

Minutes

EMERGENCY MEETING

CAMDEN TOWN COUNCIL

November 14, 2008

As allowed in I.C. 5-14-1.5-5 (d) the Town Council met in emergency session due to the threatened disruption of a governmental activity because of IDEM's unforeseen requirement for the town to include a polish reactor in the wastewater improvement project. This mandate will force the cost of the project to increase by as much as \$57,000 which was not planned for in the original budget. The SRF loan, planned to be for no more than \$320,000, was scheduled for pre-closing conference on November 19th (three business days from the date the town received notice of the requirement) and close on November 24th. The financial advisor and the bond council required directions from the Town Council on how the funds were to be raised before the pre-closing meeting. Their documents would need modified to reflect the additional cost and show how the town wanted to correct the difference. The local newspaper was given the same notice of the meeting as the members of the governing body and the public was notified by posting of a copy of the meeting notice on the front door of the town office.

The meeting was called to order by President Peter Wagoner at 6:30p.m. Present were Members Andy Kelly and Richard Fite and Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly.

Mr. Wagoner asked the Clerk-Treasurer to explain the development to the Council. Mrs. Casserly explained she received a call from the town's financial advisor, Steve Brock of Therber & Brock, late in the afternoon with the news that IDEM would require the town to include the polish reactor in the project in order for IDEM to issue the necessary permit. If the town does not have the polisher, it can not meet the new discharge limits set by IDEM.

The town had two options in paying for the equipment. The first would be to increase the amount borrowed from SRF. This would require a new bond ordinance, new rate ordinance and the advertisement of a public hearing and an adopting meeting. Time would be an issue and the loan could not close on the 24th. After discussing the issue with Amy Miller, grant administrator with Cornerstone Grants Management, it was also revealed the delay would extend the process beyond the time to hold the contractor to his bid. The low bid on the project could be pulled requiring the town to re-bid the project. The delay would also be past the ninety (90) days for the wage determination. The release of funds must take place before January 30th or the CDBG grant for \$500,000 would be in jeopardy.

The second option would be for the town to draw down on its own funds. Utility customers are now expecting a 54.55% increase. Borrowing more funds would raise the wastewater rates by 61.98%. An examination of funds shows sufficient reserves to pay the projected \$57,000 difference.

Following discussion of the situation, Mr. Fite made the motion to purchase the polish reactor, up to \$57,000, from existing allowable funds at the discretion of the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion seconded by Mr. Kelly and passed.

Meeting adjourned by a motion from Mr. Fite at 6:45.

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Richard Fite, Vice-President

Andrew Kelly, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer