

Minutes

Camden Town Council

Regular Meeting

August 14, 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, and five citizens. Town attorney Anne Briggs was absent. Mr. Wagoner explained the meeting was also the public hearing for the 2008 budget and open for public comments. The council had called a special meeting on July 5th for budget discussion and that meeting was also open for the public

Minutes were approved for the following meetings by a motion from Mr. Robison and seconded by Mrs. Everett:

July 10th Indiana Housing Grant Meeting

July 10th CDBG Waste Water Project

July 10th Regular meeting

Ken Smith will be in town on the 15th to video and take pictures of the wastewater system in hopes of strengthening the grant. It is vital to the community to make the improvements and repairs to the system but this can only be done if grant funds are obtained. Mr. Snavelly noted that repairs and cleanup were required today on the lift station and it took two men over eight hours to get the system in proper running order.

The docket was approved as presented and signed by a motion from Mr. Robison, seconded by Mrs. Everett.

Summer Festivities Updates

Jeff Sieber addressed the Council about the 175th Celebration. The event was a wonderful success and everyone enjoyed the weekend. A final report will be prepared but a few bills are still outstanding. The school system has not sent the bill for janitorial service and there may be a couple of other bills. The books will have to be closed in a certain manner since the organization is a 501(3) (C). Mr. Sieber also brought in the newspaper articles from the 150th Celebration to be included in the time capsule. Mementos will be sold on the Friday of the tractor pull and again in November to try to take advantage of the Christmas sales.

Mr. Sieber also gave information on the Fall Festival. The various pageants will be August 25th starting at 4:00. There are seven Little Miss Contestants, three Little Mister, three Miss Camden (a couple more may still sign up), five Rising Star and four Golden Star entries. Booth interest has been very slow this year. Mr. Sieber stated the price of gas has adversely affected festivals and interest is down. Numerous requests have been made for help but there has been little response. If there is not more help for the 2008 Festival, the Siebers and Melissa Red Elk will resign from festival activities.

Streets will need to be closed for the festival. By a motion from Mr. Robison and seconded by Mrs. Everett, Water Street will be closed from Main to Washington and Cumberland will be closed from Water to Armstrong. The streets are to be barricaded by 6:00 am and reopened at 6:00 pm. The festival will be from 8:00am until 4:00 pm.

Mr. Sieber felt it would be nice to incorporate a horse pull with the fall festival. There is a great deal of interest to have another horse pull. Mr. Wagoner asked if a group or organization was interested in sponsoring the pull and was told Bill Dittman has been working on a date. The event was well received due to paying cash for the prizes, the number of people in attendance and the condition of the track.

Sidewalk Ordinance

Mrs. Casserly sent out packets of information to the citizens who expressed an interest in sidewalk replacement. Signs promoting the ordinance will be posted to generate more awareness since there are other properties that would benefit from the program. Mr. Wagoner stated the new policy is financially better for those who have a need and want to improve their property.

Emergency Shelter Update

Preparing the Community Building for use as a natural disaster shelter is moving forward. A company has started to put some numbers together for cost but nothing firm has been submitted. A larger than expected generator will be required and wiring issues will need to be worked out. The building has been sized and the cost of a natural gas generator determined but the price for wiring and labor to get everything in place is still an unknown. Mr. Wagoner stated we learned from the snow storm last winter that the community will have to take care of itself and we can not count on others to come to our aid.

Animal Control

Mrs. Casserly gave a brief update on Animal Control for Carroll County. Sheriff Tony Burns called a meeting of the Animal Control Board on August 8th at the Camden Community Building. The Board will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 in the Community Building. Due to the financial condition the county is in, there is a possibility animal control will no longer be a service offered. If that should happen, alternatives will need to be investigated. The possibility of having a humane shelter was discussed. Board members will start investigating alternatives to a county wide program and report their findings at the next meeting. Mr. Robison asked the possibility of Camden having an in-house dog catcher. This was discussed but there would be many issues to resolve before the program was undertaken.

Mrs. Briggs will be asked to investigate an ordinance for dogs of particular breeds know to be dangerous. Delphi and Flora will be asked to share copies of their local regulations. Mr. Wagoner stated this will continue to be a pressing issue.

State Road 75 Extension

The county is again looking into an extension of Highway 75 north to the proposed Hoosier Heartland Corridor. The Commissioners are trying to gather support of the project and have contracted persons at the state and local level. The Town of Camden will support the extension if there is a strong push for economic development at the interchange. The town wants assurances it will be given the opportunity to participate in supplying utilities. There will be no interest in supporting a project that will just put more traffic on the local street and not give the town growth.

Miscellaneous Business

- The Marshal will continue to monitor “trouble property”. Letters were sent to a few homes this past month and a couple of vehicles were marked for removal. The Board will stay after homeowners who choose not to be in compliance with the town’s nuisance ordinance.
- The lease on the copier has matured and a change can be made. After discussion on cost and what the budget can handle, Mr. Robison made the motion to buy the machine in the office and set it up with a monthly maintenance agreement thru Xerox. This was seconded by Mrs. Everett and passed.
- Mr. Robison asked to have Mrs. Briggs investigate an ordinance on compression brakes that semi trucks use on town streets. The noise can be very disturbing and is not necessary. The town of Walton has adopted such an ordinance and has warnings posted. Mrs. Briggs will be contacted to take care of writing an ordinance.
- Mr. Ron Wertz asked the Council to have the signs at the entrance to Camden repaired or replaced due to their unsightly condition. Mr. Robison recalled that Signs by Jerry had offered to donate signs several months ago but no action was taken. He will contact the company to see if they still have an interest. The signs were originally installed by Tom Grey with funds from Fall Festivals.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 closing the regular and budget hearing. No comments were offered

Camden Town Council

Peter F. Wagoner, President

Andrew Robison, Member

Michele Everett, Member

ATTEST:

P.A. Casserly
Clerk-Treasurer