

# CAMDEN VILLAGE COUNCIL – REGULAR

## THURSDAY, September 16, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Karen Moss at 7:00 P.M. Roll call was taken as follows: Kelly Doran – here, Toni Keesler – absent, Judy Michael – here, Debbie Hickman – here, Jeff Steele – here, Wendell Mackie – absent and Karen Moss - here. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. Also, in attendance were Rusty Wilson, Village Administrator, Rebecca Wilson, Fiscal Officer and Ben Gunderson, Deputy Village Administrator. Guests included Debbie Mason, Kate Duskey, Caiden Duskey, JB Asher, Fred Willieford and Chad Doran.

### **MINUTES**

Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting. Kelly second. Roll call. 3 Yea. 1 abstain (Judy Michael). Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Debbie Mason gave an update on the status of the Black Walnut Festival.

Judy Michael read a letter received from Pastor Greg Jackson (First Southern Baptist Church) thanking Rusty, Dave and Jim for keeping the state grass beautifully mowed at the center of the Village and a thank you to all the staff, Mayor and Council for their service.

### **MAYORS REPORT**

She met with the new School Superintendent, Todd Bowling and talked about how the school and Village could coordinate communication. She would like to attend a School Board Meeting soon so she would have to miss one of our regular meetings because they meet when we do. She has heard a lot of good things regarding the Cemetery Dedication from last Saturday and we had great representation with a US Congressman and our local State Rep and Commissioners.

Earlier in the year it was discussed that we update the employee policy manual and I appointed Jeff and Judy to help me with that. We've looked at a policy from another municipality and all 3 of us, I don't know where the policy came from there's not any sources to it or anything but we knew it was beyond what we could do ourselves so I did send it to Counsel – I did reach out and talked to them and asked them to give us back some feedback and they said they had never seen anything like it. There's a lot of contradictory verbiage in there and we will be talking with Rusty and Becky and a lot of other people to see about operations and see if this is how Council wants it to continue that way. That's where we are at now. Kelly said what counsel did you talk to? She said she called Steve Haughey and he referred her to Jeff Shofskin who is in labor and this is all he does. I talked to him within the last week and Sunday. If you remember it was brought up in Council, these are the people looking over the stuff and that's what we were doing. Kelly said you talked to him on the phone on a Sunday and she said we were going to meet with him and I asked about sunshine laws and Jeff is working in Columbus so we scheduled a weekend and met with him on Sunday in person. I looked at the sunshine law and it's not a majority with only 2 people and I'm not a voting member and the attorney first told us yes you can do that and then they came back and said after doing some consulting we think that's a grey area so he's just going to meet with you and we already had Sunday set up so we left it there. So, we've looked at it and we went line by line on the policy. Kelly said I'm good with updating but what is this going to cost the Village? Karen said we aren't there right now we need to get answers to the questions and then he'll tell us, okay it's going to take me this long to do this and this and he does have a template so he's not going to be starting from scratch but this is where we are at with the committee. Becky asked why Rusty as the Village Administrator was not included in the meeting and Karen said she didn't feel this is the part where they needed Rusty because this governs Rusty as well. This is just preliminary work and we are just gathering information to present to all of Council and then a decision will be made.

### **REPORT FROM VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR**

The splash pad is opening and all is good – we've had some repairs at the lift station but it is back up and operational – the water plant needs a new roof and he is currently working on getting quotes. The mulch and picnic tables were all completed on the Shank lot today. Debbie said they (the guys) did a lot more work on that splash pad than people realize and we just want to say thank you for all your hard work. We also need to think about getting another shelter because just this weekend we have 4 bookings and it's

going to be much busier now that the splash pad is up and running. Rusty also mentioned increasing the cost of the dump truck rental due to the landfill fees being more than we are charging which is currently \$25.00. He said \$50.00 is reasonable and several people said that is still convenient because a dumpster is over \$500.00.

He also mentioned increasing the cost of the park deposit which is currently \$25.00. Council asked Becky to make several phone calls and see what other municipalities charge.

Kelly said the letter from Pastor Greg – wonderful because that is something we don't hear often enough about our staff and our people that we have here. And it's something they don't hear enough from us either. I know they are paid employees but it's nice to hear an "atta" boy or just a thank you. But they are doing what we have asked them to do and what Council has passed as an ordinance, policy and procedure – whatever. We need to back them up when they are right and we also need to point out when they are wrong just like they need to point out when we are wrong because we are wrong sometimes too. But they are here to enforce our policies and if we don't like them, then we need to change them. We have a darn good people and staff here at the Village and we don't even have to see them because they know what to do. Rusty manages a lot of the staff as Village Administrator and even I get out of step where Rusty should be handling stuff and he lets me know and we all seem to forget what the pecking order is here sometimes but I don't mind being wrong and I don't mind being corrected. But my point is, we have good staff back there, we have good staff here, we have good staff in the Clerk's office and we have good Council and we need to learn and appreciate what we have because Judy and I have been around long enough to know when we didn't and what an awful job it is to try to replace people or find people that have the knowledge and will show up and actually work. There is nobody on this board that knows what he does daily, or her, but you would if they were gone. So, I'm just trying to make a point that we have a darn good staff and if there are some things that we don't like, than we need to be adult enough to have that conversation about what we need to change and we should all be willing to listen to that when it's needed. And I have a sense that it is needed and we need to check whatever burr is in our butt at the door and talk this out because there is an atmosphere that's being created and festering and this thing needs to be drained or we need to move on or part company whatever. Something has got to change or give and I'm willing to have that conversation and be part of that mediation or whatever it is. But the tension is thick in the room so after this meeting I would like to go into executive session quickly and get everybody on the same page here and make some decisions because I'm tired of it.

#### **REPORT FROM FISCAL OFFICER**

Becky mentioned she has been in conversation back and forth with the Auditing crew and it is nearing completion. They hope to have it done by end of September, first of October.

A temporary sign with hours is up at the splash pad but we have a different sign with new guidelines by our insurance company on order.

Debbie and I have been working on the new wording for the back of the water bills and I will be getting with Karen to see if she has anything to add.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Resolution #2028-2021 regarding snow and ice removal by ODOT on state routes within the Village limits and Ordinance #1030-2021 regarding sign and markings on state routes within the Village limits were again presented for passage. Kelly mentioned he simply forgot and they need to be sent to the attorney to look over.

Kelly said he isn't getting anywhere with Frost Brown Todd on the Town Hall Phase 2 project as Kevin Maloff who did our first Phase has left and started his own practice. Kelly asked Rusty if he could contact Kevin directly and Rusty said go ahead so I did and had about a 10-minute conversation with him. Kelly would like to get Council approval to engage with Kevin Maloff and move forward with Phase 2 with him because he knows everything regarding the Town Hall anyway and his costs couldn't be anymore than what Frost Brown Todd would charge. Debbie made a motion to got with Kevin Maloff and his firm do assist with the Phase 2. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Kelly said, Karen you are probably the best Mayor Camden has had. You are exactly the right medicine and you're someone we need when someone like Channel 7 comes here and you can put together a coherent sentence and you put a perfect image on our Village. You're reaching out to these economic groups and all these things that have needed done, you are doing them. So, there I want to give you high marks publicly from me and on this level, there is none better but we have some work to do in a couple other places.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Debbie said she is getting some other quotes but this is for above Becky's office to close in the top due to the noise problem.

Ben, Deputy Village Administrator presented the CRA resolution and the agreement for zoning to get things started however, Council did not have copies for either and they want to read and review before passing. He and Becky will get them emailed to Council and will mention at the next meeting.

Judy made a motion pursuant to ORC 731.17 to dispense with the 3 reading requirement and pass with 1 reading Resolution #2032-2021 to amend our certificate of estimated resources and expenditures for the American Relief Fund in the amount of \$206,673.84. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed. Judy made a motion to adopt Resolution #2032-2021. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Judy made a motion pursuant to ORC 731.17 to dispense with the 3 reading requirement and pass with 1 reading Resolution #2031-2021 to accept the rates and amounts as determined by the budget commission. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed. Judy made a motion to adopt Resolution #2031-2021. Kelly second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Karen presented some letterhead designs that she has been working on and she would like all of Council to give their input and when everyone has done so a decision can be made later. We also mentioned a seal for the Village and she has reached out to several with no great follow through. Kelly said why not have a contest for the seal and we can pick one with maybe some minor detail changes. Karen said we can do that.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS**

Nothing

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS**

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

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

Kelly made a motion to enter executive session at 8:31 p.m. to discuss employee conduct. Judy second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed. Judy made a motion to exit executive session at 9:44 p.m. Jeff second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.

Jeff made a motion to adjourn at 9:44 P.M. Judy second. Roll call. 4 Yea. Motion passed.