

# Public Notices

## CITY OF ELLENDALE Regular Meeting April 8, 2024

5:30 pm – City Hall and Zoom Virtual

This meeting was held at the City Hall and virtual Zoom Meeting option was also available.

Mayor Flaherty called the regular monthly meeting to order at 5:30 pm with Council members in attendance: Belgarde, Crabtree, Lee, Denison, Langeliers, and Meidinger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Absent: None  
City Employees present: Attorney Kelly arrived 5:49 pm, Auditor Middlestead, N. Kempf, PW Monroe via Zoom, and Police Chief Knutson via zoom.

Others attending: W. Senger, Interstate Engineering arriving at 5:37 pm; M Salonen & Rapid Response Plumbing employees. Others attending listed on separate sign-up sheet.

Agenda additions: DMV Chairs.  
Minutes: Motion by Lee, second by Denison, to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting on March 11, 2024, special council meeting March 26, 2024. All members, aye. Motion approved.

**Operating statement:** Motion by Crabtree, second by Langeliers, to approve the March operating statement. All members, aye. Motion approved.

**Sewer Project Update:** Wade Senger, Interstate Engineering, reported on the Pressurized Sewer project. Plans will continue to have the pre-construction meeting in early spring.

**Ambulance Hall Update:** Wade Senger, Interstate Engineering, reported on the progress. Interstate Engineering was to be the Grant administrator to help facilitate the grant through ND State CBDG program. ND State felt this was a conflict of interest since Interstate Engineering helped write the grant. A request for quotes was sent to various Regional Councils. ND South Central Dakota Regional Council responded with a quote for \$30,000. A change order will be done with Interstate Engineering to remove this portion from their billing. Motion by Denison, seconded by Belgarde, to approve the quote from South Central Dakota Regional Council to be retained as the Grant Administrator for the ND CBD Grant. Roll call vote: Meidinger, Denison, Lee, Langeliers, Belgarde, and Crabtree – Yes. Motion approved. Senger will contact ND CBDG concerning time extension.

**Housing Development:** Mayor Flaherty discussed the survey for Block 34. Interstate will get the survey done.

Wade left the meeting at 5:51 pm.  
Mike Salonen, Rapid Response Plumbing, introduced his team to the council. He is possibly interested in developing housing in Ellendale.

**Bills:** Motion by Lee, second by Denison, to approve the bills as presented. All members, aye. Motion approved.

**Delinquent accounts:** C. Broer, W. West, Z. Sahlie, A. Filbert, J. Kranz, D. Tressel, G. Lott, T. Olson, Troy's Repair, S. Tank, T. Spitzer.

6:00 pm - Motion by Lee, second by Crabtree, to recess Regular Council meeting to beginning Board of Equalization. All members, aye. Motion approved.

proved.  
After a 5-minute break, Regular Council meeting reconvened at 7:49 pm.

P. Henningsen and A. Stage in attendance.

**Raffle Permits:** None.  
**Other Regulated Animal:** C. Armour is requesting a permit for chickens. Motion by Meidinger, seconded by Lee, to table approval until May's regular meeting and have Armour in attendance for further clarification. All members, aye. Motion approved.

Stage left the meeting.  
**Public Works Report:** PW Monroe reported on the monthly jobs for March. Monroe reported residential cleanup days/hours set for May 6-18th. Monroe is looking into a Grant to purchase a barrel handler to help with crack sealing. Discussed storm water drainage on 4th Ave N and 5th Ave N. Monroe will get more information.

**Building Permits:** Motion by Lee, second by Crabtree, to approve the building permit for P&C Henningsen for a yard barn at 305 Railroad Ave, with a variance to allow building to be on property line along 3rd St N so long as the petitioner owns said property. Roll call vote: Langeliers, Belgarde, Crabtree, Meidinger, Denison, and Lee - Yes. Motion approved. Motion by Belgarde, second by Denison, to approve the building permit for: J. Kotze to replace 11 windows at 610 2nd Ave N; and permit for J. Christ to replace 7 windows and siding at 101 13th Ave N. All members, aye. Motion approved.

Henningsen left the meeting.  
Motion by Lee, second by Denison, to table the building permit for OPERA, Inc to replace west sidewalk and installation of landscaping at 55 Main St. All members, aye. Meidinger abstains. Motion approved. Need more information on shrubs that are requested to be planted.

**Police Report:** Police Chief Knutson presented the police log activity for the month of March. Will get a sign for dead end alley between 5th St N and 6th St N. Monitor Main St & 281 stop sign.

**Storage Container – Staley:** Motion by Lee, second by Denison, to deny application for a storage container at 200 3rd St S, as it does not qualify in a residential area; and container needs to be removed within 30 days. All members, aye. Motion approved.

**Housing Development:** Discussed the sale of lots at Judd's Outlot A; an advertisement for sealed bids to be opened at the May Council meeting. With the top bidders the ability to increase bid at the May meeting.

Reviewed an updated plat map of Ellendale Acres. Discussed a request from Applied Digital to purchase 20 lots; an option to purchase another 20 lots in Ellendale Acres and create a TIF District to cover utilities, roads, and other improvements on the development of the 40 lots. Applied Digital is also interested in commercial lots that are available.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Representative will be meeting to discuss 2024-2025 annual renewal.

Denison suggested new customer chairs at the DMV office.

Reminded the council about the 2024 Election.

Next meeting: May 13, 2024.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:28pm.

Everest Emerg Vehicles	\$232,419.00
Randy Trautmann	\$105.88
Troy Fischer	\$1,245.85
The Granary	\$1,200.00
OPERA, Inc	\$1,000.00
Simple Wolf, LLC	\$1,811.88
ND Dept of Env. Quality	\$333.66
Butler Machinery, Co	\$1,100.00
Corey Gulke	\$22.00
Dickey County Recorder	\$20.00
Pens.Com	\$635.90
Minn-Kota Comm, Inc	\$6,594.80
Visa	\$494.26
Eco Lab Pest Elim. Div.	\$171.33
M.D.U.	\$4,507.12
BEK Sports Network	\$800.00
Starion Insurance	\$1,647.00
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc.	\$55.82
Interstate Engineering	\$54,750.00
Interstate Engineering	\$3,385.56
Mertz Constr & Supply	\$15,986.00
Ellendale Park Board	\$692.64
Council	\$27,786.36
Employees	\$27,786.36
Ambulance	\$13,841.21
Mayor	\$295.83
Postmaster	\$215.59
Blue Cross / Blue Shield ND	\$13,302.29
AFLAC	\$227.68
ND League of Cities	\$750.00
MDU	\$3,067.84
John Deere Financial	\$981.28
Computer Express, Inc	\$89.95
Lorena Lynde	\$195.00
Ellendale Concrete	\$26.38
Chad's Electric, Ince	\$298.96
Chad's Electric	\$452.09
Verizon Wireless	\$247.66
Pro Forms	\$882.90
Metro-Billing Services	\$288.00
Shirley Bok	\$412.60
IRS Payroll Taxes	\$11,972.91
ND PERS	\$867.14
ND PERS	\$6,293.52
ND State Tax Com	\$268.28
ND State Tax Com	\$142.71
ND One Call	\$1.30
Candace Middlestead	\$923.17
Nicole Kempf	\$110.00
Resa L Russell	\$22.00
James Monroe	\$269.76
Kimberly Radermacher	\$400.00
Southeast Water Users	\$15,000.00
Crossroads Com Advisors	\$3,300.00
Recycling Center of ND	\$14,237.52
Ellendale True Value	\$808.95
Sm,Po,Sc,Ar,Mo,& Sm Atty	\$765.00
Vistos Carquest	\$190.05
281 Repair	\$348.00
Graham Tire	\$1,879.92
GeffDog Designs	\$29.87
EverSpring Suites	\$481.50
Sanitation Products	\$1,865.46

Donald Flaherty, Mayor  
Candace Middlestead, Auditor  
(Minutes subject to corrections and approval at the next regular meeting.)  
(April 25, 2024)



## Daris Howard

### Bad Brakes

I first met Wally after he called me at four in the morning to put in his yard-watering system before the sod came that same day. He liked my work and hired me for another month. He had a new house, so he wanted help fixing up his old house so it would sell. It was hard work. I dug and hauled dirt, cut down trees, trimmed bushes, and did lots of other physical labor. I would always go home exhausted but grateful for the much-needed income.

Besides the fact Wally liked my work, I think he hired me because I owned a small pickup truck. Wally had nothing but a car, so he would pay me extra to haul stuff for him. I hauled some things to his new house, hauled some things to a second-hand store, and hauled some things to the dump. I took at least one load somewhere every day.

One day, I was busy trimming a hedge when Wally came to me.

"Daris, would you mind if I borrowed your truck?" he asked. "There's a couch my wife bought at the store, and I need to go get it."

"I'm okay with you using it, Wally," I said. "But there are two problems. It has a standard transmission, and the brakes are bad. I was planning to get the brakes fixed as soon as I had enough money."

Wally laughed. "I'm good with standards, and the brakes couldn't be that bad. I see you drive it over here every day, and you seem to stop okay."

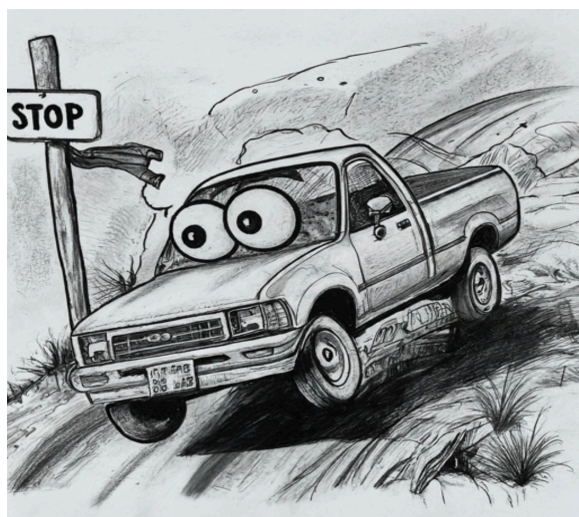
"But do you see how I stop?" I asked. "I gear it down coming to a stoplight and try to coast until the light changes. If I have to come to a full stop, I shut off the key and kill the engine. Shutting off the engine is also how I stop in front of your house."

"But when you back into my yard to load stuff, you don't have a problem."

"That's because it's uphill," I replied. He seemed to think I was exaggerating and assured me that he could do it, so I handed him the keys.

But I was not exaggerating. On downhill roads, the brakes wouldn't slow me down at all. I put it in first gear to keep my speed down. Other cars would pass me and honk.

As time went by and Wally didn't come back, I began to worry. I thought for sure he'd been killed, and it was my fault. But finally, I heard my pickup coming, chugging along in first gear. I felt better, sure Wally had figured it out. But when he pulled up, there was no couch. When he climbed out, he



was breathing hard.

"Where's the couch?" I asked.

"Couch?" he said, almost yelling. "I didn't get anywhere near the furniture store! I only got to the first traffic light at the end of this street!"

"What happened?" I asked.

"I'll tell you what happened! Nothing! That's what happened when I pushed on the brakes! Nothing!"

"I told you the brakes were bad."

"Bad! They're nonexistent! I'm coming to the light, and I push on them. I don't even slow. I panic and swing the wheel to the right and go up on the sidewalk. I'm pumping the brakes for all I'm worth, but nothing is happening. I'm bearing down on people, so I lay on the horn. People are scrambling and dodging out of the way. Finally, the sidewalk narrows, and the wheels on one side go off, and the bottom of the pickup drags along the curb, bringing me to a stop. Then everyone starts yelling at me, and the police come and give me a warning."

"At least it was just a warning," I said.

"Yeah, well, now I'm giving it to you." Wally handed me the warning, and then wrote me a check. "And I'm also giving you an advance on your pay. You stop work right now and get those brakes fixed!"

I thanked him and did as he said. When I got back, I held out the keys. "Do you want to take it and go get the couch, now?" I asked.

"Not a chance. I lost ten years off my life the last time I drove it. You go get the couch, and I'll be here waiting for you when you get back."

Wally never did ask to drive my pickup again.

# Writers and Writing By Michael Tidemann



## *The Girl in the Thistles* recounts 1862 Dakota War

While America was embroiled in the midst of a great civil war, yet another war was taking place in Minnesota.

Aberdeen, S.D., native S.K. Sandvig writes of the 1862 US-Dakota War in *The Girl in the Thistles*, a remarkable multi-genre novel that's part history, part romance, part mystery and part courtroom drama. The novel is based on actual events.

The novel is told from the perspective of Emilie Ferguson, half-Scottish and half-Dakota, who experiences the Dakota war firsthand. Torn between her loyalty to both societies, Emilie finds herself searching for her Scottish father, a bigger-than-life explorer and guide, even as her Dakota mother is imprisoned after hundreds of settlers are killed by Dakota who resent the seizing of their homeland.

As half-white, Emilie finds she, too, is the target of resentment of the Dakota uprising, even though her tribe hid white settlers. She finds help from two friends, Eustis, an African-American man of extraordinary musical and intellectual abilities, and Anders, a Norwegian immigrant set out to find a better life in America.

Emilie is also taken in by the Hoffmans, a Jewish family living in full view of Fort Snelling and the stockade where the Dakota people, including her mother, are held.

Sandvig's exhaustive historical research is quite evident. When he mentions a place, he sends you to the map looking for it – the true mark of accurate historical fiction.

Sandvig skillfully weaves Emilie's feelings for her parents with her quest to learn the truth of what happened to her father. As a result, Emilie evolves from a young girl in constant conflict with her mother and doting on her father to a woman who loves them both, and finally realizes how much they shaped her as a woman.

Sandvig's depiction of the Dakota relocation is absolutely heartbreaking as even those Native people who protected white settlers were swept up in the fervor for revenge.

*The Girl in the Thistles* is also an objective portrayal of the real causes of the Dakota War, and how

there were no clear heroes or villains. Emilie finds allies among both races in her quest for the truth.

Sandvig's novel will appeal to fans of the late Frederick Manfred's *Scarlet Plume* and other historical fiction of the settlement era. It's an intriguing novel, and impossible to put down.

Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His Facebook page is Author Michael Tidemann.



*The Girl in the Thistles*, by S.K. Sandvig: Paper Raven Books LLC ISBN 979-8987402221 -- \$21.99 on Amazon (Also available in paperback and Kindle)

## Did you know?

The *Times Leader* Section (middle of this paper) runs in both the *Dickey County Leader* and the *Oakes Times*. Placing your ad there will yield twice as many views, at the same cost. Call The Leader at 701-349-2333 or the Oakes Times a 701-742-2361

Even a  
Small Ad  
Gets  
Noticed!

Advertising  
Works!  
Check out  
the  
Classifieds

## ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVISE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RELATING TO STATE FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION  
TAKE NOTICE that the  
**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI)** will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes of N.D. Admin. Code 67-23, Special Education; at

**9:30 AM on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in the Peace Garden Room at the State Capitol, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505.**

The proposed rules may be reviewed at the NDDPI Office of School Approval and Opportunity, ND State Capitol, 600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0440. A copy of the proposed rules may be requested by writing to the above address, to the attention of Jim Upgren, emailing jimupgren@nd.gov, or calling 701-328-2244. Written and oral comments may be sent to the above address or telephone number until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024.

For individuals seeking to attend who will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the NDDPI at the above telephone number or address at least five days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2024.  
Jim Upgren, Assistant Director  
Office of School Approval and Opportunity

## "Just Friends" by Baxter Black

I can't remember his number.  
I don't call him often enough.  
His birthday always escapes me  
'cause I don't keep up with that stuff.  
And I'm lucky if I see him  
even once or twice a year  
But I'm really not complainin'  
'cause we're still close, we're just not near.  
I recognize his daughter's voice.  
I remember when she was born.  
Heck, I was there when he got married!  
I held the ring his wife has worn  
For all these years, his darlin'.  
Ya know, she hasn't changed a bit.  
And him and me?  
We're markin' time by the bad habits that we quit.  
Together we're ambidextrous!  
Although we're really not a pair  
We've got each other covered and,  
between us, a full head of hair!  
We're part of each other's gristle,  
as inveterate as bone.  
It's nice how life can fix it  
so you don't have to go it alone.  
As I sit here blowin' smoke rings  
from the pipedreams that we've had,  
I'm wonderin' if I've told him  
how many times it's made me glad  
Just to know he's out there somewhere,  
like a dollar in my shoe,  
And how much it would please me  
if he felt the same way, too.  
When I add up all my assets,  
he's one thing I can't appraise.  
What's a promise or a handshake  
or a phone call worth these days?  
It's a credit with no limit,  
it's a debt that never ends  
And I'll owe him 'til forever  
'cause you can't be more than friends.

*You're invited!*

to the O.P.E.R.A., Inc. Annual Meeting  
Noon, Saturday, April 27  
at the Ellendale Opera House

Enjoy a free lunch, hear about future restoration plans and listen to remarks from North Dakota State Historical Society Director Bill Peterson.

(April 11, 18 & 25, 2024)