

City of Camanche, Iowa

April 20, 2010

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session April 20, 2010 at 6:00 PM at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Robertson presiding and the following named council members: Fahlbeck, Kramer, Nelson, Varner, and Kampe. Also present were: City Administrator Roth, City Attorney Lonergan, City Engineer Solchenberger and department heads Schutte and Houzenga.

Developer Sean Lawrence was present to request that the City Council consider the implementation of residential tax abatement as an incentive for new construction in the same manner as Clinton to avoid a competitive disadvantage. The City Administrator provided information from a number of other Iowa communities that offer tax abatement. Following discussion, the City Council requested a copy of Clinton's ordinance related to tax abatement. It will be placed on a future agenda for further consideration.

Ky Boyle and Randy Bohle, representing Mid American Energy, appeared before the Council to request a new franchise agreement to replace the current agreement that expires July 1st. Mr. Bohle reviewed the process involved presenting detailed information on franchise fees, a proposed franchise ordinance, and the current condition of Mid American Energy. The City indicated that they would be working with attorney Ivan Webber to negotiate a franchise ordinance that would be acceptable to both the City and Mid American. The City Administrator will coordinate communication between the city, its attorney and Mid American Energy.

Moved by Kramer, second by Varner to approve the consent agenda which covered the following items: approve minutes from regular meeting April 6, 2010; approve Abstract No 511 dated April 20, 2010 with total expenditures of \$525,026.94 and salaries of \$33,934.48; approve City Clerk/Treasurer's Report for March 2010 with the following receipts: General-\$72,932.71; Library-\$10,361.65; Road Use Tax-\$34,594.35; Debt Service-\$686,664.69; Trust & Agency-\$7,978.84; Water Utility-\$17,547.89; Sewer Utility-\$39,644.87; Recreation-\$6,522.50; Payroll Clearing-\$107,287.53; Garbage-\$26,162.74; CDBG-\$269,167.00; ACC/GCC-\$406,352.72; Ambulance-\$14,267.58; for a total of \$1,699,485.07; Accept and place on file minutes from Park & Recreation 4/5/10 meeting, Library Board 4/7/10 meeting, Rose Hill Cemetery 4/12/10 meeting, and Planning and Zoning 4/13/10 meeting; approve Class C Liquor License, outdoor and Sunday Sales for Jersey's; accept and place on file Police Department and Building Inspector's monthly report for March 2010; Approve attendance of City Administrator to the "SMART" conference in Des Moines on May 6th; and approve maintenance agreement for 2 new water towers at a cost of \$1,650 per year with Maguire Iron. On roll call-all ayes.

The City has received one quote for the purchase of a new sewer jet. With the estimated cost of over \$60,000, the Council discussed their desire to receive more than one bid.

Moved by Fahlbeck, second by Varner to defer consideration of the purchase of a new sewer jet pending receipt of other quotes. On roll call-all ayes.

The Council reviewed a proposal from Shive Hattery to perform preliminary design services for improvements to the Washington Boulevard corridor at a price of \$56,900. Councilmember Kramer asked if the design proposal considered the study Shive Hattery had completed previously for the Washington Boulevard Corridor. The City Engineer indicated that

well as information gained from the water and sewer projects currently underway.

Moved by Kampe, second by Nelson to approve the preliminary design agreement for Washington Boulevard with Shive Hatter Engineering. On roll call-all ayes.

Linda Kramer asked from which fund the City would pay for these services. It was agreed that the cost would be paid from the Road Use Tax Fund.

The City Administrator informed the Council that the City had been fortunate to receive a late CDBG award in the amount of \$300,000 for the wastewater lift station project. Because the award was late, the City had already applied for I Jobs funding. The State had indicated that any community receiving a CDBG award would not be eligible for I Jobs funding. For that reason, IDEED has requested that if the City is to accept the CDBG award, they withdraw the application for I Jobs funding.

Moved by Kampe, second by Kramer to accept the CDBG award in the amount of \$300,000 and to withdraw the City's application for I Jobs funding. On roll call-all ayes.

The City Administrator told the council that a brush truck used by the fire department and on-loan from the State had caught on fire and was not repairable. The fire department and public works department had developed a proposal whereby the PW department would purchase a new ¾ ton 4x4 pickup. The fire department would purchase the 2002 Chevy pickup from the PW department for \$5000. That pickup would then serve as the brush truck for the fire department. The Chevy would serve the fire department well as a brush truck. The Public Works department would purchase a new pickup at state-bid price, providing them with the reliability of a new pickup and allow them to replace one of their aging pickup.

Moved by Kramer, second by Nelson to approve the purchase of a 2010 Chevy pickup from Karl Chevrolet at a state-bid price of \$23,805 and the transfer of the 2002 Chevy pickup to the fire department with a corresponding transfer of \$5,000 from the fire department to the public works department. On roll call-all ayes.

The following items were discussed with no action being taken:

The City Attorney is working on an easement for a fiber optic cable that will connect the school properties.

The City Engineer and the city Administrator met with representatives of Langman Construction to express concerns and dissatisfaction with surface restoration related to the water project.

The Mayor informed the Council that he, Linda Kramer, Tom Lonergan, and Tom Roth had met representatives of Kids first Academy to discuss the status of their land contract with the Tom Lonergan and Mike Wolf will work together to formulate a proposal to be considered by both parties.

There are concerns over a prescription medication which the new health insurance carrier, United Healthcare, has refused to pay for. The cost of the prescription is about \$1,400 per month.

The 9th Ave and 7th Ave railroad crossing will be closed for the week of April 26th to repair the crossings. The City will spend \$3,360 to repair asphalt near the 9th Ave crossing.

The Council requested that an ordinance prohibiting parking on the north side of Dunnburr Street be prepared for the next meeting.

The Council expressed concern over the amount of debris left on the streets after they had been swept.

The City Engineer will investigate concrete paving concerns in the Lawrence Trace Subdivision.

The Farmers Market will relocate from Central Park to the Camanche Food Pride parking lot while Washington Boulevard is disturbed due to the installation of the sewer force main.

At 8:10 P.M., being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned.

James Robertson, Mayor

Tom Roth, City Administrator