

City of Camanche, Iowa

June 15, 2010

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session June 15, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll: Mayor Robertson, presiding, and the following named council members: Fahlbeck, Kramer, Varner and Kampe. Nelson was absent. Also present were: City Administrator Roth, City Engineer Solchenberger and department heads Schutte, Rickertsen, and Jindrich.

Trevor Willis, representing Camanche Days, was wondering if the city council would consider giving a donation to Camanche Days again this year. He stated that the council gave them \$2,000 last year and their insurance costs for the celebration are just over \$2,000. Roth stated that there is \$2,000 in the new budget under economic development.

Moved by Varner, second by Kramer to donate \$2,000 to Camanche Days. On roll call – all ayes.

Willis also commented on the electrical issues at Platt Park. The approximate cost to bring everything up to code would be \$20,000. There were problems last year with the amps – power was lost. Kramer asked it needs to be done all at one time or can it be done in phases. Willis stated it needs to be done all at one time. Kramer was wondering about grants. Roth stated that there is the gambling grant. Could it be tacked on to the one Park and Rec are already proposing. Schutte thought it would be better to submit their own grant. They may have a better chance to get something. Roth said that on behalf of the city he will submit the grant. Kramer would like to see them get more than one bid.

Moved by Kramer, second by Kampe to approve the consent agenda which covered the following items: approve minutes from June 1, 2010 council meeting; approve Abstract No. 515 dated June 15, 2010 with total expenditures of \$185,646.00 and salaries of \$34,257.18; approve City Clerk/Treasurer's Report for May 2010 with total receipts of: General - \$99,152.59; Library - \$12,297.42; Road Use Tax - \$30,097.05; Debt Service - \$16,139.06; Trust & Agency - \$8,814.06; Water Utility - \$3,413.69; Sewer Utility - \$69,951.43; Recreation - \$6,390.10; Payroll Clearing - \$109,041.36; Garbage - \$3,925.09; CDBG/Sewer - \$174,320.72; ACC/GCC - \$113,250.82; Ambulance - \$9,438.07 for a total of \$656,231.46; accept and place on file minutes from Park & Rec meeting held June 7, 2010 and Planning & Zoning meeting held June 8, 2010; approve city staff attendance at Iowa League of Cities meeting Sept. 22-24 in Coralville, Iowa; accept and place on file Fire Department report for May 2010; approve Resolution to Destroy Certain City Records; approve reappointment of Linda Foster and Abijah Morgan to Library Board; Lori Bigwood and Dan French to Park & Rec; Ruth Evans, Sherry Emerson, George Current and Jane Jordan to Historical Board effective July 1, 2010; approve promotion of Jeffrey Moore to 2nd Class Firefighter/Paramedic and Natalie Morse to 2nd Class Patrolman effective July 1, 2010; approve submission of CCDA grant application for new playground equipment with local match of \$26,727.80; consideration of a resolution approving the final plat of Bark 1st Addition. On roll call – all ayes.

Robertson commented that volunteers are very important to the community. He wanted to thank Trevor and the Camanche Days committee for their work. He also wanted to thank the board members for their work. He also wanted to congratulate the two employees on their promotions.

Tax Abatement – Roth told that the council that Bob Josten answered one of their questions in that the % used for improvements is based on the 100% valuation of the house. Most cities do not set minimums. Roth also commented that the assessor will get the info off of the application form that each resident would have to fill out to be eligible for tax abatement. Kramer said that the city needs to start somewhere. Varner thought it would be a good idea. Kampe felt that the city should not give money away. He felt Camanche hasn't had a problem. He felt the burden shouldn't be put on the taxpayers. Schutte stated that if the city does not go through with tax abatement, they could lose out when the prison comes in, the rail port or other projects. Kramer would like it deferred until the next meeting when there would be a full council.

Kid's First Academy – Roth reported that Lonergan had made a proposal to Mike Wolfe (representative for Kid's First Academy). Kramer was wondering if Stacey had seen the proposal. She would ask that Kid's First hold a special meeting so they could get back to the council.

Moved by Kampe, second by Varner to extend the contract for Kid's First Academy for 30 days until proper paperwork is presented. On roll call – all ayes.

Neighborhood Plan – Solchenberger stated that 4 plans were presented at the Planning & Zoning meeting. Kramer was wondering what the developers thought of the plans. Solchenberger said he and Roth were going to get together to develop a plan to see what the cost would be – would the city and the developer split the cost – would the city pay and assess back to developer? This can be done in phases. Roth will come back to the council with a plan – could TIF – pay back ourselves. We will see what the council's thoughts are, how to fund it, adopt the plan and take it back to the developers.

Insurance updates – Schutte stated they have submitted the 3rd appeal. Kramer felt that if this is not settled the city should go so far as filing a lawsuit. It is wrong as far as what we were told. Kramer was wondering if we have to stay with them for a whole year. Roth said "no". Schutte stated that when he asked the question originally – they (UnitedHealthCare of the River Valley) said all present prescriptions would be covered. Kampe was wondering why the city couldn't make a resolution to pay Schutte the cost of the prescription while the city looks into filing a suit or whatever measure.

Moved by Kampe, second by Varner to have Roth authorize the reimbursement of one month's prescription for Dave Schutte's daughter while in the appeal process. On roll call – all ayes.

This issue will be put on the next agenda. Schutte appreciated the council's support.

Solchenberger commented on the following:

9th Street Bridge – things are ready for a September 21 letting.

Water towers – taking samples. We would like to have it on line Thursday/Friday. He got an email from Maguire Iron stating that by Friday everybody who had overspray should be contacted. Demolition plans are in to Maguire and Ireler and they will be opened July 14.

MRT – there will be a preconstruction meeting June 29.

Washington Blvd – pay requests are in to the DOT.

Robertson reported that at the upcoming Board of Adjustment meeting there will be a variance for a salvage yard off of 31st Street by a different person than the last one. There will also be a variance for a salvage yard at the intersection of Anamosa Road and 21st Street. He feels that the second one will have an impact on the community. They need a variance because

it is not a permitted use. What is the city's position? Robertson also stated that it is the main entrance into the community. He doesn't think it's a real good deal for us. Roth commented that Lonergan said the city can give their opinion. He was wondering if the council wanted the mayor or city administrator, on their behalf, to attend the meeting and give their opinion. Kampe reported that he had visited their present site. Roth will attend the meeting and let the Board of Adjustment know the city is not interested in having a salvage yard at the intersection.

Roth wanted to discuss the land Mark Cross wanted to donate. Dan wanted to make sure the land isn't all wetland if the city wanted to make a park, picnic area, etc. Dan was wondering if the city wanted to hire Meg – Flenker Land Architecture for a cost of \$3,300.00. She would take soil samples to see what the land is. Before the council makes a decision, they would like to know how long the delineation is good for. Dan will get that answer.

Fahlbeck was wondering when the council would be receiving the plans for Washington Blvd for their review. Dan stated it would be sometime in July.

Varner questioned when the employee contracts would be ready for their approval? Roth stated they are still in the works.

At 7:32 P.M., being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned.

James Robertson, Mayor

Sheryl L. Jindrich
City Clerk/Treasurer