

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 5-13-2019

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on May 13, 2019, at 6:05 pm in the Ethan City Hall. Trustees present were Lisa Hjellum, Jason Koch (arriving at 6:15), Nancy Schoenfelder and Gregg Thibodeau; absent was Megan Perry (participated in vote by phone). City personnel present: Betty Raymond and Dave Duba. Also present was Rob Hotchkiss.

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: Approved on motion by Hjellum, second by Schoenfelder.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the April 15th special meeting were approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Schoenfelder. The minutes from the Community Center were reviewed.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Thibodeau, second by Schoenfelder, to approve claims.

General, sewer, water, preservation and community center funds * employee and board wages – board wages \$600.26, Finance wages \$1193.70; Public Works wages, \$2734.74; SD Retirement, \$600.28; Badger Meter, monthly charge \$70.95; Betty Raymond, mileage \$75.60; Card Service, misc \$340.64; Core & Main, parts \$110.72; Daily Republic, publishing \$441.80; Dave Duba, mileage \$38.18; ELO Prof LLC, support \$75.00; Ethan Coop Lumber, supplies \$13.50; Ethan Historical, matching grant \$500.00; Ethan School District, share cost of water line \$2500.00; McLeod's Printing & Office Supply, supplies \$16.98; Menards, supplies \$8.99; Mike's Corner, fuel \$262.50; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1543.59; Pioneer Research, sewer chemicals \$610.45; Santel, telephone \$165.48; SD Department of Health, testing \$233.00; SD Municipal League, class \$25.00; USA Blue Book, supplies \$43.19; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1290.00; QuickBooks Payroll Services \$3928.44; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$97.66; US Treasury, employment taxes \$1304.50; US Bank, loan payment \$6399.24; USDA, loan payment \$1023.00; WorldPay, credit card fee \$41.88; Hanson Rural Water, tower/water \$4502.30.

OATH OF OFFICE: The oath of office was administered to Lisa Hjellum.

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT: Koch nominated Hjellum, second by Thibodeau, for president; Schoenfelder nominated Thibodeau but he declined. Thibodeau made motion for nominations to cease, seconded by Koch. Hjellum elected council president. Hjellum nominated Koch for vice-president, seconded by Thibodeau, and Koch nominated Thibodeau, Schoenfelder seconded. There being no other nominations and the voting resulting in a tie, Megan Perry was called to cast the tie-breaking vote. The vote resulted in 3 votes for Koch and 2 votes for Thibodeau.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Finance Officer discussed the current financials and sales tax revenue.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: The Board reviewed the water loss report. Loss from last month wasn't a leak as first thought but a faulty meter. This has been corrected and billed accordingly. Discussed the street repairs and culvert cleaning. Dave also informed the board that pump repair at the lagoon needs to be done and parts have been ordered. The mosquito fogger has been calibrated and is ready to go and the grant for mosquito funding has been applied for.

CITIZEN INPUT: none

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Center: Building rentals continue to increase. The Community Center Board is sponsoring a Summer Youth Program to start in June.

Ordinances: Due to the number and type of changes requested for the animal ordinance, discussion of the ordinances was tabled until the all council members are present. Approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Hjellum.

Fire District/Department Donation: Discussed donation to the Fire Department for fireworks as that event promotes the Town of Ethan. Lisa suggested \$500 since that is what a matching grant would have been and they can still apply for that grant when they do their annual raffle. Schoenfelder moved to provide \$500 toward fireworks, seconded by Koch, with Thibodeau abstaining.

Verdesian Donation: Received the quote from James Valley but thought the tree removal portion was too expensive. The council asked Dave to get additional quotes. Also discussed the types of trees that were suggested.

Code Enforcement: Presentation from Rob Hotchkiss to explain to the council the type of service he provides as a code enforcer and his fees. The council will also get information from SD Municipal League on their code enforcer. No decision was made at this time.

Security Cameras: Signs should be going up at the park soon advising of video surveillance.

Water Loan Payoff: Finance Office reported that the payoff amount will be sent this week.

Culvert on Maple: Discussion was held about putting a culvert on Maple St while Commercial Asphalt is in town doing street repair. Motion by Thibodeau, second by Hjellum. Approved with Schoenfelder abstaining. Dave stated there may be other requests for culvert installation.

Housing Program: Betty Raymond stated that she attended a meeting at the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce regarding an affordable housing development program for area towns. This program would provide shared costs and grants and would like to have a letter of intent from each city (no obligation to participate) stating they have available lots for the program. Motion by Koch, second by Schoenfelder, to send letter of intent.

Road Expense: Finance Officer explained the budgeted amounts for the street department and the availability of funds for repair and maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Transfer of Funds: Motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch, to transfer the approved funds from general fund to water fund as discussed in previous meetings.

GovPayNet: Finance Officer discussed a program that would allow utility payments to be made by customers using this website rather than having to come to the office to make credit/debit card payments. They would also be able to call in a payment to GovPayNet. There would be no cost to the city. More information will be coming.

Malt Liquor License Renewal: The renewal application for the malt beverage license for The Hideout was discussed. Approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Schoenfelder, with Hjellum opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

The next board meeting is June 10th at 6:30 pm.

Motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch to adjourn at 8:39 pm.

Betty Raymond
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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