

Minutes

Camden Town Council

Regular Meeting

February 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Camden Town Council was called to order by President Pete Wagoner. Present were Members Andy Robison, Michele Everett, Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly, attorney Anne Briggs and five guests.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the call of the meeting to order minutes were approved as follows:

January 9th regular meeting by a motion from Andy, seconded by Michele
January 24th meeting with the Township Trustee and Advisory Board by a motion from Andy, seconded by Michele. President Wagoner explained that the Trustee and Advisory Board requested a meeting to discuss issues of mutual concern. Among the topics were:

The fire protection contract will be reviewed for updating.

The park drive needs graded and stone added. The town will share the cost since we use the drive to get to the well.

The area around the trash container at the cemetery needs improved due to mud issues.

Mutual concerns with trending in property value were discussed.

The County Commissioners are supporting the extension of IN 75 North and have met with INDOT.

The importance of the elementary school to the community and the desire to keep the facility as it is now being used was strongly expressed.

The parties felt the meeting was productive and agreed to meet again, possibly in June.

February 7th ATM meeting also moved by Andy, second by Michele. The town served as a facilitator to bring Bankcard Systems and a local business together. The goal is to have ATM cash machine in Camden that would be available for use anytime. If the

company agrees to the terms of the local business, the machine should be in place within a few weeks.

The docket was approved as presented and signed. The Clerk-Treasurer reviewed the 2006 year end figures and discussed the Rainy Day transfer. With approval from the Council, a resolution will be prepared for the March meeting transferring \$31,836 into the Rainy Day Fund.

Grant Updates

The proposal for the CDBG for the wastewater project was submitted on January 12th by Cornerstone Grants Management. A site visit for the grant is planned 9am on the 22nd. The public hearing was rescheduled for March 13th at 7pm.

Star Development completed the inspections for the first round of the Indiana Housing Grant. The closeout meeting is scheduled for March 13th at 7:15pm. The community will be applying for another housing grant. Public meetings to explain the program to interested persons will be March 13th at 11am and 5pm.

175th Celebration

Jeff Sieber was present to discuss the recent 175th Celebration meeting. Organizations are working on projects and presenting activity ideas for the weekend. The horse pull is set for Saturday night and musical entertainment is set. TDS Telecom made a donation that will be the seed money to purchase memorabilia for the celebration. The state has been contacted in hopes of having speakers for Saturday's opening and lunch and Sunday's closing. A meeting is planned for the first part of March to prepare a list for luncheon invitations.

Fall Festival

Melissa Red Elk stated the Fall Festival will be September 8th from 8am until 4pm. Volunteers are being sought to help with specific functions – garage sales, contest prizes, etc. Interested persons should contact Jeff Sieber or Melissa. The Festival will follow the theme of the 175th Celebration for the Queen contest and possibly use the opera house backdrop. In addition to the Little Mr. and Miss Contest and the Rising Star Contest a 60+ contest will be held. Pictures of individuals over 60 years of age will be placed on containers but pennies only will be accepted for the 60+ group.

Jeff asked the Council if they would support the Festival by providing port-a-potties and the same financial support (\$500) as in the past. He made the recommendation of decreasing the port-a-potties and hand wash stations from three sets to two. The Council agreed to provide the units and continue with financial support by a motion from Andy, seconded by Michele.

Snowstorm

Jerry Snavely, Street Superintendent was very pleased with the new truck following last week's snow storm. He felt the smaller size and four wheel drive were benefits in maneuvering the vehicle during plowing. The change in the salt and sand mixture also helped. Both trucks were used during snow removal resulting in the streets being kept in good condition. Council President Wagoner commended Jerry and Tom Mears on their work to clear the streets, alleys and around the fire hydrants. Mr. Robison felt Camden's streets were in better condition than other small towns. Generally everyone was pleased with the cleanup.

President Wagoner expressed displeasure with the manner in which Duke Energy handled the power outages during the storm. The outages are more frequent since the conversion to Duke Energy and it is difficult to get accurate information. Justin Darling, Carroll County Emergency Coordinator, could not find out when the power would return or where the problem was. Communication with the communities was poor.

The storm also revealed the necessity of having an emergency shelter. The county does not have a plan for the town and Camden was told we would have to take care of ourselves. Camden does have a generator but it is for the water tower and the lift station. Neither the town nor the Fire Department has a generator that can be used to heat and provide power to a building. In addition, the buildings are not wired to accept a generator. Mr. Robison stated a portable generator would be better than a stationary unit in the event buildings became uninhabitable. The generator could be taken to whatever facility would be useable. Mr. Wagoner stated this would be a topic to discuss with the township as a joint project. The Council agreed to pursue the issue. Richard Fite, Camden's Emergency Management Representative, will be asked to investigate a grant to help with the generator cost.

The water line at the Doctor's office (town property) froze during the cold weather. Mr. Robison made the motion to install a new line when weather permits. This was seconded by Mrs. Everett and passed.

Camden Elementary School

Mr. Brown, third grade teacher, came before the Board to request street closings for the School Carnival. Hendrickson Chrysler-dodge-Jeep Dealership, Monticello, will donate \$5.00 each time a car is test driven. This program was a big money raiser for the school when it was last offered. The Carnival will be March 9th from 5-8pm. Mr. Snively will close the streets starting at 4pm.

Mr. Wagoner congratulated the school on the ISTEP scores and stated the results spoke well for the school. An open house is planned by the School Corporation on February 26th at 7pm to review the maintenance needs of the building. Mr. Wagoner stated the community expects the school to remain in Camden as an elementary school for grades K-5. A change in the use would not be acceptable. Citizens interested in the school are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Troubled Property

Twenty-nine letters were sent to citizens instructing them to remove junk vehicles or clean their property in some manner. Eight properties are now in compliance, sixteen are making progress and only five have not contacted the office. The properties will be inspected again on Thursday and updates recorded for future action. The Council's original plan was to implement action at the February Council meeting but due to the cold and snow, the Council will wait until the March meeting before instructing citations to be issued and penalties imposed. The Council also expressed that this round is just the first pass – more action will be taken on other properties that fail the nuisance ordinance requirements. Mr. Robison stated Marshal Chapman is happy with the progress and thanked those that complied.

Miscellaneous Business

1. Water bills will be estimated for this month due to the cold and snow.
2. Mr. Robison asked the Council to consider placing pillars between the town's lot and Fite's Mobility due to cars speeding across the lot and possibility hitting the fire hydrant by the alley. Mr. Wagoner will speak with Bob Overman before the March meeting for his opinion.
3. The request to move Spring Clean-up from May to April will be investigated.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55.

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Andrew Robison, Member

Michele Everett, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer