

CAMDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL – REGULAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

Mayor: Lisa Moss

Fiscal Officer: Rebecca Wilson (absent)

Village Administrator: Rusty Wilson (absent)

Council: Kelly Doran, Debbie Hickman, Ernest Crabtree, Toni Keesler, Judy Michael and Wendell Mackie (absent)

Guests: Ed Steiner, Jourdan Batsche, Dennis Davis, Karen Brewer, Kate Duskey and Susan Laux

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 P.M. Ernest made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting as written. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea and Toni – yea. Motion passed. (Judy arrived late)

Public Participation: Susan Laux with Mote and Associates addressed Council mentioning that Kelly had asked her to return so Council could see about moving forward with Capital projects and second Phase of the Town Hall. Kelly said he would like to get Council's approval to hire Mote and Associates and see about getting some state grant money in 2020. Kelly made a motion to hire Mote and Associates at \$85.00 per hour. Debbie second. Roll call. Kelly also talked about other projects in the future he would like her to look at. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed. Someone asked if there is any way to prevent people from cutting down trees that aren't insured and causing damage to someone's property. Kelly said in an area that is public or an area that belongs to the Village maybe we should have a policy written up that says before having a tree or any other type of work done they should come get permission from Council first. And maybe add in there that if a tree is being taken down another should be put back up not necessarily in the same spot but somewhere in town. If damage is done by someone not insured your homeowner's insurance should cover it and/or it could become a court matter. Ernest said I don't think we should make a policy for something like that. Kelly said I hate to improve the town and see someone take something down just because they don't like it. Karen Brewer addressed Council mentioning that this past month her water got turned off because she forgot to pay it but this being a small community with a lot of older people how do you do that to people who can't afford this high water bill and then get shut off and not be able to turn it back on. You won't give them water but yet you sit here tonight and talk about giving other communities water. Kelly said the giving other communities water would be a business proposition to sell the water. Karen said but you're talking about spending all kinds of money and I've been here all my life and this is a poor, poor community and I feel bad for these people and that's why I came down here because these people can't afford that stuff. Kelly said if Dave and Rusty were here they would tell you it's the same people every month and they get their water turned off and come right in and pay the \$50.00 and if only they had paid it the day before. Some people have difficult times but other people just don't know how to manage their money and Kelly said ask yourself this question. When I moved to town I didn't have cable tv, a computer, internet and a cell phone. You tell me who doesn't have that now. That's four expenses and none of them I consider a necessity but you can't pay your water bill. Karen said I agree with that you can't fix money by continuing to give money but if continue it just puts them behind the 8 ball. Kelly said look if someone has a leak or a sewer problem, we are very good at adjusting their bill for them but not if you just decide not to pay the bill. Debbie said I can understand if it happened once but over and over again the same people and they know when it's due and they act like it's no big deal to come in the next day with that \$50.00 and one person came in when she was in the office and paid the \$50.00 and said see your next month. If I had to pay that extra \$50.00 to turn my water back on I would definitely remember. Ernest said unfortunately it happens, DP & L will shut you off, Vectren, your landlord, where does it stop. Judy said it's due the same time every month and it just has to be budgeted. Karen asked about the building and the amount that has already been spent and now you're talking about spending even more. Debbie said the good thing about the second phase it we plan on renting out that space and we hope that will pay for the whole thing. Kelly said there is 102 Friday's and Saturdays a year and if you rented it half the time and the venue is done right that would generate enough money to not only stop us from paying what we are paying here but would also take care of what we are going to do upstairs. That will take a couple of years to get things going but the need is here, the demand is here and it will be a top notch venue and there's people wanting to use this space for whatever. Judy said what I think people forget is that we rented that building on North Main Street for years and years and years and we didn't own that so we paid for that building for somebody else when we could have been putting that money into this building. Kelly said in 1990 this building went on the ballot and was shot down but back then this building to do the first and second floor would have only been around \$200,000.00 and look at the difference 30 years later. Karen said she was glad she came and learned some things.

Committee/Staff Report: Nancy presented her Mayors Court Report for August 2019. Kelly said that you've been here 9 months and you're doing an excellent job and we originally said after 90 days we would evaluate the position and it's been awhile. Judy made a motion to increase Nancy's pay from \$10.00 to \$11.00 (\$1.00) per hour beginning 9/7/19. Ernest second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed.

Old Business: Debbie said we are continuing to work on the park next to the Town Hall and we have received some donations and are looking to receive some more but until then I would like to go ahead and get some of these tables and benches ordered. I would like to ask Council for \$5,000.00 and when we get the donations in that will go back into the State Highway fund or whatever fund Becky is taking the upfront money out of. Debbie made a motion to get \$5,000.00 up front. Kelly second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed. Money received so far is \$6,000.00 from the Beautification Committee and \$2,000.00 from Ulyshen's. Kelly said a thank you card was received from the Whitesell's for their gift card.

New Business: Judy made a motion to approve the second reading for Resolution #2003-2019 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. Debbie second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – abstain, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed.

Kelly made a motion to approve the purchase orders. Judy second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed. Judy made a motion to approve our bills. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed.

Kelly wanted to make sure he did the motion for the advertisement for notice and request for qualification and construction manager at risk. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed.

Ernest made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 P.M. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Debbie – yea, Ernest – yea, Toni – yea and Judy – yea. Motion passed.

Rebecca Wilson, Fiscal Officer

Lisa Moss, Mayor