

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 3-9-15

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on March 9, 2015 at the Ethan City Hall at 5:00 pm. Members present were Lisa Hjellum, Robert Fitzgerald, Howard Caylor and Dale Meinke (walked out at 8:11pm). No members were absent. City personnel present were Sonya Hespe & Brett Scott. Others present were Chris Lingemann (left at 5:53 pm), Megan Pery (left at 7:26 pm), Jason Koch (arrived at 5:10 pm, left at 7:26 pm), Nancy Schoenfelder (arrived at 5:23 pm, left at 6:34 pm).

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

Motion Fitzgerald, second Caylor to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Caylor, second Fitzgerald to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2015 regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

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

General, capital outlay, sewer, water and preservation funds - employee and board wages \$5,696.74; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$4,837.20, loan payment \$423.00 and \$200.00 for rent to have radio on tower; Advantage Business Solution, supplies \$1,913.48; Agland Coop, fuel \$153.62; Bob Fitzgerald, travel \$10.00; Card Services, postage & supplies \$1,315.05; Daily Republic, publishing \$103.13; DSG, supplies \$68.46; Lemke Digging, repairs \$852.04; Menards, repairs & supplies \$510.71; Morgan Theeler LLP, legal \$1,058.70; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1,046.12; Santel, telephone \$134.68; SD Assoc of Code Enforcement, registration \$50.00; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$30.00; SD Retirement, retirement \$665.66; Sonya Hespe, travel \$23.20; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,270.00; Intuit, fees \$3.39; Aflac, insurance \$100.68; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$89.96; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; US Treasury, payroll taxes \$1,219.60; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$30.64.

OLD BUSINESS

The snow removal issue at the Fire Hall that was discussed at the February meeting was further discussed. The decision was made not to contract snow removal services at the fire hall. Any windrows along the street around the fire hall will be removed and in a big snow storm the city will do a courtesy removal if the accumulation would inhibit trucks getting out. Motion Fitzgerald, second Caylor to approve this decision.

Motion Meinke, second Caylor to approve hiring an appraiser to do an appraisal on the Main Street lots that were declared surplus on December 19, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Will Andersen was listed on the agenda but was not present.

The Ethan Historical Society submitted an application for the Community Matching Grant. The money requested will be used to match funds from the ham bingo fundraiser they will have on March 26th with the money raised being used for the museum construction. Motion Caylor, second Hjellum to approve the grant request.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to grant an extension to Bob Bruske to complete the residing of the shop he purchased to May 31, 2015.

Nuisance issues were addressed. Brett Scott & a board member will be going through town checking on issues and notices will be mailed. Kretschmer's properties were also addressed. An agreement was signed and received by the city attorney. A letter will be sent to Kretschmer informing them of the deadline for the first round of nuisances that need resolved.

City-wide clean-up details are being worked out. Once details are worked out the information will be advertised.

Potential street projects for this year were discussed. Prices will be obtained and reviewed at the next meeting.

An update was given to the board about the community meeting that was held regarding the possibility of purchasing the Catholic Church for a community center. A second informational meeting will be held on March 16th.

Motion Caylor, second Fitzgerald to increase the credit limit on the city credit cards. The maintenance department will be increased to \$1,500 and the finance and board departments will be increased to \$1,000 each.

Motion Hjellum, second Caylor was made acknowledging that a petition was turned in by Pat Puepke to have an issue placed on the ballot at the April 14, 2015 election. The issue being voted on is whether or not to keep the town board at a 5 person board or change it to a 3 person board.

CITIZEN INPUT

No citizen input.

REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Hjellum, second Caylor to enter into executive session at 7:27 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2.1.
Hjellum declared executive session over at 8:30 pm.

Dale Meinke walked out of the meeting during executive session at 8:11 pm.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, April 6th at 5:00 pm.

Motion Fitzgerald, second Caylor to adjourn at 8:31 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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