

Minutes

Camden Town Council

Budget Meeting

June 24, 2009

The properly advertised meeting to work on the 2010 budget and other matters was called to order by Mr. Peter Wagoner at 7:00pm. Present were Members Richard Fite and Andy Kelly, Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly and Ken Smith, Municipal Civil Corp.

The Council approved the minutes from the June 11th Downtown Revitalization Project Second Public Hearing by a motion from Mr. Fite, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Downtown Revitalization Project

Mr. Ken Smith presented the finished Downtown Revitalization Study for the Town Council to review. The plan includes replacement of sidewalks where needed, streetlights spaced at proper intervals, brick crosswalks, pavement of the parking lot at the community Building and other enhancements. The total budget was estimated to be \$593,800. Mr. Smith suggested possible changes to the plan if the Council wanted to reduce the project cost. Funding sources were also discussed and the Council authorized the Clerk-Treasurer to contact Gerry White, OCRA, to determine what funds might be available and if there are any grants that do not require a local match. The Council also authorized the Clerk-Treasurer to contact Jeff Hornsby or his replacement at Ball State University to discuss an updated income survey.

The plan was accepted as presented with the Council signing "Local Resolution Approving the Plan for the Revitalization of Downtown Camden" by a motion from Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Fite.

Mr. Smith was questioned on the progress being made on the wastewater project. Construction is on schedule and is expected to be finished by the end of August.

Jackson Township

Jackson Township held a meeting this same evening to discuss replacing/adding a fire truck. The Town Council and others were invited to attend but due to the Council previously scheduling the budget meeting, no one from the Council was able to attend. The Council will meet with the Trustee and his Advisory Board on August 24th to discuss items of mutual concern.

Bill Dittman, Trustee, contacted the Clerk-Treasurer's office accepting the offer to loan the fire department a town defibrillator.

EMS Funding

Al Jackson, Burlington Township Trustee, is continuing his efforts to help Carroll County fund a third ambulance. He requested a commitment of \$2,850 for each of the next three years as Camden's share in helping to support the service. Following discussion of the budget and what is possible to expend, the Council approved the support but did place a condition that all units of local government must participate or the offer would be withdrawn.

A brief discussion was held on the placement of an EMS garage in Camden but there are still many unknowns about the proposal.

Budget Issues

The Council adopted the 2009 tax rate at the rate allowed by the DLGF. Due to the decline in assessed valuations, the rate is set at: General Fund \$1.5496, CCD \$.1236 and Cum Sewer \$.04 per \$100 assessed valuation. The homestead property will be capped at 1.5% of the assessed value.

The Council worked on the 2010 budget. The budget will need to be advertised before the local officials meet with the DLGF resulting in many unknowns. Information was given that the assessed values are expected to decrease another 5% for 2010 and all units of government were advised to set the tax rate at a level sufficient to cover expenses. Instructions were given to the Clerk-Treasurer on how the Council would like to proceed for 2010. Completed copies of the 2010 proposed budget will be prepared and mailed to the Council for their approval.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 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