

City of Camanche, Iowa

February 2, 2010

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa, met in regular session February 2, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Robertson, presiding, and the following named council members: Fahlbeck, Kramer (arrived at 6:03 P.M), Nelson, Varner, and Kampe. Also present were City Administrator Roth, City Attorney Lonergan, City Engineer Solchenberger, and department heads Houzenga, Schutte, Rickertsen, and Jindrich.

Scott Stevenson, Ruan Securities, explained to the council about the sale of general obligation refunding bonds. The total savings will be \$55,000.

Moved by Kampe, second by Varner to approve a Resolution Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2010 and Calling Outstanding Notes for Redemption. On roll call – all ayes.

Jill VanRoekel, representing Winkel, Parker and Foster, presented the FY09 audit. Lonergan asked if it was a clean audit. Jill replied that it was.

Moved by Kramer, second by Varner, to accept the FY09 audit. On roll call – all ayes.

Tom Stutting asked if the construction project across the street from city hall was given tax abatement. Roth stated that it was more like a tax rebate. Stutting strongly suggested that in the future if the city awards tax abatement, the builder should be required to hire contractors from the city, if not the State of Iowa.

Michael Yackshaw would like the city to postpone consideration of the health insurance change until questions from the employees have been addressed. There was considerable discussion on the health insurance policy. Roth will set up a meeting between Chuck Duax and a representative from UnitedHealthCare of the River Valley and the employees and council members. Kramer would like it tabled and to get the employees' questions answered.

Dan Puckett addressed the council. He stated he is one of the coaches of a tournament baseball team made up of 10 year olds. They want to use a field one night a week for games and for practices. Kampe stated Dan was offered Friday night from Park & Rec. Dan said that wouldn't work because they have tournament games on Saturday and they don't want their pitchers pitching on Friday night. Robertson felt that Dan needs to take this up with the Camanche Junior Baseball Association board since they are the ones that do the scheduling of the fields.

Moved by Kramer, second by Fahlbeck, to approve the consent agenda which covered the following items: approve minutes from January 19, 2010 regular and January 26 budget council meeting; approve Abstract No. 506 dated February 2, 2010 with total expenditures \$108,120.03 and salaries \$35,503.24; accept December monthly report for Camanche Fire Dept; approve new wine permit as submitted by Kwik Star; approve Pay Application #7 to Maguire Iron in the amount of \$55,650.00; approve Pay Application #8 to Langman Construction in the amount of \$148,240.02; approve a bill for engineering services from Shive Hattery for the water main project in the amount of \$43,658.81. On roll call- all ayes.

Moved by Nelson, second by Varner, to consider second reading, by title only, of an ordinance prohibiting the placement of snow from private property upon the improved areas of city streets. On roll call – ayes – Kampe, Fahlbeck, Kramer, Nelson, and Varner.

Moved by Kampe, second by Nelson to waive the third reading of said ordinance. On roll call – all ayes – Fahlbeck, Kramer, Nelson, Varner, Kampe.

Moved by Kampe, second by Kramer to Adopt Ordinance No. 705, Amending Chapter 12.12 of the Camanche Municipal Code by Adding Item E to Section 12.12.010, “Violations Designated” to Prohibit the Placement of Snow from Private Property Upon the Improved Areas of City Streets. On roll call – ayes – Kramer, Nelson, Varner, Kampe, Fahlbeck. Robertson declared the ordinance be adopted.

37th Water Main – Solchenberger stated that letters had been sent out to Thomas, Bendixen and Decker. Thomas and Decker have both said “no” to hooking up. Letters were also sent out to the other four remaining property owners giving them one last chance to hook up. He has heard nothing from them. He stated that he has talked to Jeff Coon and Mike Allowitz about the use of the money if the 37th Avenue water main is not put in. It would amount to about \$38,790 and they said that it needs to be used for the betterment of the new water system. They would allow the city to purchase chlorine shelters in the amount of \$17,000 a piece. He said that the council needs to approve removing 37th Avenue from the plans.

Moved by Kramer, second by Kampe to remove 37th Avenue water main from the plans subject to all of the remaining residents being notified. On roll call – all ayes.

Dan reported that Top Grade should be back in town on the 15th and Nichols will be boring under the tracks on the 16th. They are working on the 9th Street Bridge wetland mitigation plan.

Roth reported that the city has to go through a federal grant application for the generators. Even though the money is earmarked, we have to fill out a grant application.

Robertson reported that he attended the communications meeting and voted on their budget.

He stated that there is one vacancy on Planning and Zoning and one on Board of Adjustment.

Varner reported that the Kiwanis, in conjunction with the school and local churches, are sponsoring a supper for earthquake victims on February 12 from 4-7 PM at the high school.

Kampe reported that the Park and Rec meeting was pretty intense last night. They are going to try to write grants for park improvements.

Schutte wanted to invite everyone to their Appreciation Dinner in conjunction with the Super Bowl this Sunday with social hour at 2:00 PM and dinner starting at 4:30 PM.

Jindrich reported that River City Disposal has a recycling truck that they hope to have in operation at the end of the month.

At 7:36 PM, being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned, and the next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

A budget work session began at 7:50 P.M.

Roth represented 7 different scenarios on optional property tax calculations.

Robertson asked each council member how they would recommend balancing the budget. There may be a slight increase in property taxes. Everyone stated that until the health insurance issue is resolved, they can't finalize the budget.

Roth is to set up a meeting with employees, council members and representatives from UnitedHealthCare of the River Valley – either Thursday of this week or next Monday or Tuesday at 6:00 PM at the fire station.

The budget work session adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

James R. Robertson, Mayor

Sheryl L. Jindrich
City Clerk/Treasurer