

Minutes

Camden Town Council

Regular Meeting

March 11, 2010

Following the public hearing for the downtown revitalization project, the regular meeting of the Camden Town Council was called to order at 7:10 by President Peter Wagoner. Present were Council Members Andy Kelly and Richard Fite, Legal Council Anne Briggs, Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly and eleven guests.

The February 12th minutes and the docket were approved by motions from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Resolutions Passed

Resolution 2010-01, "Reduction of 2010 Budget" was introduced by Mr. Wagoner. Due to the property tax caps resulting in less revenue for 2010 than originally planned, the budget for the year will be reduced from \$209,351 to \$185,051 a reduction of \$24,300 in the general fund. Motion to adopt Resolution 2010-01 was made by Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Fite and passed.

Resolution 2010-02, "Rainy Day Transfer", transferring \$1,400 from the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund was approved by a motion by Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Payphone Issue with TDS

Mr. Wagoner and Mrs. Briggs have been in contact with TDS because the company has not honored the agreement signed in 1999 that states TDS will pay half the monthly cost for the payphone at the TDS Office. Last month, Mrs. Briggs informed the company she would be filing legal action for the unpaid balance. Mr. Wagoner received a phone call stating the person they have been in contact with does not have the budget to pay the phone bill but could offer up to \$1,500 to do things to help the community, if they are

recognized for their support. Mrs. Briggs will write a letter agreeing to the terms and expecting the donation yearly. The original contract will be voided by this agreement.

Grant Updates

1. The town was awarded a grant of \$250,000 from Indiana Housing Authority for rehabbing homes. The final determination on who will be served will be made by the grant administrators, Star Development, following the criteria set by the Council. This is the third round of grants the town has received. Mr. Wagoner stated the grant administrators originally expected to receive only half the amount requested so the Council is very pleased to receive full funding.
2. The wastewater project is done. The remaining item is fencing around the covered pond. Mr. Snaveley has suggested repairing the six foot "farm" fence that is already there due to the high estimates received on installing a taller fence with security wire. Mr. Fite made the motion to get a quote for repairs, seconded by Mr. Kelly.
3. The request for grant administrators for the DR2 Water Distribution Grant was emailed to five certified grant administrators, using the small purchase method allowed in this grant. One firm, V.L.P. Grant Administration responded. Mr. Kelly made the motion to award the project to V.L.P, which was seconded by Mr. Fite. A letter will be mailed to inform the company of the decision.
4. The selection of an engineer for the project will take place in April. Six firms were solicited and responses are due April 5th. Interviews are planned for April 8th and the tentative selection date is April 12th. The requirements of the project will be defined once the engineer is selected.
5. The police car, to be purchased with funds awarded in the ARRA/JAG grant, is expected to be delivered in May or June.
6. Restrooms in the community building will be planned by Municipal Civil Corporation. Mr. Smith will have an associate contact the clerk-treasurer in the next couple of weeks to start drawing plans.
7. The town was not awarded an ARRA/Energy Efficiency grant that was to pay for new HAV systems and lighting in the community building and health center. The Council plans to resubmit for the next round but will just apply for the Community Center, not the Health Care. Funding may have been denied on the prior round because Memorial Hospital pays the heating cost for the health center, not the town.

Camden Health Center

Toby Schock will try to repair the small leak in the flat roof of the Health Center. The roof should be inspected this spring by the same person who has done work for the library.

Local Ordinance Issues

Mr. Fite state he was invited by another person to enter the Camden Emporium and he presented pictures to the Council of the interior. He expressed concerns the Masonic Lodge has a tenant living in the building and as such should pay a water bill reflecting another user. By a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the Clerk-Treasurer was directed to write a letter to the Masonic Lodge stating their water bill will be increased in the manner prescribed in Ordinance 2005-5 unless they can show otherwise.

Pet owners were reminded to purchase pet tags to stay in compliance with the local ordinance. Tags can be purchased at the town office for \$5 or \$3, if the pet is neutered.

Complaints are being made about the vicious dogs that are allowed to run loose and have made advances on town employees as they try to read the water meters. Owners who allow their pets to run loose will be fined by the town marshal. There have also been complaints about the numerous stray cats. Without animal control there is little the town can do to control the stray cats and dogs.

The last ordinance issue discussed was the car in the front yard of the property on North Monroe. Mrs. Briggs sent the property owner a letter last month telling her the car needed to be taken out of the front yard but it is still there. The legal options available to the town include small claims or fining the property owner for non-compliance. The Council instructed Mrs. Briggs to write another letter to tell her she will be fined if the car is not removed.

Hoosier Heartland

- An INDOT Community Advisory Comm (CAC) meeting for HHH will be March 16, 5:00 – 6:30pm at the new Ivy Tech in Logansport. The meeting will provide updates on the project. Mr. Wagoner, Byron Rude, Jerry Sparks and Mr. Fite will attend from the Camden area.
- INDOT Commissioner Reed stated again this week that INDOT intends to complete HHH from Lafayette to Logansport in 2012 which is a year ahead to schedule. This project is fully funded through the Major Moves and stimulus funds.
- The HHH design plans will include an overpass and connection approach for a future extension of Hwy 75. Plans are now being modified to allow for the road.
- Carroll County officials have ceased the engineering work on the Hwy 75 extension due to lack of funding. The Commissioners wanted to use Cum Bridge funds for the project but the move was blocked by the Council.

Miscellaneous Business

- Bill Dittman, Jackson Twp. Trustee, asked the Council to share the cost of having stone placed on the drive at the park. This cost was shared in 2009 because the town uses the drive as access to the well. Council approved the request.
- Mr. Dittman also asked the Council to allow the Lion's Club to use the Community Building on September 11th for a toy tractor show and sale which will be a fund raiser for the club. A lunch will also be served. The Council approved use of the building at no charge to the club.
- 4-H shooting sports representative Tammy Arnett asked permission to set port-a-potties at the range while the members are there. This will be paid for by of 4-H. Permission was granted. The request to have the area sprayed for mosquitoes was also approved. The contract for the use of the range was signed and will be returned to Purdue.
- Several representatives from the Baptist Church attended the meeting. The church will have an area wide meeting in Camden on September 19th and stated they would like to do some type of community service for citizens in Camden on September 17th and 18th as a way to thank the Camden Church for hosting the event. Pastor Marty Pursel, First Baptist Church in Young America, Rev. Jeff Sexton, Calvary Baptist Church, Kokomo, Paul Marcellino, Camden, and Bill Vibert, Camden asked for ideas on project they could do. The church will provide the labor but does not have funds to supply materials. Mr. Wagoner will work with them on developing a community service project.
- The Town Wide Garage Sale will be July 24. Deb Foreman agreed to coordinate the activity and will be the contact person for citizens interested in participating. Maps will be prepared, as was done last year, to let people know where the sales are. The town will provide port-a-potties. The Preservation Society will serve hot dogs and soft drinks.

- Spring Clean-Up Day was set for May 20th. The Township will have a dumpster in the town's activity lot for collection of scrap metal. Proceeds from last year's scrap metal drive provided swings at the park.
- Banners will need hung. Instead of the regular spring banners, consideration will be given to purchasing flag banners. The regular flags are torn and damaged from the wind last year and several need replaced.
- A Community Club Fish Fry will be held March 20th from 5 – 7.
- Citizens were reminded the 2010 Census is underway. A representative from the Census will be at the Library from February 26th through April 19th during regular library hours to answer questions and help fill out the form. It was mentioned that some homes have not yet received their forms and if one does not come in the mail or is left on a door, they are encouraged to go to the library and fill out the census. It is very important for all citizens to be counted to ensure the town receives all allowable tax revenue. Over the ten year period the census count is used, each person counted generates about \$40,000 in revenue for the town. Testing will take place at the library on Saturday for persons interested in working for the Census.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 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