

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 1-10-11

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on January 10, 2011 at the Ethan Fire Hall at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Dale Meinke and Lisa Hjellum. Members absent were Robert Fitzgerald and Josh Franks. City personnel present was Sonya Hespe. Others present were Tom Petrik, Karen Petrik, Harold Nearhood, Kim Sinkie, Darla McGuire, Marilyn Hart, Denny Puepke, Camden Hofer (arrived 7:14 pm, left 7:35 pm) and Brad Ciavarella (arrived 7:59 pm, left 8:32 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 Meinke, second Hjellum to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2010 special meeting and the December 6, 2010 regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the claims as presented. General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$3,943.22; Aflac insurance \$128.42; Agland Coop, fuel and oil \$203.44; Agland Coop, Ethan Bucks reimbursement \$25.00; Christina Stainbrook, deposit refund \$36.50; Ciavarella Design, architect fees \$2,156.50; Daily Republic, publishing \$616.17; Planning & Development District III, annual dues \$498.00; Ethan Coop Lumber, supplies \$4.68; Ethan Park Board, grant reimbursement \$945.00; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$658.50; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$2,583.80; Menards, supplies \$71.38; Mitchell Regional Landfill, services \$8.21; Morgan Theeler, legal \$36.00; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$863.11; RBS WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$15.03; Santel, telephone \$121.38; SD DENR, certifications \$12.00; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$167.27; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$84.00; SD One Call, locates \$1.05; SD Retirement, retirement \$435.46; Sonya Hespe, mileage \$28.00; UMB Card Services, postage and supplies \$187.09; USA BlueBook, supplies \$47.75; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1023.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,250.00. Park Fund - Parkston Food Center, supplies \$176.28; Roger Pollreisz, petty cash \$200.00; Stacey Endres, supplies \$64.52; Beth Feiner, supplies \$70.52.

OLD BUSINESS

Camden Hofer from SPN reviewed the various routes and estimates for the wastewater discharge facility project. He also informed the board and attendees that the state requirement for treated wastewater being discharged downstream is less than 50mg per liter. The tests that were performed in Ethan showed our levels to be less than 2mg per liter.

Brad Ciavarella from Ciavarella Design reviewed the floor plan of the new city building. Due to the slope of the property there were problems with the lower level being ADA accessible, drainage on the west side and sewer issues. The sewer problem can be eliminated if the building is moved 8 feet to the north. Ciavarella also recommended flip-flopping the floor plans and making a few small changes to avoid the pooling of water on the west side of the building. There was no solution available to make any changes that would allow the lower level to be ADA accessible without being costly. The upper level of the building would still be ADA accessible which will pass code requirements. Another option was to eliminate the lower level completely. By doing this and moving the rooms that were in the lower level to another area of the building there would only be a savings of roughly \$10,000 - \$12,000. The board felt this was a very small amount considering the amount of space that would be lost and didn't want to lose the space for that low cost savings.

The issue of animal control was brought up. At this time anyone with an animal control issue should contact the city office.

At the December board meeting there was an agenda item about a donation to the Legion. The topic was tabled until the January meeting. It was decided to hold off and see how budget allows later on whether or not a donation will be given.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion Hjellum, second Meinke to approve the following designations for the year 2011: Newspaper, Daily Republic; engineer, SPN; attorney, Morgan Theeler Law firm; banks, Farmers State Bank in Parkston and First National Bank in Mitchell; board pay, \$45 per meeting; Finance Officer wages, \$11.00 per hour; maintenance supervisor pay, \$30,204.72 salary plus a health insurance reimbursement of \$5,745.60 annually; mileage rate, \$0.40.

Jay Larson from Midwest Assistance Program was on the agenda but unable to attend.

Marilyn Hart informed the board that she would like to dispute her water bill. A new meter was recently installed and since that date shows she has used a lot more than average consumption. Brett will go with Marilyn to read the meter and test for a leak. After that a determination will be made on the water usage portion of her bill.

The Town of Ethan is applying for a loan from USDA – Rural Development for the new city building. Motion Schoenfelder, second Hjellum to adopt the following resolution for the loan process.

RESOLUTION # 2011-1

WHEREAS, the Town of Ethan has identified the need for the proposed Municipal Building Project; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Ethan proposes to apply for a Rural Development Community Facilities Loan in order to meet local needs; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Ethan is eligible for federal assistance for the proposed project; and
WHEREAS, with the submission of the Rural Development loan application the Town of Ethan assures and certifies that all program requirements will be fulfilled; and;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ethan duly authorizes the submission of the Rural Development loan application to assist in the proposed Municipal Building Project.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board President be authorized to execute the Application for Federal Assistance for the Town of Ethan.
Dated this 10th day of January, 2011. SIGNED: Nancy Schoenfelder, Town Board President. ATTEST: Sonya Hespe, Finance Officer.

A snow bucket for the new Bobcat was discussed. Prices were given for a bucket found in Mitchell and at MDS in Parkston. Motion Schoenfelder, second Meinke to approve the purchase a snow bucket not exceeding \$1,000.00. Brett can look at the buckets and determine which one will best fit the needs of the Town.

REPORTS

Scott was not in attendance but his reports for the water readings and lagoon levels were given to the board. Hesper presented on Scott's behalf a quote of \$800 to put fluid in the back tires of the tractor. It was decided not to do this. The snow removal procedure was addressed. The decision was made to have a path made through town so everyone can get out, then go back according to current ordinance and do curb to curb removal.

Hesper asked the board to clarify between Meinke and Hjellum who holds the term with 1 year left and who holds it with 2 years left. A coin was tossed and Meinke will take the 1 year term that was held by Chad McGuire, Hjellum will take the 2 year term that was held by Kim Sinkie. Petrik Sanitation has inquired about becoming the garbage provider for Ethan. Hesper informed the board that quotes can be obtained if the cost is under \$25,000 but to also keep in mind that the 2011 budget is already in place and an increase would not fit budget right now. The board decided to wait until closer to 2012 budget time to get quotes from garbage service providers. Hesper reviewed a new look to some financial statements that the board receives. Changes were made to some forms to cut paperwork, time and costs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Meinke, second Hjellum to enter into executive session at 9:14 pm in accordance to SDCL 1-25-2.1.

Schoenfelder declared executive session over at 10:03 pm.

Motion Meinke, second Schoenfelder to give Hesper a \$0.50 per hour pay increase to \$11.50.

Next regular board meeting is Monday, February 7 at 7:00 pm.

Motion Schoenfelder, second Meinke to adjourn at 10:04 pm.

Sonya Hesper
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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