

CAMDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL – REGULAR

THURSDAY, September 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order Mayor Karen Moss at 7:00 P.M. Roll call was taken as follows: Kelly Doran – here, Toni Keesler – here, Judy Michael – absent, Debbie Hickman – here, Jeff Steele – here, Wendell Mackie – absent and Karen Moss - here. Also, in attendance were Clerk of Courts, Nancy Melton. Guests included Kate Duskey, Nick Duskey, Ed Kalil and Shane Richardson. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

MINUTES

Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2021 meeting as written. Toni second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ed Kalil candidate for Eaton Municipal Judge addressed Council giving a brief description on what he would like to achieve should he be elected.

Shane Richardson with the Tyler Richardson Foundation addressed Council and said he has seen the recent upgrades to the park along with the Foundations followers, sponsors, etc. who are so pleased to see what has been invested into it. Last year when he was here he said he wanted to invest in the park with some new equipment and upgrade the basketball courts with a donation of \$20,000.00 in 2021 and with all the pandemic problems going on materials, supplies almost everything have just been impossible to get. So tonight, he and his group are here to donate to the Village a check for \$20,000.00. The Mayor said we are deeply humbled by your generosity and the kids who are super excited along with the community about the park improvements and we love that you are investing in the community and your heart for the youth.

REPORT FROM MAYOR'S COURT

Nancy presented her report for August 2021.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Debbie spoke for Rusty about being approached by a young man who goes to CTC and the program he is in requires him to have a job. He asked about working for the Village for 2 hours a day at minimum wage (\$9.00) which Rusty said would give them someone to help picking up trash or help on any project that they have going. Debbie said the Village used to have seasonal or kids that worked in the summer and we stopped doing it some years ago but she would like to bring this up for discussion. Jeff asked about the age and if they need to be 18 to work for the Village so Council would like to more information before making a final decision.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance between ODOT and the Village for snow and ice removal on state routes within the Village. Kelly said he spoke to Rodney Creech who said if we have concerns to talk with our solicitor but it's not something everyone else isn't doing so I don't feel uncomfortable doing it and I don't see spending an ex amount of dollars to have someone look at what I would call boiler plate plus with what Rodney said and Steve Hobbs is an attorney and he said 2 other jurisdictions approved it. Jeff said because it's contractual that makes me nervous about the statement regarding 127 and the Village having to patch that. Council said we will have someone review it for safety sake.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen asked Council if they would support our Deputy Village Administrator, Ben by sending him to the Preble County Leadership program which would connect him with a lot of people and she thinks it would be very beneficial. The fee is \$650.00 for a 9-month program at 1 day a month. Debbie made a motion to pay for the program. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

The Preble County Convention and Visitors Bureau is visiting Camden on September 14th and I wanted to provide lunch for them. I originally thought that I had asked for \$1,000.00 in the budget to use at the Mayor's discretion and did not realize that they were charging office supplies and things like that but keep in mind there was not a whole lot here when I started so that money has been used up. Debbie said maybe next year for the budget we should do an amount for supplies and then \$500.00 for discretionary use, but

since we are halfway through the year give her \$250.00 to finish the year. Karen said what I mean by discretionary is like the Band of Flight coming here for the concert at no charge but asked us to provide lunch and now the group coming from Preble County to learn what is going on in Camden which they would then promote but I would like to provide hospitality to them and provide lunch. Camden Elementary had students come through the Town Hall and we gave them little goody bags with information about Camden which I paid for myself. So those are the kind of things I'm talking about. Kelly said it's okay for goody bags and lunch here and there but I would caution on some things because that can be very tricky but make sure it's tied to something here. Debbie said my thing is we are dealing with public money and I don't want people to say when they see this "oh they gave the Mayor a \$1,000.00 for this". Kelly said we can start with an amount and she can come back and ask for more but no one else has a discretionary fund and I do see the need. Kelly made a motion to allot \$250.00 for the Mayor to use as discretionary. Debbie second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Ben, Deputy Village Administrator made a presentation to Council outlining subjects and steps that would be included with zoning for the Village. He said the first step is to approve the initiating process. Kelly made a motion to begin the process for zoning within the Village. Toni second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Ben sent the Ohio Municipal League, which the Village is a member of, a picture of our Town Hall along with an 800 to 1,500-word summary and they responded saying ours will be on the next issue of the magazine Village and Cities which we get a monthly copy of. Ben also updated Council on all the things he has been working on since being with the Village. He also mentioned Heritage Ohio an organization that looks at revitalization which would put Camden on the map for a variety of things. Kelly said Camden Comeback is already doing some of this so we need to pull them in and get them involved with this. The membership fee for Heritage Ohio is \$950.00.

Kelly asked if Council was interested in doing the kids Council again. Council said they would be interested but maybe space them out if we have more than one.

The Mayor mentioned the Orchard Hill Cemetery Marker dedication is next Saturday, September 11th at 2:00 p.m. and after talking with Rusty, people will be able to park along that closed area on 725 but we are still offering to have people park at the First Southern Baptist Church and a van will take them up to the site but I encourage Council to if they can be there, we would love to have you.

GENERAL DISCUSSION THOUGHTS & IDEAS

Kelly said we've talked about Montrose Group but since we've hired Ben maybe we should just sit on our hands for now and wait and see where we go and revisit later.

Kelly mentioned coming up with 1 image for the Village and having cards, letterhead, business cards etc. all cohesive.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

Jeff made a motion to approve the purchase orders. Toni second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Toni made a motion to approve the bills. Jeff second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Jeff made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 P.M. Toni second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.