

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 3-7-11

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on March 7, 2011 at the Ethan Fire Hall at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Robert Fitzgerald, Dale Meinke and Lisa Hjellum. City personnel present was Sonya Hespe. Others present were Marilyn Hart (left at 9:26 pm), Tom Petrik (left at 9:26 pm), Harold & Beverly Nearhood (left at 9:26 pm), Denny Puepke (left at 9:26 pm), George Puetz, Brad Ciavarella (arrived 7:16 pm, left 7:31pm) and Craig Fergen (arrived 7:54 pm, left 8:20 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 Meinke to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2011 regular meeting and the February 25, 2011 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Meinke, second Hjellum to approve the claims as presented.

General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$3,564.84; Aflac insurance \$128.42; Agland Coop, fuel \$402.53; Agland Coop, Ethan Bucks reimbursement \$50.00; Brett Scott, cafeteria plan \$30.00; Card Services; postage & supplies \$379.10; Daily Republic, publishing \$410.31; Dakota Pump, repairs \$2,269.30; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$653.51; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$2,684.60; Industrial Chem Labs, supplies \$97.25; MARC, supplies \$59.62; Menards, supplies \$18.46; Morgan Theeler, legal \$27.00; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$616.36; Santel, telephone \$115.21; Schoenfish & Co, professional services \$25.00; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$76.85; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$12.00; SD Retirement, retirement \$486.04; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1023.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,250.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$11.32 ~ Park fund – Roger Pollreis, supplies \$56.02.

OLD BUSINESS

Brad Ciavarella talked to the board about the city building project. He apologized for the problems that arose with USDA-RD and said they will work with Ethan to make the necessary changes. A committee was set up amongst the board with Fitzgerald and Hjellum.

Marilyn Hart disputed the reading on her water meter during November and December. She wanted to pay for an average usage of January & February instead. The board determined that the full usage would be owed unless it was proven that there was a problem with the meter at the pit. Marilyn asked Denny Puepke to go with Brett when the meters are checked.

Latest word on the Bobcat is that it was shipped from the factory on March 1st.

The board approved a mailing reminding citizens about the sump pump laws. The options for the discharge facility were reviewed. The board wants to combine a couple routes and get a quote on before proceeding further.

NEW BUSINESS

Craig Fergen from NorthWestern Energy met with the board about renewing the natural gas franchise contract. A first reading to adopt this ordinance will be on the next agenda.

Schoenfelder asked if anyone was interested in filling the 1 year vacancy left by Josh Franks. George Puetz was the only person that expressed interest. The oath of office was given to Puetz.

The SD Housing Development Authority is once again offering the Paint – SD program. If there is a resident that is physically or financially unable to paint their home and the home is a single family, owner-occupied residence in need of painting, stop in the office to fill out a nomination form.

The Legion is having a fundraiser on March 26 to help raise funds for the senior meals. Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to give them \$500.

The snow removal procedure was talked about. A first reading will be on the next agenda to make some changes.

The Tour de Kota bike ride will be coming through Ethan in June. Various locations were discussed to allow non-profit organizations to set up food stands. It was decided to do this at the park and see if the school would be available as a back up in case of rain or bad weather.

Hespe read the annual report. Motion Hjellum, second Fitzgerald to approve the annual report.

REPORTS

Hespe reminded the board about the Planning 7 Development District III Legislative meeting on March 17th. A newspaper subscription was discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to enter executive session at 9:38 pm according to SDCL 1-25-2 (1).

Schoenfelder declared executive session over at 10:08 pm.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to consider the resignation of Sonya Hespe as Finance Officer. Motion Puetz, second Fitzgerald to advertise for the position in the Daily Republic, Parkston Advance and at job service. Applications will be due March 25th.

Board of Equalization meeting will be Monday, March 21 at 7:00 pm.

Next regular board meeting is Monday, April 11 at 7:00 pm.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Meinke to adjourn at 10:37 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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