

# **Minutes**

## **Camden Town Council**

### **Regular Meeting**

**March 12, 2009**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the regular meeting of the Camden Town Council was called to order at 7:00pm by President Peter Wagoner. Present were Council Members Richard Fite and Andy Kelly, Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly, town attorney Anne Briggs and ten guests.

The minutes from the February 12<sup>th</sup> regular Council Meeting were approved by a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Other minutes were also approved by motions from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly:

February 12, 2009-Request for Qualification Selection Meeting

February 12, 2009- Downtown Revitalization Project Public Hearing

February 12, 2009-Homeowner Repair & Improvement Project Public Hearing.

February 19, 2009- Interview & Selection Process, Downtown Revitalization

#### **Architect/Engineer Submittals**

Seven proposals were submitted by architects and engineers for consideration in planning a downtown revitalization. A short list of two firms was selected for interviews. Municipal Civil Corporation was select from the applicants to perform the engineering aspect of the downtown revitalization planning.

The March docket was also approved by a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

#### **Medical Facility**

Unity Healthcare has continued communications with Mr. Wagoner since the death of Dr. Anderson and the public has been updated on a monthly basis as to their efforts to place a

doctor in Camden. The original plan was to have a nurse practitioner or a physician's assistant staff this office. Today Mr. Wagoner was told Unity is trying to recruit several primary care physicians and Camden is where they would like to place one. The use of a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant was not practical for Unity. The Healthcare asked the town to work with them and would like to continue to lease the building while doing a search. This is a change from their original approach and their focus is now to find physicians for the small communities. Unity feels there is a need to place a doctor in Camden and asked to continue to lease the building. Mr. Fite made the motion to allow the lease to continue as is for the remainder of 2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Kelly and passed.

During the February meeting, the Council accepted Fite's Construction estimate of \$1,900 to remove carpet and a wall, kill mold where found and fix the leaking roof at the medical building. Water damaged the building and mold was growing on the walls and in the carpet in the back two rooms. Work beyond the scope of the original estimate was necessary and discussed with the Council President before being done. The additional labor and materials resulted in a bill of \$3,924.75. Mr. Fite excused himself from discussion of the work and payment of the invoice. Mr. Kelly made the motion to pay the bill as presented, seconded by Mr. Wagoner and passed.

### **Wastewater Project**

Ken Smith, Municipal Civil Corp, presented a brief update on the wastewater project. Work is expected to begin the last week of March. The liners are manufactured and ready. Mr. Snavely stated he did a walk-through with the construction company, RE Crosby, a couple of weeks ago. Mr. Wagoner stated the project will cost approximately \$900,000 and most people will not even know it is taking place. There will be no changes in service and most work will be done out of sight. The work is necessary to be in compliance with IDEM to continue discharging into the creek. IDEM issues the permit and requires certain standards to be met. Access to the ponds area will need to be controlled during construction. The gate will be locked in the evenings and no one will be allowed to use the shooting range this spring.

### **Downtown Revitalization Project**

Mr. Smith has ordered aerial photos of the downtown and those should be taken next week. While the company is here, they will also take photos of the 75 Extension areas. Letters authorizing the environmental review were signed by Mr. Wagoner and will be sent to IDNR SHPO. The area under review has been previously disturbed so there should not be any problems. Buildings will not be affected so there will be no concerns for the historical structures. Mr. Smith will investigate other grants and funding sources for the project.

## **Hoosier Heartland Corridor Update**

There were no real updates to report according to Mr. Wagoner. The HHC is on track and bridges are being build outside of Delphi. There are still plans to connect 75 with the HHC but it is uncertain where the funding will come from to do the upgrades of 75 from the blinker light in Camden to the Corridor. The CCEDC is looking at and doing preliminary work on an industrial site.

The HHICG and INDOT will meet on April 9<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Wagoner will give an update at the Council meeting scheduled for that evening.

## **Miscellaneous Business**

- People were reminded to get pet tags as required by local ordinance. A reminder will be placed on the monthly billing cards. The tag will help identify a pet if it strays and give an opportunity to have it returned home. Although there is no animal control, having a pet tagged will provide one way to identity the owner for a safe return. Currently there are dogs and cats running loose and it is feared there will be more. People are asked to do a better job keeping their pets at home.
- Gayle Frye expressed concern about the amount her daughter was paying for sewage service. The Hughes property does not have water and therefore does not have a meter to measure flow. The sewage bill at that property is a flat rate and Mrs. Frye felt the rate is too high. Mr. Wagoner expressed sympathy for the difficult time the family is having but also stated the Council is limited on what it can do. The house has been unoccupied since February 22<sup>nd</sup> and Mrs. Frye is unsure when the family will be home. Mr. Wagoner said the rate could be suspended as allowed for water customers who ask to have their service suspended when gone for an extended time. Trash service will also be stopped but will be reactivated when the town office is informed they have returned home. Mrs. Frye was told the Hughes must contact the office when they return home and billing for all services will resume. Everett Snoeberger suggested a meter be put on the property's well and measure the water usage. The wastewater bill could be determined based on the meter reading. Mr. Snavelly said he could not do that but it would be something the homeowner could investigate. Mr. Fite made the motion to suspend service as of February 22<sup>nd</sup> and prorate the bill to that date. When the customer returns they are to contact the town office and at that point, the initial bill will also be prorated for the days home. Motion seconded by Mr. Kelly and passed. No action was taken on reducing the flat rate charged for the wastewater.

- Susan Kleckner and Barb Rude, representing the Youth Day Parade Committee requested the streets along the parade route be closed on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. In addition, they asked permission to have “gators” on town streets during the parade, to use the town camera to record the event and to connect to the town’s electricity for the camera. Permission was granted for all.
- Tracy Dillon asked for an adjustment to his water bill. Although he had a leak and had his water shut off, he has not fixed the leak. By ordinance, the Clerk-Treasurer can give an adjustment on a verified leak that has been repaired. Mr. Dillon stated he was going to sell the house and would have the water leak fixed prior to the sale. Mr. Fite made the motion to adjust his bill from \$294.24 to the allowed adjusted amount of \$52.60. Mr. Kelly seconded and motion passed.
- The Federal Trade Commission enacted a rule called the “Identity Theft Red Flag Rule” requiring utilities to develop an identity theft prevention program. The Council adopted the program as written by the Clerk-Treasurer to help detect when accounts are fraudulent, procedures to prevent the establishment of false account and procedures to follow in respond to identity theft.
- The Community Club will have a fish fry on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Bagged leaves and tree branches that have fallen because of the winter storms will be picked up by town employees as time allows. Citizens must not have trash in the bags. Call the town office for pickup.
- Spring cleanup will be in May – the date will be announced at the April meeting.
- The library will have a yard cleanup on March 26<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. They requested the use of a town truck to haul yard waste. Use of a truck was given by a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.
- Everett Snoeberger will be improving the parking area in front of his house and asked if there were any permits needed. None are required but he is to check with Jerry when ready to do the work.
- Mr. Snoeberger expressed concern about the values of homes decreasing in Camden and asked if the Council had plans in place to deal with the expected decrease in property tax revenues. The depressed economy along with the 1% circuit breaker will stress the revenues and budgets of all public entities. He was assured the Council and Clerk-Treasurer were aware of the impact the down turning economy will have on the town’s budget and expenses are being watched.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 by a motion from Mr. Fite.

Camden Town Council

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Peter F. Wagoner, President

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Richard Fite, Vice-President

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Andrew Kelly, Member

ATTEST:

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P.A. Casserly  
Clerk-Treasurer