

CAMDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL – REGULAR

THURSDAY, January 16, 2020

Mayor: Karen Moss

Fiscal Officer: Rebecca Wilson

Village Administrator: Rusty Wilson

Guests: Ed Steiner, Jourdan Batsche, Ben Tucker, Nikki Batsche, Dan Michael, Susie Duskey, Kate Duskey, Judge Noah Powers, Jeff Moss, Shane Richardson, Derek Bales, Eshelle Bales, Pam Mess and Ken Messer, Debbie Mason and Charo Mackie

The meeting began at 7:00 P.M. and the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was given led by Susie Duskey a student at West Elkton Elementary. Roll call was taken as follows: Kelly Doran – here, Debbie Hickman – here, Toni Keesler – here, Wendell Mackie – here, Judy Michael – here, Karen Moss – here and Jeff Steele – here. The Mayor mentioned that the first business she would like to do is appointing a president of Council (Vice Mayor) and after speaking with Council she would like to have Judy Michael as her president and asked if someone from Council could make that nomination. Debbie made a motion to nominate Judy Michael for Vice Mayor. Wendell second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed. Judy did accept the appointment.

Wendell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2019 meeting. Toni second. Roll call. Wendell – yea, Jeff – yea, Debbie – yea, Judy – yea, Toni – yea and Kelly – yea. Motion passed.

Public Participation: Shane Richardson, President of the Tyler Richardson Foundation addressed Council giving an overview of why he came tonight. He and his wife lost a child about 13 years ago and they built this foundation in Butler County and have given over \$150,000.00 to the public and have raised about \$80,000.00 in scholarships for education at Talawanda High School right now and have committed to putting over \$100,000.00 in a park in Butler County. Due to some unforeseen instances we have about \$35,000.00 worth of playground equipment that we are willing to donate to Camden. With that my son, the name of the park, we ask that wherever the material would go that they have the Tylersville name on it in memory of my son who is buried here in Camden and my family is here (Mack Parker is my father-in-law) and for some reason I believe Tyler wants it here. We are 100% committed to bringing this stuff here but we have some stuff we need to deal with at the previous Township but we would like to continue our commitment to raising funds and putting money in the parks. A friend of mine – hall of famer Cincinnati baseball player George Foster – is part of the deal, you get him when you get us as he is a very active role in our foundation and he is very good with children. This equipment is very well made and we spent double the money to have it built the way it is and it's not matching their code so we have to get rid of it. The Mayor stated that she would like to thank him and his wife Ann for thinking of us and she did view their website today and Councilman Jeff Steele brought us in on this and we saw pictures of the equipment which is fantastic (fire truck, tractor, school bus) and I'm new at this so what do we need to do to accept this donation. Kelly said just say we accept and thank you and I looked at several areas where this would fit in. The Mayor said this fits in at the right time as I am appointing committees tonight and one of them will be Parks and Recreation which could come up with a proposal of where it could go. So we say absolutely yes, we thank you and we would love to receive it and I was thinking may we could have a ribbon cutting for it and I was reading where your son liked chocolate and maybe we could do something with that and publicize it in his honor and have chocolate for all the kids. I will have the chair of Parks and Recreation get with you to organize the event. Debbie asked how soon

they had to have it out of the other place. Shane said the builder is willing to come back out and remove it in the next couple weeks and he will be having a meeting next week and can elaborate on that more after the meeting but it also has rubber mulch to go along with it. We try to do something different in each park. Jim Baugh who is also a good friend helps us with excavation and his name and Stahlhaber name is actually on the equipment. I have two other children Nathan and Natalie, Nathan is older and was there the day of the accident that took his brother's life and Nathan is very connected to this foundation where Natalie never knew her older brother so this means more to them than us. We do a lot of things and raise a lot of money like golf outings, bike rides, bowling tournaments and other things with George so I would really like you guys to meet him as he's a very personable guy who is great with kids. He's pretty excited and looking for a ballfield to redo and name it after him and his mother. We have all these goals we would love to do. The people involved in our foundation are contractors, equipment operators who do everything by donation which is very nice. We have what we call Tyler's army so there are thousands of us that just show up for things and it's a great blessing for my family to have that following of sponsors. For Camden to have this means more than anything since Tyler's buried here, especially for my father-in-law. He left cards and everyone thanked him for coming this evening and sharing this with everyone. Judge Noah Powers addressed Council stating that he is running for a seat on the 12th district Court of Appeals and said there are a number of conservative republicans running however none of them are Judges as himself which he has been for 13 years. His campaign is experience matters and he feels he has the experience to hold this seat and asked for everyone's support at election time. Rachel Vonderhaar addressed Council stating she is running for Preble County Commission against Chris Day on March 17th, 2020. This is her first time entering politics as she has farmed for the past 23 years with her husband and father-in-law just 4 miles from here. Her interest began this past year after a large solar project sent her to the courthouse for public records requests and the more she requested the more she became concerned about transparency and what's going on in our community and how are tax dollars are being spent. So she too asked for our support in March. Kelly mentioned he feels she would be much more willing to work with Camden more than the our past commissioner has because all we've gotten from one individual in particular that your running against is the back of his hand and it's cost this Village millions and taxpayers millions.

Karen mentioned that in her first 16 days in office she has met with employees, the Council, the Fire Dept. and others, plus have had some articles in the Register Herald and has been with other organizations in the County. She works at Miami University but has been able to come to the Village office on numerous occasions mostly in the mornings and she invites everyone to stop in to talk with here plus she is available on face book with two different sites. She wants to be accessible to everyone.

Staff Reports: Rusty Wilson reviewed his report with Council stating all Christmas decorations are now down, they replaced a CL2 pump at the water plant, have patched pot holes and has a quote for new flags, poles and brackets to put out for Memorial Day through July 4th. Our old flags are torn and wore out and there were only a few that were able to be used last year. Price is just over \$2,000.00. Kelly made a motion to purchase the new flags, poles and brackets. Debbie second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Judy – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed. He also mentioned that Capital Electric did their annual inspection at the intersection and everything was good. Becky had nothing. Nancy reviewed her Mayor's Court Report for December 2019 with Council. Chief Spurlock reviewed his 2019 yearly call report with Council. Wendell asked about the drug stops and were they mostly Camden. Chief stated that 3 out of 4 stops are not Camden but people passing through or visiting. Chief also talked about the Citizen's Academy and that they are going to do it again this summer which let people see how the police department actually works and what they go through on their side of the situation.

Old Business: Debbie Mason, our website designer, mentioned that from here on out she will just be filling in areas with information as given, we have the online bill pay ready and working and maybe we can publicize that we have it now. We can do all kinds of things on the website now since we bought the software. I will be looking for businesses to get their information on there and maybe new businesses we don't know about. But the bulk of everything is done. The website is Camdenohio.org for those of you that don't know it.

New Business: Karen passed out the new committee list for 2020. She combined water and sewer with street and mentioned all the chairs for each committee (list available). Karen mentioned she has applied for the Village to become a member of the Preble County Chamber of Commerce which costs a minimal fee of \$90.00. Wendell made a motion to approve the cost of \$90.00. Jeff second. Roll call. Wendell – yea, Jeff – yea, Debbie – yea, Judy – yea, Toni – yea and Kelly – yea. Motion passed. Kelly mentioned that he would like to see us get out 100% behind the school levy including the new school here in Camden. It will also renovate the high school and I think this board should support whatever it is they do because it does involve our school here which is an important part of our community. I would be very disappointed if anyone on this side of the podium were against the school levy. I would like to see us get out ahead of this and advocate for it. And with Council permission do a one call and letting people know what's going on. Jeff stated the school has a one call and he thinks that is something they should do. Karen said they also have the group PS advocating for them as well.

Wendell made a motion to approve the purchase orders. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Judy – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed. Jud made a motion to approve the bills. Wendell second. Roll call. Wendell – yea, Jeff – yea, Debbie – yea, Judy – yea, Toni – yea and Kelly – yea. Motion passed. Judy read a memo from Officer Stemp stating that Evan Matt and Matt D. Spurlock (son to Chief) were sworn in on December 20 and 27, 2019 as auxiliary police officers and have been working 20 to 40 hours per week and are half way through the FTO process. This letter is a request to make both officers part time at a rate of \$13.50 per hour starting January 18, 2020. They will not be guaranteed any amount of particular hours but are used to fill shifts and weekends when need. Debbie made a motion to have both officers become part time at \$13.50 per hour starting 1/18/20. Judy second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Judy – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed. Debbie said Jeff thinks we should formally vote to accept Shane Richardson's proposal. Jeff made the motion. Toni second. Roll call. Wendell – yea, Jeff – yea, Debbie – yea, Judy – yea, Toni – yea and Kelly – yea. Motion passed.

Judy made a motion to approve the November and December Financial Statements. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Judy – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed.

Judy made a motion to approve the November and December Financial Statements. Toni second. Roll call. Kelly – yea, Toni – yea, Judy – yea, Debbie – yea, Jeff – yea and Wendell – yea. Motion passed.

Wendell made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Toni second. Roll call. Wendell – yea, Jeff – yea, Debbie – yea, Judy – yea, Toni – yea and Kelly – yea. Motion passed.

Rebecca Wilson, Fiscal Officer

Karen Moss, Mayor