

Minutes

CAMDEN TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

May 9, 2008

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

Minutes from the April 10th regular council meeting were approved by motions from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Minutes were also approved from the April 29th meeting. Mr. Wagoner explained the east garage of the community building was advertised as being for rent and an agreement was reached with Brian Foreman, owner of *Vital Signs*. The decision to rent the space to Mr. Foreman will result in a business staying in the community and will supplement the cost for maintaining the building. Jerry Snavelly and Tom Mears were complimented on their work in preparing the space for rental.

The Council adopted the 2008 tax rate during the same meeting. The town was allowed by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to set the general fund property tax rate at \$1.1417, CCD at .0236 and cum sewer at .04. The Council voted to reduce the general fund rate to \$1.08 and keep the other rates as allowed. The reduction will reduce the total general property taxes by over \$6800. As a result of the reduction, the Council also cut the 2008 operating budget by \$15,000. Due to the tax rates just now being set it is unsure when 2008 revenue will be received.

The docket for April was approved as presented by a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Grant Updates

Ken Smith, Municipal Civil Corp is researching grant possibilities for new restrooms for the community building. The grants will be through private and government sources. Contact has been made with FEMA and State Homeland Security, Natural Disaster. There are at least twenty possible sources of funds. Mr. Smith said awards of CDBG will

be known by the middle or end of May. Mr. Wagoner explained the town's need for the wastewater improvements in order to meet IDEM mandated requirements.

Construction bids on the housing grant will be opened on May 15th.

Following discussion of some problems at the park, a motion was made Mr. Fite and seconded by Mr. Kelly to allow Marshal Mullin to apply for another Criminal Justice Institute Grant to be used to purchase a night camera.

Animal Control

Mr. Kelly gave the citizens an update on the animal control program. A meeting was held in April and another is planned for May 20th in an attempt to restart animal control. A person made contact with the committee to express an interest in handling stray dogs and cats for communities taking part in the program. He would charge \$1000 per month, be on call seven days a week and take up to twelve calls for the flat rate. Additional calls would be billed individually. The man performs the work for others and is interested in contracting to do a wider area. He has his own truck, insurance and equipment but did express an interest in purchasing live trap cages from the equipment remaining from county wide animal control. Currently Delphi, Flora, Camden and possibly Burlington are interested in joining resources to bring the service to their citizens. A few townships may also be interested. The contract would pertain to only the units of government who fund the program; the others would do without animal control. Mr. Kelly will report more at the June council meeting.

Miscellaneous Business

- The town's fire truck will be taken in for ISO inspection. The motion to pay the driver \$75 for his time to take the truck over (the same as in years past) was made by Mr. Fite and seconded by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Fite commented it was the right thing to do since the truck belongs to the town.
- The township's scrap metal drive is going well. A second dumpster is to be brought in on Friday since the first one is just about full. Mrs. Dittman said the company will accept LP gas canisters if the valve is removed or it has holes. Also acceptable are lawn mowers, if the fluids are drained and freezers/refrigerators as long as the Freon is removed.
- Michael Gurnick volunteered to chair the fall festival and has six to ten people interested in helping him. He would like for it to be a two day event, moved off the main streets and have events at the park and/or the school. His ideas include more vendors and swap meets. If funds are sufficiently generated a trust fund would be established. He was told the town's insurance would place some restrictions on activities and he should check to be sure the town was protected.

The town provides port-a-potties but does not give other financial assistance. The council supported his ideas and was glad to see him take it over.

- Mr. Gurnick next asked about running water and sewer lines to his property at 225 Lee Street. It is an old building with no water or sewage. Jerry Snavelly gave him an estimate of \$1,500 for labor and material which is more than he can spend at one time. Mr. Fite stated the cost to run his lines came to \$1,900 so the estimate would be very close. Mr. Gurnick asked if payments could be made. That possibility will be checked.
- Concern was expressed about speeding in the alleys. Mrs. Briggs will check statute for alley speed limits.
- Spring clean-up will be May 22nd.
- The Youth Day Parade and Masonic breakfast will be on June 7th.

Meeting adjourned by a motion from Mr. Fite at 7:45.

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Richard Fite, Vice-President

Andrew Kelly, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer