

City of Camanche, Iowa

January 31, 2017

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met for a special council meeting on January 31, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Pro-Tem Varner, presiding in the absence of Mayor Willis, and the following named council members: Metzger, Saxon, Lind and Wruck. Also present were City Administrator Andrew Kida, City Attorney Randy Current and City Clerk Jindrich.

Moved by Metzger, second by Saxon, at 6:01 P.M., to go into closed session to discuss union contract and police chief terms. On roll call – all ayes.

The council came out of closed session at 6:31 P.M.

Moved by Lind, second by Varner to approve the changes to the bargaining unit agreement:

- Two year agreement
- Longevity Pay – Year 1: \$8.50 per month, Year 2: \$9.00 per month. There is a 2 year vesting period to be eligible for longevity pay and a cap of longevity pay at 25 years.
- Wages – Year 1: 2.5% increase, Year 2: 2.75% increase
- Health Insurance: Enhanced Blue 100 HMO will still be available. myBlue HSA Gold 2000 PPO will also be available.

On roll call – all ayes.

Police Chief – Kida stated that 4 candidates were interviewed. The city council gave their input. Kida gave his recommendation of Colin Reid for police chief under the terms of the contract discussed.

Moved by Wruck, second by Metzger to approve Kida's recommendation of Colin Reid as police chief for the City of Camanche. On roll call – ayes – Wruck, Metzger, Saxon and Lind. Nays – Varner.

Kida informed the council that Colin would have been here this evening but he is on duty. Kida was impressed with the questions that the council presented for the interviews.

Varner declared the special session adjourned at 6:35 P.M. There will be a 5 minute recess before the budget session begins.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The budget work session started at 6:41 P.M. Kida stated that Tom Roth basically just worked on revenues. The department heads and city hall worked on the expenses.

Jindrich reported to the council that the premiums for short term disability/life insurance for the employees will be going up 5%. After the agent talked to Kida, they determined that the average of ages of employees will be going down with the new hires. They proposed two options to the city:

1. Keeping the premiums the same that they presently are for one year.
2. Or – they would lower the increase to 3% this year and no increase for next year.

The council agreed to go with Option 2. Jindrich will change the insurance numbers on the budget.

Community Center Update – Jindrich gave the council the comparison of the costs of the community center between the amounts used for the grant and the costs they approved when they awarded the contract.

Hilgendorf informed the council on some streets that he would like to do some crack sealing on – 5th Street, 49th Avenue, 7th Avenue and 4th Avenue.

The big thing is how to get more money coming in for the reserves. We need the ability to maneuver funds around. The safety net is not there. The budget is balanced now but the council needs to look at other revenues. Franchise fees can be implemented at any time.

The budget is based on 11.99. The taxes can be increased under other lines: employee benefits, community center, etc. Saxon stated that the city cannot kick the can down the road anymore. It has fallen on us to fix it. Wruck said that they have to be held accountable.

Dave Schutte had some concerns on a few line items.

There will be another budget work session after the February 7, 2017 regular council meeting.

Varner adjourned the work session at 8:03 P.M.

Paul Varner, Mayor Pro-Tem

Sheryl Jindrich
City Clerk/Treasurer