

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 3-8-10

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on March 8, 2010 at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm. Members present were Nancy Schoenfelder, Robert Fitzgerald and Josh Franks. Member absent was Chad McGuire. City personnel present were Sonya Hespe and Brett Scott. Others present were Tom Petrik, Carol Pesicka, Dennis Puepke, John Hart, Patricia Puepke, Gallus Thill, Marilyn Thill, Colette VanHecke, Darlene Hoffman, Tim Storm, Duane Duba, Dale Meinke and Jay Larson.

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

Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to approve the agenda with an addition from the Historical Society.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pat Puepke asked for a clarification from the January 11, 2010 minutes. It was noted that Bob Fitzgerald was the contact person for Brett Scott and Pat wanted to know when this was decided. She was informed that no official decision was ever made, that is just who Brett has always gone to. Motion Fitzgerald, second Franks to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2010 regular meeting

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to approve the claims as presented. The claim to District III was added to the approval of claims during the board report presented by Hespe.

GENERAL FUND

Brett Scott	salary for April 1 paycheck	
Josh Franks	wages	\$41.56
Nancy Schoenfelder	wages	\$41.56
Robert Fitzgerald	wages	\$41.56
Sonya Hespe	wages	\$603.76
Aflac	employee insurance	\$77.06
Agland Coop	fuel & oil	\$350.75
Daily Republic	publishing	\$270.72
Davison County Auditor	quarterly sheriff protection	\$1,800.00
Farmers State Bank	payroll taxes	\$372.16
Maxwell & Bowar	2010 workmans comp insurance	\$512.00
Nancy Schoenfelder	mileage	\$86.80
NorthWestern Energy	street lights \$385.27; shop \$109.34	\$494.61
RBS WorldPay	credit card machine usage charges	\$6.78
Santel	telephone	\$83.17
SD Dept of Revenue	sales tax – 2007, 2008, 2009	\$3,031.49
SD Dept of Revenue	sales tax – January & February 2010	\$162.72
SD Retirement	retirement	\$243.32
UMB Card Services	supplies & travel	\$665.54
USDA – RD	loan payment	\$654.72
Weber Sanitation	garbage service	\$1,250.00
District III	legislative dinner	\$30.00
*** previously approved claim Brett Scott \$1407.17		

SEWER FUND

Brett Scott	salary for April 1 paycheck	
Sonya Hespe	wages	\$201.25
Aflac	employee insurance	\$25.68
Farmers State Bank	payroll tax	\$117.20
NorthWestern Energy	utilities	\$132.17
Santel	telephone	\$30.33
SD Retirement	retirement	\$81.10
USDA – RD	loan payment	\$368.28
*** previously approved claim Brett Scott \$469.07		

WATER FUND

Brett Scott	salary for April 1 paycheck	
Sonya Hespe	wages	\$201.25
Aflac	employee insurance	\$25.68
Farmers State Bank	payroll tax	\$117.20
Hanson Rural Water	bulk water	
NorthWestern Energy	utilities	\$25.19
SD Dept of Revenue	water testing	\$12.00
SD Retirement	retirement	\$81.10
USDA – RD	loan payment	\$368.27
*** previously approved claims Brett Scott \$469.07; Hanson Rural Water \$2,526.20		

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Duane Duba, representing the alumni group said they would like to have a parade during their celebration this year which is June 19th. Duane also said they would like to see this as a community celebration with other organizations to have more ideas on things to do to make it a community event. He will talk to the other groups to get their feedback.

Colette VanHecke and Darlene Hoffman represented the Ethan Historical Society in a request to the town board. Their request was to be considered as an organization that could use a room in the new city building/community room. They have been receiving donations of various items but have no place to store them. They feel that if a room was allowed to them in the building that maybe other groups would be interested in helping them with some projects. They have also stated they would be willing to give a contribution to the city for use of this space. The board thanked them for their time and said they would keep the request in mind.

Jay Larson from Midwest Assistance was at the meeting for the next step in the capital improvement plan. He presented a list to the board explaining the projects that were submitted by the community. There were 12 general improvements ranging in cost from \$444,500 to \$596,700 (estimated). There were 12 street projects but some were duplicated. A couple of the projects had an undetermined cost listed. The others had costs ranging from \$240,000 to \$274,000 (estimated). There was 4 drainage improvement projects listed with one of them duplicated. The cost range on this was from \$105,000 to \$200,000 (estimated). There were also 3 waste water improvement projects. The cost range for these were from \$1,054,500 to \$1,705,000. The next step of the plan is to have the board members take these lists and prioritize the items. He said after the board prioritizes the list there will need to be a public meeting to have citizen input on the projects. Jay also talked about grants that would possibly work to help fund some of the projects. He then informed the public about how his agency is funded so they can provide free services to small communities like Ethan.

The board reviewed and approved a building permit submitted by Jacob Aragon for a utility shed.

Two types of drainage were discussed. The first is the drainage on Ash Street. SPN will be attending the March 15 meeting to discuss this further. The second drainage issue is with the snow melting. Scott will be getting sand bags and sand for flood planning preparation.

Hespe presented the board with information regarding the sump pump ordinance. District III sent an email with examples of what other towns do for this ordinance enforcement. The board would like to remind the residents that their cooperation is needed to make sure their sump pump does not discharge into the sewer lines. This is one of the major causes in the problems at the lagoon which will cost several hundred thousand to 1.5 million dollars to repair. After more discussion, motion Fitzgerald, second Franks that inspections will be done during the month of April. Brett Scott will be going around door to door to check for sump pumps and where it drains. Anyone in violation of the ordinance will have two (2) weeks to correct the violation or they will be fined \$250.

Hespe presented the annual report to the board. Motion Franks, second Fitzgerald to approve the annual report.

REPORTS

Scott informed the board that the infiltration at the lagoon is still very high. It is still saturated from last year and being a zero discharge facility. The wetland has a small leak which is considered a discharge according to DENR. Mandatory samples are being taken and sent to the state. Scott also informed the board there are muskrat mounds on the wetland. The state trapper recommended getting an out of season permit and shooting them.

Hespe gave the sheriffs report to the board. The board was informed of an elected officials workshop coming up in April in Pierre. District III is having a legislative dinner in Mitchell on March 18th. Motion Fitzgerald, second Franks to approve a claim for payment of the registration fee for the board members attending this dinner and meeting. A reminder was given about the Board of Equalization meeting scheduled for Monday, March 15th.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Franks to adjourn at 9:28 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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