

Minutes

Camden Town Council

January 25, 2010

Goal Setting Meeting

The properly advertised and called goal setting meeting of the Camden Town Council was called to order at 6:30 by President Peter Wagoner. Present were Council Members Andy Kelly and Richard Fite, and Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly.

Mr. Wagoner stated he was informed Bob McCain may want replaced on the CCEDC Board. Discussion was held on persons who would have an interest and qualities to represent Camden but the Council withheld making a decision. The other representatives for Camden are Bob Overman and Richard Fite. The Camden-Jackson Twp Library notified the Council Diane Wertz term on their board expired and needed renewed. Motion to re-appoint Mrs. Wertz was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Fite.

An overview of the town's finances was given by the Clerk-Treasurer. The current financial condition of the town was explained along with the anticipated projects that may require the use of funds held in reserve. It was noted that the fall tax distribution was the lowest in the past 6 years. However, the year total general tax revenue was just 1.4% less than projected. Tax rates and revenues for 2010 will be determined once the final assessed valuation is given in the Form 1792 from DLGF. The Clerk-Treasurer explained to the Council they will need to reduce the 2010 General Fund budget to reflect a decrease in tax revenue. The town's advertised budget is set high with the anticipation of reducing it when the tax rate is set. Discussion was held on were as much as \$24,000 could be cut. Cuts are possible in every line item. Although no changes were made, the possibility of changing the employee health insurance was also "placed on the table". The total affect of the property tax caps are still unknown.

The Council reviewed project and goals for 2010.

1. **Non-grant project:** Fencing around wastewater treatment facility (\$15,000), street maintenance (\$21,000) and replacing the town's pickup truck (\$25,000).
 - a. Mr. Fite will visit Mr. Fence in Lafayette for a second estimate to place security fence around the pond area. This fence is necessary to protect the pond cover. A large animal or person walking on the cover could damage the cover and is dangerous.
 - b. Funds remaining from the 2009 budget were encumbered into 2010 to pay for slurry sealing and crack sealing the streets. The Council believes the street work must be maintained.
 - c. The possibility of replacing the 1996 pickup truck will be investigated. Funds were held back in 2008 for this purpose but had to be used for a piece of equipment for the wastewater project. It appears some of those funds will be returned to the town and may be used to purchase a truck.

2. **Grant projects:** Housing Rehab (no cost to town, grant for \$250,000), HVAC for community building and med center (no cost to town, grant for \$143,000), downtown revitalization project (\$60,000 match, \$500,000 grant), CJI ARRA grant (\$24,943, no local match) and water line distribution project (\$1M limit, no local match). All of these projects are in some stage of readiness. The housing rehab grant was submitted January 22nd; more information was requested from the state for the HVAC grant and is due by Feb. 7th; the downtown revitalization project proposal was submitted January 8th and the grant application is due March 19th; the police car has been selected and should be delivered in June; the water line distribution project is in the early stages. A grant administrator and engineer will need secured through the RFP/RFQ. Restrooms for the community building will be funded by a grant from the Community Foundation, (\$2,000), grant from REMC (\$4,000), and local funds. A grant application is being prepared for SIA requesting \$4,500 to help with the project. Council expects to start construction in the spring or early summer. The wastewater project is complete and release of retainage was requested by the construction company.

The Council discusses avenues for growth and development for the future of Camden but felt the current projects should have their full attention before others are aggressively pursued.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 by a motion from Mr. Fite.

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Richard Fite, Vice-President

Andrew Kelly, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer