

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 8-10-2020

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on August 10, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the Ethan City Hall. Trustees present were Lisa Hjellum, Gregg Thibodeau, Jason Koch, Megan Perry and Bob Riggs. City personnel present: Betty Raymond and Dave Duba.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved on motion by Koch, second by Riggs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved on motion by Koch, second by Riggs. There were no Community Center minutes.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Motion by Perry, second by Hjellum, to approve claims.

General, sewer, water, preservation and community center funds \* employee and board wages – board wages \$392.48, Finance wages \$1204.24; Public Works wages, \$2669.86; Hanson Rural Water System, \$4116.50; SD Retirement Systems \$587.88; Mike & Denise Royston, deposit refund \$7.97; Alex Brock, deposit refund \$64.35; Badger Meter, \$70.95; Bender's Sewer & Drain, clean & camera \$1062.00; Betty Raymond, mileage for June & July \$83.16; Daily Republic, publishing \$58.74; Davison County Title, record search \$350.00; ELO Prof LLC, accounting support \$100.00; Ethan Co-op Lumber, City Hall roof repair \$846.63; McLeod's, supplies \$287.48; Mike's Corner, fuel \$92.25; Morgan Theeler, legal consultation \$49.00; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1132.05; Santel, telephone \$155.08; SD Assoc of Rural Water Systems, dues \$370.00; SD Department of Health, water test \$15.00; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1976.96; John Deere Financial, tractor payment \$640.51; SD Department of Revenue, sales tax \$108.37; QuickBooks Payroll Services \$3874.10; US Treasury, employment taxes \$1336.34; US Bank, loan payment \$6399.24; USDA, loan payment \$1023.00.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Finance Officer discussed current financials. Reviewed grant information from FEMA that is pending and also sales tax revenue.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Discussed water loss report. Dave reported on the sewer class he attended and on the findings of sewer issues between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets. Problem was found to be on private property and not in the city mains. Crack sealing is nearly done and chip sealing should be done in around 2 weeks.

CITIZEN INPUT: Riggs asked about changing the city ordinances to allow bottle calves in town. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Center: none

Nuisance Property Review: Discussed the current clean-up days and property will be reviewed with second notices going out to people who have not responded to the first notice. Discussed who could be hired to do removal of garbage and debris from private property.

Empty/Abandoned Houses: One house in question is pending sale. Discussed the city possibly purchasing the other property, cleaning up the lot and reselling. No decision was made.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget: Reviewed the new format for the budget. Discussion on amounts will be done in the next meeting.

Sewer Issues: When the sewer class was held in Ethan and the main line to the lagoon was viewed, a downward sway in the line and resultant build up was discovered. This has been cleaned out and at this time no repair is needed; however, it was suggested by SDARWS that cleaning and viewing be done annually to no cracks or leaks.

Ball Field: Local groups have asked about using the ball field for practice. Motion made by Riggs, second by Koch, to rescind the previous ban and to allow use of the ball field.

Lobby Rugs: A company asked to provide rug service for City Hall. Council felt it was unnecessary to pursue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (per SDCL 1-25-2, 1): Motion by Hjellum, second by Perry, to enter into executive session at 7:30 pm for personnel reasons. At 7:45 pm Chairman Thibodeau declared executive session to be concluded. At this time a motion was made by Riggs, second by Perry, to increase Finance Officer wage to \$16.00 per hour and Public Works wage to \$19.00 per hour, effective with the next pay period which will be paid on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

The next board meeting will be September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm with a second meeting to be held September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Koch, second by Riggs, to adjourn at 7:50 pm.

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Betty Raymond  
Finance Officer

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Gregg Thibodeau  
Chairman

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