

City of Camanche, Iowa

December 1, 2009

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa conducted a work session at 5:00 P.M. at Camanche City Hall to discuss water system improvements. Present were: Mayor Robertson, council members: Fahlbeck, Kramer, Varner, Willis. Also present were City Engineer Solchenberger, City Administrator Roth, and Rickertsen.

December 1, 2009

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa, met in regular session December 1, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call were: Mayor Robertson, presiding, and the following named council members: Fahlbeck, Kramer, Varner, Willis. Wehde was absent. Also present were City Administrator Roth, City Attorney Lonergan, City Engineer Solchenberger, and department heads Houzenga, Schutte, Rickertsen and Jindrich.

Solchenberger commented that Item #5 on the consent agenda should be corrected to read \$302,149.00 and Schutte stated that the minutes from the last meeting should state "prospective" paramedic/firefighter instead of newly hired paramedic/firefighter.

Moved by Willis, second by Varner to approve the consent agenda which covered the following items: corrected minutes from the November 17, 2009 regular council meeting; approve Abstract No. 502 dated December 1, 2009 with total expenditures of \$336,066.35 and salaries of \$28,667.01; accept and place on file minutes from Library Board meeting held November 4, 2009, October monthly report for Fire Department, Board of Adjustment meeting held November 24 and their ruling on Brent Holstein variance; approve pay application to Langman Construction in the amount of \$139,434.69; approve pay application to Maguire Iron in the amount of \$302,149.00; approve pay application to Shive Hattery in the amount of \$39,975.63 for water main project. On roll call – all ayes.

Solchenberger reported that they should be boring under the road by the end of the week for the force main. Then they will be going to the boat ramp area.

Change Order No. 1 to Top Grade in the amount of \$10,335.00 are for valves, tees, etc for work requested by Clinton for a future Low Moor connection and future Camanche connection to the proposed Clinton WWTP. Clinton will reimburse the city for these expenses.

Moved by Varner, second by Willis to approve Change Order No. 1 to Top Grade in the amount of \$10,335.00. On roll call – all ayes.

In connection with the water main project, Solchenberger reported that Langman is trying to get the landscaper back in. There are problems with seeding.

Health Insurance Renewal – Roth reported that he had gotten a new spreadsheet from Aaron Matlock with Ruhl and Ruhl Insurance. The savings would be \$48,125.40 instead of \$71,027.20. Area doctors and facilities are covered under United Healthcare. It was reported that 1st Gateway Credit Union will renew with United Healthcare. Lonergan thought they should submit a formal proposal since there is such a large change. The consensus of the council was to check into United Healthcare and to give Chuck Duax a chance to bid.

The issue was brought up again about the effective date of insurance. Willis stated that since we go out to get skilled police, fire, mechanics and people to run the city offices, we should make sure that they have health care coverage immediately.

Moved by Willis, second by Fahlbeck to change our effective date for insurance to read: if hired on the first day of the month, the insurance would be effective immediately, otherwise the insurance would be effective the first of the month following the hire date. On roll call – all ayes.

In regards to compensation for elected officials, Lonergan stated that it can't be changed now. It will have to wait until after the next election.

Hiring of Paramedic/Firefighter – Roth wanted to present a resolution establishing a policy for offering a “signing bonus” for potential new hires in the police and fire departments. Lonergan felt it should be brought up in front of the bargaining unit. The signing bonus would be outside of what the bargaining unit had negotiated. Robertson would like this issue resolved. He felt it is beneficial to the city. Lonergan will give a copy of the resolution to Wylie Pillers. If necessary, a special meeting will be held once the bargaining unit has met to resolve the issue.

Moved by Fahlbeck, second by Willis to approve a Resolution Setting Date for a Public Hearing on Designation of the Third Street Urban Renewal Area and On Urban Renewal Plan and Project. On roll call – all ayes.

Robertson reported that he and Varner met with congressmen from Iowa and Illinois regarding the proposal to use the prison at Thomsen, Illinois to house federal/terrorist prisoners. The congressmen are asking for surrounding cities' support.

Moved by Willis, second by Kramer to direct Roth to prepare a letter supporting the prison be used to house federal/terrorist prisoners. On roll: ayes – Fahlbeck, Kramer, Willis. Varner abstained because there are many unanswered questions.

Robertson reported that there are board vacancies on Planning and Zoning, Park and Rec and Historical.

Roth commented that Fahlbeck has spoken with Tim Sachsenmaier and Bob Edens about building a vestibule onto city hall. He would like the council to look at a comprehensive plan for city hall.

Willis will contact an electrician to look at the electricity issue at Platt Park.

Houzenga was wondering if the resolution gave the department head any latitude in offering the bonuses. Roth will give him a copy of the resolution.

Gary Kampe stated that as a citizen he appreciated the work Trevor has done.

At 7:06 PM, being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned, and the next meeting will be held December 15, 2009.

James R. Robertson, Mayor

Sheryl L. Jindrich
City Clerk/Treasurer