

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 2-7-12

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on February 7, 2012 at the Ethan School library at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Lisa Hjellum, Robert Fitzgerald, Dale Meinke and George Puetz. No members were absent. City personnel present was Sonya Hespe and Brett Scott (left at 8:47pm). Others present were Howard Caylor, Brenda Reinfeld, Marilyn Thill, Harold and Beverly Nearhood, Wilma Grunewaldt and Terry Aaker (arrived at 7:11 pm, left at 8:47 pm).

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

Motion Hjellum, second Puetz to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Hjellum, second Fitzgerald to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2012 regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

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

General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$3,558.73; Aflac, insurance \$147.14; Agland Coop, Ethan Bucks \$50.00; Agland Coop, fuel \$245.65; Bob Brenner, rent & utilities \$395.47; BPI, supplies \$7.99; Campbell Supply, supplies \$90.15; Card Services, postage & supplies \$140.75; Daily Republic, publishing \$405.26; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$612.41; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$2,936.00 and tower payment \$423.00; Lower James RC&D, annual dues \$65.00; Maxwell & Bowar Agency, insurance \$809.00; Menards, supplies \$32.91; Morgan Theeler LLP, legal \$1,827.52; Northern Truck Equipment, supplies \$569.38; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$856.83; Parkston Advance, publishing \$40.00; Santel, telephone \$108.97; Schoenfish & Co, services \$25.00; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$87.48; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$13.00; SD One Call, locates \$3.15; SD Retirement, retirement \$312.62; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,250.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$12.42.

BID OPENING

Four bids were received for the pole shed that was declared as surplus and advertised. Bids came in at \$4,867.00, \$9,000.26, \$3,710.00 and \$1.00. Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to accept the bid from Russ Stevenson for \$9,000.26. If this should fall through for any reason a motion by Hjellum, second by Meinke was made to accept the 2nd highest bid of \$4,867.00.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion Puetz, second Meinke to approve the first reading to repeal Ordinance 10.1.4, 10.1.5, and 10.1.6 regarding the animal license application and fees. All other ordinances relating to animal control will remain in effect.

Brett Scott is sitting on a board with community members and they are working on a grant through the SD DOT. In order for Ethan to receive the grant funds they need a sponsor to receive the funds and pay the claims for this project. Scott asked the Town to be the sponsor for this grant. The grant is called Safe Routes to School and is a 100% grant with a max of \$237,000. The project would be to obtain safer routes to school and encourage more walkers and bike riders. The school and town had previously talked about putting in a cross walk and flashing lights on the west side of the school leading to the parking lot by the football field. Another part of the project would be to clean up the riprap on the east side of the school to make that a safer area. A portion of the grant also needs to be non-infrastructure related such as bike safety courses and the like. The committee also requested a letter from the Town showing their support for the project. Motion Puetz, second Meinke to be the sponsor for this project and send a letter of support.

Ray Wermers submitted a complaint asking the board to talk to the lumberyard about the semi's that come in and park during the night. The trucks will come and park in front of Ray's house and idle all night, releasing exhaust fumes. One board member had already spoke with the lumberyard about this before the meeting.

REPORTS

Scott informed the board that the light shining on the Legion sign by the water tower was stolen. He ordered a new light and has it replaced.

Hespe gave an update that Attorney Bottum said all lienholders against the dairy have signed and submitted their release and settlement agreements. The next step would be to do title insurance. Motion Puetz, second Meinke to have the attorney order the title insurance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Fitzgerald, second Puetz to enter executive session at 8:00 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) and (3).

Schoenfelder declared executive session over at 9:46 pm.

Motion Hjellum, second Fitzgerald to have Attorney Bottum draw up a letter for the easement agreement to Joey Weiland according to the negotiated terms discussed in executive session.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, March 12th at 7:00 pm.

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to adjourn at 9:48 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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