

Special Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 2-25-11

The Town of Ethan board met in special session on February 25, 2011 at the Ethan Fire Hall at 3:30 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder (arrived at 4:21pm), Robert Fitzgerald, Dale Meinke and Lisa Hjellum. Personnel present was Sonya Hespe. Others present were Brad Ciavarella, George Puetz (left at 4:47pm) & Marilyn Hart (left at 4:47pm).

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

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the agenda.

**BUSINESS**

After the funding application was received by USDA-RD for the city building, Hespe received a phone call stating that the application could not be approved as is with the lower level not being handicap ADA accessible. Brad Ciavarella from Ciavarella Design called Tim Murray at the USDA office to explain his correspondence with the ADA Center in Denver CO. Murray said RD uses the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) as their accessibility guideline. Ciavarella did some more research and stated that meeting UFAS is not required by state and local laws, but is by USDA-RD. Ciavarella made a recommendation to the board to add a ramp inside the shop that would allow access to the lower level. His rough estimate was an additional \$1,000 - \$1,500 in cost. Other options would be to add an elevator that would cost approximately \$40,000 - \$50,000 or redesign the building altogether. The board agreed to add the ramp and see if this would pass with USDA-RD. The rest of the construction drawings are almost completed and a copy was given to the board for review.

Motion Schoenfelder, second Meinke to adjourn at 5:10 pm.

Meeting adjourned.

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Sonya Hespe  
Finance Officer

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Robert Fitzgerald  
Vice-Chairman

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