

Regular Meeting, Ethan Town Board, 9-11-2019

The Town of Ethan board met in regular session on September 11, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the Ethan City Hall. Trustees present were Lisa Hjellum, Jason Koch, Gregg Thibodeau, Megan Perry and Nancy Schoenfelder. City personnel present: Betty Raymond. Others present: Mike Olson and associate from OCCS.

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: The item of street sweeping was added under New Business. Amended agenda was approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the August 12th meeting were approved on motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch. No minutes from the Community Center or Park Boards.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

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

General, sewer, water, preservation and community center funds * employee and board wages – board wages \$369.39, Finance wages \$1133.43; Public Works wages, \$2621.23; C&B Mitchell, down payment on tractor \$9596.54; Greg Lee, meter refund \$10.81; Brian Hinkley, meter refund \$55.62; SD Retirement, \$568.64; Badger Meter, monthly fee \$70.95; Betty Raymond, mileage \$46.20; Card Services, \$380.69; Daily Republic, \$151.22; Dakota Pump, replace impeller \$8971.31; ELO Prof LLC, support \$75.00; James Valley Nursery, trees at tower park \$1019.90; Mary Bartscher, ECC deposit refund \$50.00; Maxwell & Bowar, tractor insurance \$49.00; McCleod's, office supplies \$58.04; Menards, supplies \$49.26; Metering & Technology, water meters \$1123.72; Mike's Corner, fuel \$323.69; NorthWestern Energy, utilities \$1395.30; Playpower, playground equipment \$11,765.00; Ron's Bicycle & Locksmith, ECC lock \$159.75; Santel, telephone & computer repair \$414.56; SD Department of Health, testing \$15.00; USA Blue Book, testing supplies \$53.47; Weber Sanitation, garbage service \$1310.00; John Deere Financial, tractor payment \$640.51; QuickBooks Payroll Services \$3754.66; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$97.80; US Treasury, employment taxes \$1220.18; USDA, loan payment \$1023.00; WorldPay, credit card fee \$44.71; Hanson Rural Water, tower/water \$4024.25.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Finance Officer discussed the current financials.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Discussed water loss report. Discussed having SDARWS come in to do line testing for leaks.

CITIZEN INPUT: Discussed Homecoming which will be the week of September 23rd with the parade on the 27th at 2:00. Streets will need to be blocked off again.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Center: Council approved a change to the renter agreement to add the charge of \$25.00 for basement rental. Also, altered the wording about the deposit to make it clear that the facility must be cleaned in order to get the deposit back. Approved on motion by Schoenfelder, second by Koch.

Code Enforcement: Mike Olson presented information regarding his services as a Code Enforcement Officer. If hired he would review the entire town and advise what needs to be addressed to meet the International Property Maintenance Code which the city has already adopted. Motion by Koch, second by Hjellum, to table decision until the next meeting.

2020 Budget: Several adjustments were made thereby making this the first budget reading. Motion by Perry, second by Thibodeau, to approve the changed budget.

Security Cameras: We are still waiting for another quote on cameras. Need to upgrade the cameras on City Hall and install cameras at the park due to increased vandalism and traffic violations on Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vacant Property: Discussed two properties that are vacant with absentee owners. No action will be taken at this time.

CDs Maturing: Finance Officer advised that two CDs are maturing in November. Since savings rates are so low, discussed possibly adding savings funds to the CDs. Finance Officer will gather more information.

Liquor License: Per law a liquor license cannot be revoked unless the owner of the license is convicted of a crime. The only option is to not renew the license when it comes due again.

Lottery Machines: Finance Officer advised the council that the city will no longer get payment from the state for lottery machines present in a business. There are new options that will be researched and discussed at another meeting.

Grant Requests: Two requests for Community Matching Funds for up to \$500 for Prairie Readers and BeYoutiful Strides Running Club. Both were approved on motion by Perry, second by Hjellum.

Street Sweeping: Concerned citizens requested that the chip rock be removed from the streets before snowfall so it doesn't get pushed into yards. Dave has contacted someone who will do all street for \$3400 and we keep the rock, which will then be used around town or sold.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (per SDCL 1-25-2, 1): Entered executive session for personnel reasons on motion by Hjellum, second by Thibodeau, at 8:00 pm. Session was exited at 8:10 pm by order of President Hjellum.

The board will meet in Special Session, September 23rd at 6:00 pm for budget approval and other items.

Motion by Thibodeau, second by Koch to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Betty Raymond
Finance Officer

Lisa Hjellum
Chairman

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