bar and American Legion.

Jim Montgomery from Davison County Emergency Management gave an elected officials briefing to the board. He also touched on a grant that is available that would help fund a generator. There have been previous discussions about a new generator at the lift station. Hespe and Scott will check into this grant.

Patti Scheich made an appeal to the board about the increased rate at her parents' duplex. Motion McGuire, second Schoenfelder to rescind the motion made on October 12, 2009 regarding the additional fees to the base charge for the surcharge and sewer charge at multi-family dwellings. The motion from October 12 stands for apartment buildings but is being rescinded to be changed for duplex units. Any other motions made October 12 regarding water and sewer rates are not being changed. There was a lengthy discussion about how a duplex unit should be treated since there is more than one family residing there. Motion Fitzgerald, second McGuire that any residential property that has four or more units and is considered commercial property will have the \$5 per unit surcharge in addition to the base surcharge fee and \$5 per unit sewer in addition to the base sewer fee. Any residential property that is not considered commercial will be charged the base fee for surcharge and sewer.
Here is a recap of what the 2010 charges will be starting with the February 2010 payments.

	water	surcharge	sewer	garbage
residential	\$4.50 per 1,000 gallons	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$11.00
apartment units	\$4.50 per 1,000 gallons	\$35.00	\$38.00	
commercial	\$4.50 per 1,000 gallons	\$15.00	\$18.00	
school	\$4.50 per 1,000 gallons	\$15.00	\$113.50	

Pat McCann from Maxwell & Bowar reviewed the 2010 insurance package to the board. The mist sprayer that was bought in July 2009 will be added to the policy. (Franks entered meeting during this presentation.)

A letter was received from Lower James RC&D requesting a donation to their endowment fund. It was decided no donation would be given at this time.

Hespe informed the board that BankWest in Mitchell sent a request asking to be considered as a depository. The board agreed that they would leave all accounts as is at this time.

With the new credit card machine to accept payments for utility bills from the residents there is a charge to the town for each transaction. Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to charge \$0.25 for each transaction when someone uses a credit or debit card to make a payment. This will cover the cost that is charged to the city and for the cost and supplies of the machine.

Motion McGuire, second Fitzgerald to place Josh Franks as a signatory on the bank accounts replacing Terry Mathis.

Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to approve the second reading for a supplemental budget ordinance. This ordinance will be published separately.

REPORTS

Hespe presented reports from Scott for the water tower readings and infiltration rates. The infiltration at the lagoon is still way above what it should be. Letters will be sent out regarding sump pumps and anyone in violation will be fined according to ordinance.

Hespe informed the board that Hanson Rural Water and Bartlett & West will be having a pre-construction meeting for the new water tower on Wednesday, December 16th. A representative from the Ethan board will attend. Hespe also informed the board that a letter was received from SD DENR that Ethan was approved for the state water plan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion McGuire, second Franks to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2009 regular meeting and the November 19, 2009 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Fitzgerald, second McGuire to approve the claims as presented. There was an addition to the claims after executive session as noted later.

CLAIMS
December 7, 2009

<u>General Fund</u>			
1	Brett Scott	salary	
2	Chad McGuire	wages	\$83.12
3	Josh Franks	wages	\$83.12
4	Nancy Schoenfelder	wages	\$83.12
5	Robert Fitzgerald	wages	\$83.12
6	Sonya Hespe	wages 844.36; mileage 66.00	\$910.36
7	Aflac	employee insurance	\$128.42
8	Agland Coop	fuel & oil	\$253.79
9	Brett Scott	cafeteria plan reimbursement	\$300.00
10	Campbell Supply	supplies	\$98.03
11	Cherrybee's	plant	\$47.17
12	Commercial Asphalt	street repairs	\$139.86
13	Daily Republic	publishing	\$339.81
14	Davison Co Auditor	4th quarter sheriff protection	\$1,500.00
15	Farmers State Bank	payroll taxes	\$673.64
16	Maxwell & Bowar	insurance	\$7,660.00
17	Menards	supplies	\$15.53
18	Morgan Theeler	legal	\$747.00
19	NorthWestern Energy	street light 411.93; fire hall 8.56	\$420.49
20	Petty Cash	postage 65.67; supplies 10.00	\$75.67
21	Santel	telephone	\$91.85
22	SD Finance Officer Assn	annual dues	\$40.00
23	SD Mun Street Maint Assn	annual dues	\$35.00
24	SD Municipal League	annual dues	\$403.49
25	SD Retirement	retirement	\$276.60
26	SD Retirement	late payment fee	\$13.93
27	SD Unemployment	unemployment claim - Tim Pieschke	\$1,027.38
28	Sonya Hespe	cafeteria plan reimbursement	\$150.00
29	USDA - RD	monthly loan payment	\$1,023.00
30	USDA - RD	monthly loan payment	\$368.27
31	Weber Sanitation	garbage service	\$1,249.99
32	Sonya Hespe	Christmas bonus	\$100.00
33	Brett Scott	Christmas bonus	\$60.00

*** previously approved claim Brett Scott \$1,407.17

Water Fund

1	Brett Scott	salary	
2	Debbi Sinkie	remainder deposit refund	\$22.00
3	Hanson Rural Water	12/09 usage	
4	NorthWestern Energy	utilities	\$16.93
5	SD Dept of Revenue	water testing	\$12.00
6	SD Unemployment	unemployment claim - Tim Pieschke	\$342.46
7	Brett Scott	Christmas bonus	\$20.00

*** previously approved claim Hanson Rural Water March usage \$3,123.80; Brett Scott \$469.07

Sewer Fund

1	Brett Scott	salary	
2	NorthWestern Energy	utilities	\$58.59
3	Santel	telephone	\$30.15
4	SD Unemployment	unemployment claim - Tim Pieschke	\$342.46
5	Brett Scott	Christmas bonus	\$20.00

*** previously approved claim Brett Scott \$469.07

The next regular board meeting is Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to go into executive session at 9:02 pm to land purchase. Schoenfelder declared executive session over at 9:37 pm.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Franks to sign a purchase agreement with Jason Riggs dba Riggs Construction to purchase lots 6, 7 and 8, Block 3, Original Town for a cost of \$13,500. The process will be turned over to Ethan's attorney Doug Dailey to handle the sale process.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Franks to give a Christmas bonus of \$100 each to Sonya Hespe and Brett Scott. These will be added to the claims that were approved by the first motion.

The board talked about filling the vacant position. It was decided that anyone interested in being on the town board should submit a letter to the Finance Office expressing why they would like to be on the board. Letters need to be submitted by Friday, January 8, 2010 and will be reviewed at the January 11, 2010 board meeting.

Motion McGuire, second Fitzgerald to adjourn at 10:08 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

Published once at the approximate cost of \$_____.