

Special Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 4-15-19

The Town of Ethan board met in special session on April 15, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the Ethan City Hall. Trustees present were Lisa Hjellum, Jason Koch, Megan Perry and Gregg Thibodeau; absent was Nancy Schoenfelder. City personnel present: Betty Raymond and Dave Duba.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion Thibodeau, second by Koch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the April 8th meeting were approved on motion by Perry, second by Hjellum,

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch, to approve the following claims.

General, sewer, water, preservation and community center funds * Melissa Clark, deposit refund \$61.94; Benders Sewer & Drain, sewer \$451.00; Campbell's Supply, supplies \$18.09; Card Services, \$562.75; Cheryl Stirling, ½ of culvert cleaning expense \$162.95; ClerkBooks, support fee, \$400.00; Daily Republic, publishing \$693.82; Karen Petrik, election \$125.00; Marlys Paulsen, election \$125.00; Renee Moysis, election \$125.00; SD DENR, water loan payment \$3698.65.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Discussed water leak and measures to find it. Dave reported receiving permission for emergency lagoon discharge due to the flooding and excess water in the lagoon and wetlands. Discussed the need to mark trees for removal by the water tower which will then be replaced by new trees. Dave also reported that the rented payloader has gone over the contracted hours and advised the council that there would be a bill coming for that once the payloader is returned. Discussed the pumps at the lagoon and advised that there are repairs that need to be made. Dave will look into that and also check on possible grant money for the repairs.

CITIZEN INPUT: Gregg Thibodeau expressed thanks from the Fire Department to the City for Dave's help with snow removal during the blizzard.

OLD BUSINESS:

Election: The Board reviewed the results reported by the election board and approved the results on motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch, with Hjellum abstaining. Results were 77 votes: Lisa Hjellum with 49, Brett Scott, 28.

Street Repair: Discussed quotes received from Clark Paving, ProSeal and Commercial Asphalt for repair of 6th Street. Council accepted the quote from Commercial Asphalt on motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch. Crack sealing and chip sealing will also be done when weather allows.

Security Cameras: Discussed putting cameras only at the park and the Community Center, leaving the existing cameras at the City Hall. Discussed installing Wi-Fi at the Community Center for the cameras. The Finance Officer is to collect more information.

Water Loan Payoff and Rates: The effective date for the rate change will be June 1st and will be reflected in the July 1st billing. Approved on motion by Koch, second by Thibodeau.

Budget Supplement: Second reading of the budget supplement was approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clean Up Day: Scheduled for May 16 and 17, with the dumpsters to be located at the west end of City Hall parking lot. Dumpsters will be picked up by noon on the 18th. One dumpster will be for metal only, and no tires will be allowed. Tires may be taken to the Mitchell Landfill for a cost of \$3.50 per tire.

Landfill: Discussed running out of space at the landfill. Dave asked about hiring someone to push the debris farther into the pit and packing it down since the City does not have that type of equipment. He was told to check into doing that. Also discussed possibly changing to a yard waste/tree branch site only.

Matching Grant: Received a grant request from the Ethan Historical Society. Funds up to \$500 were approved on motion by Perry, second by Koch, provided that the Historical group complete an application using a current fund raiser instead of last year's events.

Moving Funds: Finance Officer requested permission to close the account at First National and move the funds to Farmers State Bank in order to pay off the water loan with DENR in May. Approved on motion by Koch, second by Thibodeau.

Fees for Vacant Houses: Finance Officer reported requests to eliminate the base fees when houses are vacant. After checking with several other cities on their practices, she reported that no one waives the base fees when the water has been shut off. No change will be made to the current practice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

The next board meeting, a special meeting, is May 13th at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Perry, second by Hjellum to adjourn at 7:50 pm.

Betty Raymond
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

Published once at the approximate cost of \$_____.