

City of Camanche, Iowa

December 20, 2011

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session December 20, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. 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 Houzenga, Schutte, Rickertsen and Jindrich.

Fahlbeck wanted the December 6, 2011 council minutes to be amended to read that the council approved Amendment No. 2 to Agreement between Shive-Hattery Inc. and the City of Camanche in the amount of \$77,000.

Roth swore in the following new council members: Paul Varner and Eric Hosette and Kenneth Fahlbeck as mayor.

The Mayor opened a public hearing on the adoption of the City of Camanche Code of Ordinances at 6:08 P.M. Roth stated that the previous code was written by a national codification firm. This code was prepared by ECIA using a model code with the particulars for Camanche. After hearing no comments, written or in person, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:09 P.M.

The Mayor opened a public hearing at 6:09 P.M. on the Proposed Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract and Estimated Cost of the Washington Blvd. Project. After hearing no comments, written or in person, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:10 P.M.

Moved by Kramer, second by Varner to approve the consent agenda which covered the following items: approve the minutes from December 6, 2011 meeting with the addition of the dollar amount of \$77,000 for the approval of Amendment No. 2 to Agreement between Shive-Hattery, Inc. and the City of Camanche for the Washington Blvd. Project; approve Abstract 551 with total expenditures of \$160,657.03, Utility Billing Checks of \$165.33 and salaries of \$38,561.13; receive, accept and place on file minutes from Park and Recreation meeting held December 5, 2011; receive, accept and place on file Bob Alm's retirement letter effective March 31, 2012; approve pay request from Clinton Engineering in the amount of \$109,725.00 for the lift station project; approve pay request in the amount of \$67,368.30 from Preferred Electric for the emergency generator project. On roll call – all ayes.

Moved by Kramer, second by Kampe to approve a Resolution Finally Approving and Confirming Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract and Estimate of Cost for the Washington Boulevard Reconstruction Project. On roll call – all ayes.

Moved by Kramer, second by Nelson to approve a Resolution Awarding Contract for the Washington Boulevard Reconstruction Project. On roll call – ayes – Varner, Kampe, Kramer and Nelson. Abstain – Fahlbeck due to employment conflict of interest.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the hiring of Paramedic/Firefighter – Fire Chief Schutte stated that the City of Camanche operated the ambulance service as an EMT Basic service in previous years. In 2009, the council decided to hire a paramedic so now the City of Camanche is operating at a Provisional Paramedic Service. Bob Alm will be retiring the end of March but with his accumulated leave he will be off the months of February and March. Schutte would like the new individual to start January 16.

Robertson read Bob Alm's retirement letter and he wanted to "Thank him for his service and dedication." Fahlbeck wanted this to be tabled until budget talks. Schutte stated the money is already budgeted to bring the new hire on from January to June 30. Kampe said that if it was not done, that Bill Rowe should be given a certificate for his years of service to the Camanche Fire Dept.

Moved by Kramer, seconded by Varner to authorize Fire Chief Schutte to hire a replacement paramedic/firefighter. On roll call – ayes – Kampe, Kramer, Nelson and Varner. Nays – Fahlbeck.

Roth brought up the issue of the signing bonus. Schutte stated it is beneficial to the City to offer a signing bonus for a trained paramedic. The new hire does not get any more money, per the contract, to be a paramedic. It costs approximately \$9,000 for the city to send an individual to be trained as a paramedic with no guarantee that the individual will pass the course.

Moved by Kramer, second by Varner, to offer the new hire a signing bonus in the amount of two weeks entry level pay contingent upon the hiring being moved back 2 weeks. On roll call – ayes – Kramer, Nelson, Varner, and Kampe. Nays – Fahlbeck.

Washington D.C./Des Moines trips – Robertson recommends sending the mayor, city administrator and the engineer to Washington D.C.

Moved by Nelson, second by Kramer to send Camanche representatives to Washington D.C. On roll call – all ayes.

Roth read an Ordinance Adopting the City Code of Ordinances.

Moved by Nelson, second by Varner to approve the first reading of said ordinance. On roll call – ayes – Nelson, Varner, Kampe, Fahlbeck, and Kramer.

Lonergan recommended that the 2nd and 3rd readings be by title only and placed on the next agenda.

Moved by Kampe, second by Varner that the 2nd and 3rd readings of said ordinance be by title only and placed on the next agenda. On roll call – all ayes.

Solchenberger stated that before the building is torn down at the WWTP there needs to be an asbestos removal study.

Moved by Kramer, second by Kampe to approve an amendment to the engineering agreement for the wastewater project in the amount of \$1,800 for asbestos removal study. On roll call – all ayes.

Solchenberger reported that Camanche is pumping to Clinton and the work is continuing on the emergency generators.

Robertson wanted to thank all the employees and volunteers of the City of Camanche. He wished good luck to the new council and mayor.

Roth would like everyone to check out the improvements to Garner Hall – floor, painting and the new steps. He wanted to thank the EMS staff for their work yesterday on the difficult incident. He also stated it was a pleasure working with Jim.

Rickertsen wanted to commend Dan and Shive-Hattery for their design on the lift station project. It went like clockwork.

Curt Cooley wanted to thank Jim for his service. He was wondering if it was a conflict of interest if the new hire for the fire department was also on the council. Schutte stated the new hire could not also be on the council.

Ray Meyerman wants to make sure there is a time table for Washington Blvd. – he did not want it to get started and then the contractor takes a couple of weeks of vacation.

Gary Tucker hopes Washington Blvd will be smoother than 9th Street Bridge. Solchenberger stated Clinton Engineering will be smoothing that out.

Charlie Blount was wondering if something was going to be done on 21st Street. Rickertsen stated that was Clinton's responsibility.

Paul Varner presented Robertson with a certificate and gift on behalf of the City for his years of service.

At 7:19 P.M., being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned.

James Robertson, Mayor

Sheryl L. Jindrich
City Clerk/Treasurer