

Minutes

Camden Town Council

Regular Meeting

June 5, 2007

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

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the call of the meeting to order minutes from the May 8th Regular Council Meeting were approved by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett.

The docket was approved as presented and signed.

Unsightly Properties

Deputy Marshal Chapman visited two properties to investigate complaints by neighbors. One complaint was in regards to high grass and the other was for dogs.

Mr. Wagoner requested Deputy Marshal Chapman do a follow up investigation on the property at the bottom of the hill on Highway 75. If the property is in good standing a letter of thanks is to be sent. Mr. Robison requested a letter of welcome and thanks be sent to Gary Robbie for the work he has done on the old Mobil Station with painting and clean up. Robison stated the new owner is very aware of the upcoming 175th Celebration and wants the building in good order for the event.

Summer Activity Update

Melissa Red Elk gave the report for the Fall Festival. Several businesses have made donations and a few vendors are reserving space. There will be several new activities added to the Festival including pie judging, tricycle and big wheel races, sexiest legs contest, and bubble gum blowing contest. Visitors will also be entertained by the group Resurrection and two new acts. Ms. Red Elk would like someone to help plan and organize children's games.

The Little Miss/Mr. Contest and Rising Star will be held again this year. Donations for the Rising Star will be collected in jars as they were last year. The Rising Star award will be a savings bond which the winner can later apply towards college expenses. Help was asked for in determining the boundaries for the Camden Queen Contest applicants. In the past contestants were limited to those who had attended Camden Elementary School. The change at the school will eliminate those boundaries. Suggestions should be directed to Melissa Red Elk or Jeff Sieber. A new contest will be tried this year – Camden Golden Stars. More information on this event will be given later.

Jeff Sieber reported on the 175th Celebration and gave a review of the calendar of events. The most recent community meeting was held on June 4th and the final one will be July 2nd.

Carroll County Economic Development

Daryl Smith, Carroll County Economic Development Director, addressed the Council and discussed issues involving the county. Mr. Smith stated the CC EDC is supported by Camden and other entities throughout the county. Information was provided on the county's employment gains and agricultural focus. The four largest employment gains came from The Andersons, Boeman Dairy, Opima Dairy and IPC. Carroll County's agricultural opportunities are attractive to many businesses and could result in "spin off" companies having an interest in locating in Carroll County. Mr. Smith concluded his presentation with a review of CC EDC goals for 2007.

Mr. Wagoner stated it was nice to get an overview of what EDC is doing and what their goals are. The Town has funded EDC for years and the information provided was informative. Conversation turned to the Hoosier Heartland Corridor and the

opportunities that may develop. Mr. Smith said it is difficult to attract new business but hopefully the HHC will help because new jobs throughout the state have developed close to major highways. Carroll County needs to prepare for opportunities the new highway may bring.

Housing Grant Administrative Proposal Accepted

Two packets were received in the town office in the manner prescribed and in a timely manner to qualify for consideration to provide administrative services, program delivery, lead base paint testing and environmental review for a Community Development Block Grant. The first packet to be opened by the Clerk-Treasurer was from Star Development, Cambridge City, Indiana. The Council reviewed the information and found the packet to be complete. The second packet was from EMG, Hunt Valley, MD. An examination of the material found it lacking in qualification for grant administrative service and program development. The company addressed the lead base paint testing and environmental review services only and was thus disqualified. The services as described were awarded to Star Development by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett.

Joyce and Mark McCarty, Star Development, were present to discuss the housing grant application with the Council. Currently thirteen households have completed the income certification. Star Development will be at the July meeting for the Council to sign paperwork for the grant application which will be submitted August 1, 2007. Awards will be known sometime in October. If Camden is allotted funding, projects would start based on the work desired and winter weather.

Mr. Wagoner has heard good comments and the recipients of the last round are pleased with the project. Mrs. McCarty said during the last project local contractors were solicited but the response was poor. Mr. McCarty is willing to come to Camden to help the contractors properly complete the required paperwork in an attempt to more actively pursue local contractors. Ads will be placed in the local paper as was done previously to attract interest.

Ordinance 2007-2

Establishing a Sidewalk Construction and Financing Policy

Ordinance 2007-2 was presented in its final form for Council approval. The new ordinance will reimburse residence 50% for contracted replacement instead of the \$4.00/lenial foot. The \$4.00 will still be offered for replacement work completed without town involvement. Provisions are allowed in the ordinance to rank the repair priority in the event several property owners are interested in the program. Funding will be limited to what is allowed in the yearly budget. Mrs. Everett made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2007-2, seconded by Mr. Robison and passed.

Indemnification Agreement

Carroll County Sheriff's Department and Town of Camden

The Carroll County Sheriff's office requested an indemnification agreement be signed between the County and the Town of Camden. The agreement states the Town will hold harmless and indemnify the County, Sheriff and officials, employees and members of the Department from any liability, including reasonable attorney fees, which may arise as a result of the employment of the deputies as marshals for the Town. It further states the Sheriff's Department has the use of certain equipment owned by the Town. If any damage occurs to the equipment when used by the Sheriff's Department the equipment will be replaced at the expense of the Carroll County Sheriff's Department. The agreement was accepted by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett. Two copies were signed to allow both parties original signatures.

Miscellaneous Business

1. Mr. Wagoner reported there is not much new on the school situation. The school year ended and the teachers were moved out. A meeting was held at the school at the calling of the superintendent, Mr. Walker, on May 24th at 6:30. In attendance were School Board members Mike Shoemaker, Jerry Sparks and Jim Garrison. The School Board Members acknowledged the school realignment was required due to the school's financial situation. The change will result in fewer teachers and is planned as a means to cut expenditures. Petitions are still being circulated

to ask the Board to reconsider the change due to the quick action and lack of planning. The petitions will be presented at the next School Board meeting on June 11th.

2. The Town was not awarded the grant for the wastewater project. A second grant is in process and will be ready for the next round. A site visit was held on May 30th to review the grant and learn what portions need improved upon. Letters from concerned citizens are encouraged because of the points they earn. Camden will have problems meeting state guidelines if we do not secure the grant.
3. There has been an unusual amount of vandalism reported over the past few weeks. The marshals are working on three cases – a pop machine was damaged, stones were damaged at the cemetery and the concession stand at the park was broken into. The marshals will have more evening patrols and are asking citizens to be watchful of people out at night. Suspicious behavior should be reported to the marshal or call the Sheriff's office.
4. Mrs. Briggs was instructed to amend the Nuisance Ordinance by removing reference to junk vehicles. This action will eliminate any confusion that would have resulted due to junk vehicles being covered in Ordinance 2007-1 and the Nuisance Ordinance. Mr. Wagoner also asked about the dog situation at some residence in Camden. Mention was made that some communities limit the number and size and dogs allowed in town.
5. Eric Foreman asked to have James Street closed from Armstrong to Ohio Street on July 7th from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm for the Antique Tuggers Tractor Pull. Permission was granted by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett.
6. Clarification on the sidewalk ordinance was requested by Lee Click. A sidewalk from the public sidewalk up to a residential or private/public building is to be replaced at the property owner's expense. Sidewalks that cross an alley or drive will be reviewed for replacement and the Council will decided what to do based on what makes the most sense. If a property owner wants work done outside that prescribed in Ordinance 2007-2, he is to speak with the contractor directly and be solely responsible. The Town limits its responsibility to the public sidewalk.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett.

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Andrew Robison, Member

Michele Everett, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer