

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

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on October 11, 2011 at the Ethan School 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. Others present were Brenda Reinfeld, Marilyn Thill, Karen Petrik, Harold Nearhood, Beverly Nearhood, Jim Montgomery (arrived 7:09 pm, left 7:27 pm) and a telephone conference call with attorney Tim Bottum from 7:52 pm – 8:12 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 Fitzgerald to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Meinke, second Puetz to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2011 regular meeting and the September 26, 2011 special meeting with the following change. The September 12, 2011 minutes under Old Business, line 1 should say "Larry Jirsa was hired by two citizens to come up with possible floor plans & costs for remodeling the dairy." instead of "Larry Jirsa was hired by Puetz and another citizen...".

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

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

General, sewer and water funds - employee and board wages \$3,724.08; Aflac, insurance \$128.42; Agland Coop, fuel \$372.67; Bob Brenner, rent & utilities \$294.87; Campbell Supply, supplies \$90.82; Card Services, postage & supplies \$145.03; Clark Paving, street repairs \$8,396.64; Daily Republic, publishing \$348.27; Farmers State Bank, payroll tax \$597.75; Hanson Rural Water, bulk water \$5,003.00; Menards, supplies \$62.94; Morgan Theeler LLP, legal \$620.00; Muth Electric, repairs \$403.34; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$513.64; Pioneer Design, door sign \$50.00; Santel, telephone \$109.23; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$88.83; SD Dept of Revenue, testing \$147.00; SD Retirement, retirement \$312.62; Sonya Hespe, mileage \$35.20; USDA – RD, loan \$368.27 and \$1,023.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1,250.00; WorldPay, credit card machine charges \$15.88.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Montgomery gave a brief presentation to the board about the Local Emergency Operation Plan. No changes were made to the manual this year.

Two sealed bids were received for the Snapper riding lawn mower that was declared surplus. Joe Long submitted a bid for \$260.01 and Mark Heisinger submitted a bid for \$189.98. Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to accept the bid from Long.

OLD BUSINESS

Several items were discussed regarding the city building project. Motion Puetz, second Meinke to let Ciavarella Design know their services will no longer be needed. Roll call vote: aye – Meinke, Puetz, Fitzgerald, Hjellum, Schoenfelder; nay – none. Motion carried. Hjellum gave an update on doing some dirt work at the lots the city owns on Main St. An estimate was given of \$8 per yard with an estimated 660 yards for the area where the building would be placed. The dirt work should be done by mid-November. During the next topic the city attorney called and all citizens stepped out of the room while the board went into executive session for a conference call. Once executive session was over everyone came back into the room and the topic was resumed. The title search for the old dairy was completed and Attorney Bottum had previously emailed a copy so the board could review. There is concern about obtaining a clear title due to information discovered in the search and listed on the report. The attorney will contact Max & Nancy Hauk to see if they are aware of this issue and to see if they can offer a clear title even though the proposed purchase price would not cover amounts owed against the property. On the topic of the lots owned by the town, more estimates will be sought on moving the building from Mitchell.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion Fitzgerald, second Hjellum to enter executive session at 8:05 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3).
Schoenfelder declared executive session over at 8:12 pm.

Hespe gave the sheriffs report to the board.

The next regular board meeting is Monday, November 7th at 7:00 pm at the school.

Motion Puetz, second Meinke to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

Sonya Hespe
Finance Officer

Nancy Schoenfelder
Chairman

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