

City of Camanche

February 7, 2023

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session February 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Pruett presiding, and Council members Bowman, Determann and Varner. Absent: Council members Schnoor and Weller. Also present were City Attorneys Randy Current, John Frey and Braydon Roberts, City Administrator Andrew Kida and Department Heads Evans, Pewe, Schmitz, Schutte and Schneider.

A moment of silent prayer was observed. Mayor Pruett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Councilman Bowman second by Councilman Varner, to approve the agenda. On roll call – all Ayes.

Jake VanZuiden, President of the Bargaining Unit, presented a formal letter to request the ability to negotiate wages. Kida said the City has 10 days to respond to the request. The negotiating committee will get together; negotiations are not subject to Open Meetings Law.

Visitor Kimberly Dickey addressed the Council with an Update regarding the Rock Creek Solar Project. She said they have made significant strides, gaining 100% site control, with all of the landowners willingly and voluntarily signing leases. She is 2-3 weeks away from bringing an application to our City Administrator to review and look at scheduling public hearings for permitting of the project. She will give a presentation to Council in a couple of weeks when she delivers the application and also go before the Planning Commission. They are proposing a 150-megawatt solar facility with the ability to power 30,000-40,000 homes in Iowa. The project footprint is 850-900 acres with the solar panels taking up about 1/3 of the space. The rest is open space with native grasses. Councilman Bowman asked about the approximate start and completion date of the project. Ms. Dickey expects local permitting to take 4-6 months; state level permitting will take 9-12 months. Once permitting is done, mobilization would be around 3rd quarter of 2024, construction activities through winter of 2024 and all through 2025. This will be an investment of approximately \$181 million-\$242 million. The preliminary economic impact analysis of that investment here in your taxing districts is currently estimated at \$4.9 million in local school district tax revenue over the life of the project. The project has a 30-year life cycle with the potential for an extension of another 10 years. At any point during construction, they will have approximately 100 workers and they are committed to hiring local workers, local union labor. Mr. Wiebers asked if the panels will be coming from China. Ms. Dickey said currently they purchase panels from a lot of global suppliers; China is one of the. She can tell us today where they will come from. Kida displayed a map and the area was outlined and described for everyone.

Mayor Pruett asked for public comments on agenda topics. Bill Graves stated that he is a retired citizen who lives on a fixed income and does not want monthly water. Quite frankly, it's too expensive, he said. Last month's minutes stated there would be no rate increase. He said it might not show up on our water bill, but it is taxpayer money. A figure on here tossed around for the new employee with all the extra trits, this is a condensed version by the way, of approximately \$50,000. I don't know if that's what you're in agreement with that or not. Now if the City has a surplus fund, it will have to be replaced some time. It isn't just this year, it's every year. You can take the current expenses, multiply them times 3 times what we are spending now. There are 2 main reasons for this. The first one is to make it easier for people to pay their bill; it's ridiculous. If a person can't set aside \$50 a month for 3 months to pay a \$150 bill, they sure can't come up with \$50 a month to pay their bill. Second reason is a steady revenue for the City. I've got a schedule that I'd like to hand out. He asked if he could hand them out to the Councilmembers. He said he was sorry it was handwritten, he's not very good on the computer. He said to stop the watch, he didn't want to be charged for his walking around. He said, what this does, it divides, call it a quarterly monthly or whatever you want to word it. What it does is, he gave a copy to Mr. Kida, he said he is dividing the City into 3 sections. Section 1, nothing changes. The meters, everybody pays their March bill. Nothing changes, they will get a bill March, June, September, December. Now this is going to be, when they read the meters they'll just be reading 1/3 of the City instead of every month all, the whole town. Section 2, they pay their March bill. In April they will get a one-month statement.

They drop down into a 3-month cycle so theirs will be July, October, January 2024 and from 2024 on it never changes, it's always going to be the same. Section 3 will pay their 3 months in March. They will drop down in May they will get a 2-month statement and they will drop into a 3-month cycle. Now, 2023, this year, there will be a 1-month shortfall, if you add things up it comes out to 11 months' worth of billing. And if need be, we can reach into the fund one time, not every year from here to eternity. Starting in 2024 the City will have a steady monthly revenue at 1/3 of the cost of the proposed monthly bills. 1/3 of the City will pay 3 months at a time vs. the entire City paying 1 month at a time. Each customer, meter will be read 4 times a year, not 12 times which will cut—I'm not going to go through each expense because you all know what the expenses are when you read the meter, doing that for City Hall, everything, I'm not going to take the time for all of that. I guess that's about it. On this, it's supposed to be the first reading on this Title 6 Chapter 5 Section 3 tonight, it's #6 under new business and I'm not sure how you guys do this, but if you're going to vote on that, if this is what it is, I think this is what we're talking about, the monthly water bill, am I right? Kida said he is correct, the billing is driven by Ordinance and in order to make the changes for the appropriate time for delinquency, then you have to have to change the Ordinance. Mr. Gardener proceeded to say the First reading is going to be tonight when you vote on this. So, what I am asking is if you could table it until you have time to consider my proposal. I'm not sure what the proper thing is that you do but I know it'd be delaying things maybe, but I just think it's a better plan. 2023's got a little glitch in it because of you have to get the everything staggered, you have to get the months staggered, that way you get this thing to go forever and ever. He thanked Council for their time.

Jerry Wiebers said he is certainly against monthly billing. He would like to keep it at quarterly and he said I will give some reasons why, and some of them are repeat, that I will talk about. One thing I want to talk about is I think somewhere along the line we got the cart before the horse here. I understand that we've already hired a Billing Clerk to fill this job, but the job isn't ready. Usually you have something, a job, then you hire somebody to fill it. It looks to me like we're going backwards here. And I'm going to use just a little bit of the minor arithmetic. I'm going to take \$150 for an example. That's roughly, what, 3 months a quarter, what you're going to pay for your water. That's basically what I do, and I think most people are pretty close to that. Now if it's quarterly, it's \$150 times 4 is \$600. If it's monthly, it's \$50 times 12, \$600 exactly the same. Okay, now where it becomes different is when you go to monthly billing as opposed to quarterly billing, you're going to have all the extra expense of, not only for the customers, you know they're going to have to get the bill, they're going to have to get it back to the City Hall here and they can either do it by mail, which in that case it costs more to mail it. If you're going to do it by driving down here, or walking down here, it's going to cost you gas. I talked to some people, that they said well, this monthly billing isn't too bad, maybe it'll be alright. Then I explain the rest of it, and I tell them about this and they say that little extra cost isn't too bad. I said here's the final thing, in order to do this, they have to hire another person which is going to cost the taxpayers roughly \$40,000-\$50,000 a year. Then they go whoa, I don't want none of that. Dave and I both bowl on the same league at the bowling alley and I talk to a lot of them people up there and they are fine with it until you get to, well you gotta hire another person, then they say just leave it at quarterly billing and let it go at that. So, you're not going to save any money by going to the monthly billing, you're just gonna supposedly just make it easier for somebody to forget their bill and miss the payment. Now, not only does it cost more for the individual people, it costs more for the City to send all this information out to the people. That's a big expense just for us, not one postage stamp, but when you multiply it times the number of people that's in this town then it gets to be a little more expensive. Another thing I want to talk about, we brought up last time about 38% of the people that might have trouble paying their bills. Nothing I see here is going to save these people any money because you live in a house and they want to have the City water they have to pay \$600 like everybody else, that's not helping them people. The only way you can help them people is you give them a discount. I don't know how many of you people remember, I'm sure Paul does, we used to get senior discount on our water. We had a Council come along and say you old people got all the money anyhow. Mr. Kida corrected this by saying that it was a State mandate and not the Council's decision. Mr. Wiebers apologized and said all he knows is that we used to have a senior discount and they did away with it. Mr. Kida further clarified that it was deemed illegal. Mr. Wiebers said he would go along with that. Anyhow we are not helping these people, give them a discount on their water if they are having that much trouble with it. Now, here's a question I have, if you're going to bill, everybody's going to get a bill the

1st of April. Then they are going to get another bill the end of June, right. People aren't going to be very happy when they get \$150 bill for after the quarter then get socked with another \$50 after that. Now what are you going to do when you have people that don't pay their bills? Then you've got to start the process of shutting off their water and if they don't pay the quarter, what's the chances for them a month later get another bill and not pay it then. When you go by the quarter, you have a system where you've got enough time that you can go ahead and talk to these people and negotiate with them and help them out to get paid. But if you've got one this quarter and you get one next month on the same people, you don't have that timeframe that you can go ahead and negotiate with them to pay their bill. I don't know how you're going to handle that. I know once you start having a lot of shut offs, the boys down at the City Garage are going to start are going to have their hands full shutting the water off and turning it back on and doing whatever they have to. Okay I have a suggestion here. This person has already been hired here. I know we are not going to get rid of her. I have a suggestion here. I know, and correct me if I'm wrong, somebody said that the Library were needing people, this would be a good spot to do a little cross training. You could take this person, now you're already doing this, correct me if I'm wrong, that we've taken our full time Cemetery guy and he's working out of the City Garage now, is that correct, or is that not correct? Mr. Kida said he's doing building maintenance work under the Public Works Director; he's not necessarily working at the City Garage. Mr. Wiebers said that's what we should be doing. And that's what I sort of call cross training and there's no reason we can't cross train with the ladies in the billing office here and the ladies down at the Library. If you go ahead and take this person and put them down at the Library, the biggest trick, I understand, is, well, you've got someone who goes on vacation for a week, we don't have any help down here. Grab them out of the Library, bring them up here and cross train and they can go ahead and work down here and when they are done they can go back there. It saves you from having to hire another person. Because otherwise you're going to have to hire another person for the Library. So that's just something to think about. Now the last thing I want to talk about was the, I don't know how many of you get the Clinton Herald, but I get the Clinton Herald and that's the only place I get my information from the City because I'm not a computer guy and I don't have that knowledge to get it, I don't own a computer. In the newspaper, about a month ago, we had a, this is for wages, everybody's wage, all in the paper, all documented, and just wages, not counting any of the side, different insurance, vacation, and all that, just wages. And I don't know how many know this but our wages for the City were one million, eight hundred and some thousand dollars. That's a lot of money, isn't it? Who's paying for all that? Taxpayers. Now if, there's talk about they want to hire another one down at the City Garage, another one at the Library. It's not going to take long; we're going to be up to two million dollars. This is for a town with 4,500 people in it and that hasn't grown that much over the last 10-15 years, but the payroll has gone clear up to here. Just something to be thinking about. Other than that, I'm done, thank you for your patience and your time.

Tom Klahn said he has about 4 things to talk about. He will do them in order they are on the agenda. First off, just some information, we have an item to approve a professional services agreement with Shive-Hattery for 3M Drinking Water Compliance. In that agreement, I would like to know what is a standard hourly fee schedule. Along with that, what did it say, reimbursable expense fee schedule. Mr. Kida said all of the expenses for Shive-Hattery on 3M agreement are items to be reimbursed. Mr. Klahn asked what the schedule is. Mr. Kida said our schedule is based on the current contract we have with Shive-Hattery. So, I can dig to find that. Since it's a charge to 3M. we wouldn't be charging any more for services from Shive than we would for our own services. Mr. Klahn asked if 3M is paying for that and Mr. Kida said yes, under the EPA agreement, they are obligated to do that. Mr. Klahn said the agreement is with the City so he would still like to know what the hourly fee is, it would be nice to know before it is approved. The next item is the resolution for Residential Garbage and Recycling; I understand that. Under the 3rd Whereas, it says the City will be converting to charging on a monthly basis. Is there something you guys know that we don't? It says we will be going to monthly. If you approve that tonight, it means you will be going to monthly. Councilman Bowman asked for his point. Mr. Klahn, said the resolution said it is already done. Mr. Kida said a resolution does not supersede what an ordinance directs. After some discussion, it was decided to consider the resolution on the agenda as amended. Mr. Klahn proceeded to say the next item I want to talk about is the resolution ordering sidewalk completion in the Edens 2nd Addition. I know why that is, but I'd like to hear somebody publicly say why it is, why are you including Edens 2nd Addition. Councilman Bowman said we are correcting an error. Mr. Klahn

said he was glad to hear that, correcting an error. Then continued with: let's go back to the original sidewalk resolution. You folks know that in that resolution it said Murphy's Subdivision, it says Lawrence Subdivision and Stearns Subdivision; they don't exist in the City of Camanche, legally. No one lives in Murphy's Subdivision, that's a generic term. So, if you had to correct it to say Eden's 2nd then you go back and change all of them to the proper subdivision names to make it legal. They don't exist, they're generic terms. In a scenario like this, if one of the property owners were to sell their property, this is if you go after them for another sidewalk. They don't want to do it, they don't do it because they understand Murphy's doesn't exist or Edens doesn't exist, Lawrence or Stearns don't exist. That needs to be changed. Next item is the utilities billing. I keep hearing the additional \$50,000, nobody's ever said anything for or against that being a proper number, so I'll stick with that. In reading that ordinance, it says that we calculated on the first day of each month. Is that calculated, I mean, the meters are read, does that mean it is calculated and sent out, when's it going to be mailed to the people? Well, it's the first day of the month, these are the actual words from the ordinance, it's calculated on the first day of the month, what if it's Saturday or Sunday? It has to be paid by the 20th of the month. Take a look at some months, that narrows your time for payment pretty good. For instance, I'll use myself, if this had been in effect last July, I would have missed the mail. I was on vacation for two weeks and I would have been charged an extra 5% because I wasn't home to pay it; it's a very short window for you to pay that and not get an overdue fee. Another thing are the facts found in the resolution, one of them is the clearly establishing utility billing timelines and customer payment timelines necessary. No it's not, you have that now, you have timelines now. Minimizing fluctuations in City revenue, customers will be on a regular cycle of billing; we have regular cycles of billing now. So, I don't know what the purpose of the change is, nobody has given a good reason for that. Facts, those two facts I stated are still facts whether you change them or not.

Councilman Bowman noted a correction to the January 17, 2023 minutes. The second motion after closed session should read "for Camanche pending", not "Camanche and" Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Determann to approve the Consent Agenda, as corrected, which covered the following: Approve minutes, as corrected, from the Council meeting held on January 17, 2023; approve Abstract No. 817 which includes the following:

ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	RX SILICON BLADE-AMBULANCE REP	104.48
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS SERVICE	4,661.55
CAMANCHE VOL FIRE DEPT	REIMB KITCHEN,PAPER SUPPLIES	257.28
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	LARGE PRINT BOOK	23.40
CLINTON PRINTING COMPANY	10,000 STATEMENT PAPER	1,400.00
CITY OF CLINTON	28E SEWER CONTRACT	25,066.32
CLINTON NATIONAL BANK	FED/FICA TAX WITHHOLDING	23,346.43
COLLECTION SERVICES CTR	GARNISHMENT	324.00
EMER MEDICAL PRODUCTS INC	CATH,BLANKET,TOWELS-AMBULANCE	1,422.06
GATEWAY UNITED WAY	UNITED WAY DEDUCTIONS	58.00
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	BOARDS,HANGARS,ZIP TIES,PAPER PRD	610.66
IOWA ONE CALL	50 ONE CALL LOCATES	45.00
INGRAM BOOK COMPANY	BOOKS/DVDS	1,794.04
VOYA	457 PLAN DEDUCT	2,004.00
IPERS	IPERS	9,538.64
MASTERCARD	FD-PLANNER,FUEL ADDITIVE,TARPS	1,369.28
MEDIACOM	INTERNET	450.00
MERCY MEDICAL CENTER-CLIN	DEC 2022 PHARMACEUTICALS	101.00
MICROMARKETING LLC	CDS	224.94
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY CO	ELECTRIC SERVICE	4,192.75
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	BOOKS/DVDS	266.36
ACCESS SYSTEMS	POLICE DEPARTMENT COPIES	85.60
JEFFREY MOORE	REIMBURSE EYE EXAM	200.00
MUNICIPAL FIRE & POLICE	MUNICIPAL PENSION	24,180.81
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	HOSE CLAMP PULLER-PW GARAGE	38.99
THE PENWORTHY COMPANY	BOOKS/DVDS	564.97
PRESTO-X-COMPANY	PEST CTRL-CCTR,CHALL,LIB,HIST BLDG	189.20
LIFE INSURANCE	LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,263.00
QC ANALYTICAL SERVICES	SAMPLE ANALYSIS	276.00

SCHIMBERG CO	MANHOLE RING-11TH PLACE	182.52
SHIVE-HATTERY ENGINEERS	ENG-ROUNDAABOUT LESS CREDIT,MTGS	5,080.56
TEAM TWO INC	AMBULANCE BILLING DEC 2022	1,497.88
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	WITHHOLDING,EXCISE,SALES TAXES	8,314.96
US CELLULAR	PD CELL PHONES,MOBILE 311 DATA	612.68
HAWKINS INC	55 GAL AZONE-WATER DEPT	210.10
DARYL YODER	REIMBURSE GLASSES/EXAM	200.00
1ST GATEWAY CREDIT UNION	UNION DUES DEDUCTIONS	510.00
WINDSTREAM	PHONE/LONG DISTANCE	304.44
CHRISTY SCHUTTE	REIMBURSE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	48.42
PREMIER PARTS INC	TRANSMISSION FLUID-DUMP TRUCKS	1,157.69
BWC EXCAVATING	WATER MAIN BREAK-ROSEHILL AVE	4,050.65
CENTURYLINK	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	1,053.79
BIBLIONIX	SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES	1,870.00
CLINTON ACE HARDWARE	SHIP PFAS WATER SAMPLES	30.76
MID-STATES ORGANIZED	MOCIC 2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	100.00
UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERV	COLLECTIONS-LIBRARY	46.60
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS	22,672.49
AFLAC	AFLAC - PRETAX DEDUCTIONS	500.40
AMAZON	LIB-VACUUM,BOOKS,DVDS,SUPPLIES	1,045.50
CONTINUOUS TOUCH, LLC	SIP TRUNKING	149.99
GUMDROP BOOKS	BOOKS/DVDS	128.95
RHA SERVICE INC.	PD, PW GARAGE FURNACE REPAIR	1,181.19
SPARKLEAN	JAN 23 CLEAN-CH,PW,LIB,COMM CTR	825.00
XEROX BUSINESS SERV LLC	FIRE DEPARTMENT COPIER EXPENSE	115.23
HSA ACCOUNTS	HSA- EMPLOYEES	2,920.00
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	LIB PROGRAMS 10/5,11/2,12/21	79.52
CLINTON ROTARY CLUB	QUARTERLY DUES-KIDA	211.00
NATHAN CAMPIE	REIMB CLOTHING, BAL-BOOT ALLOW	138.51
REPUBLIC SERVICES	JAN 23 CITY COLLECTION, FEB P WORKS	29,900.20
EASTERN IA COMM COLLEGE	EMT CLASS-DETERS,TEAGARDEN	3,952.00
FINDAWAY	BOOKS/DVDS	239.97
MIDWEST GROUP BENEFITS	WEEKLY CLAIMS	153.46
GEMT	STATE SHARE GEMT-FEB 2023	1,482.85
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO	PAPER TOWELS-COMM CTR,CITYHALL	164.91
JACOB VANZUIDEN	REIMBURSE SAFETY BOOTS	200.00
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	CITY HALL COPIER LEASE	258.64
CINTAS	TOWELS,RUGS-PW;CH,UNIFORM-PEWE	93.42
BRITTNEY PARKS	BALANCE OF GLASSES ALLOWANCE	70.00
HAROLD TEAGARDEN	BOOKS-EMT CLASS	40.93
AIRGAS USA, LLC.	OXYGEN CYLINDER RENT	46.08
CITIZENS FIRST BANK	VACATION/SICK CD	87,984.91
RAINBOW OF THE HEARTLAND	BALANCE-ANTHONY PARK EQUIPMENT	7,550.50
FLOCK SAFETY GROUP INC	LPR CAMERA SYSTEM	17,450.00
SHAUNA TEGELER	REIMBURSE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	55.61
RYAN SCHEEPER	DEFENSIVE TACTICS TRAINING-PD	140.00
MIDWEST BATH CO	LMI FORGIVEABLE LOAN 307 15 AV	8,000.00
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIAT	EVANS-ANNUAL DUES	255.00
DEPOSIT REFUNDS	REFUND DATE 02/01/2023	26.07
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS ON 01/20/2023	47,189.41
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS ON 01/24/2023	78.04
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS ON 02/03/2023	48,636.07
	CLAIMS TOTAL	413,265.66
	GENERAL FUND	266,479.97
	LIBRARY FUND	19,175.28
	PARKS FUND	12,759.50
	CEMETERY FUND	2,299.37
	ROAD USE FUND	14,677.58
	LOW/MODERATE HOUSING FUND	8,000.00
	ROUNDAABOUT-7TH AVE/HWY 67 FUND	2,165.96

WATER UTILITY FUND	23,267.85
SEWER UTILITY FUND	31,522.64
LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND	32,917.51

Approve Professional Services Agreement with Shive-Hattery for 3M Drinking Water Compliance Services; Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes from the Park and Recreation Commission meeting on January 30, 2023; Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes from the Library Board meetings on January 4, 2023 and February 1, 2023; Approve continuing 28E Lobbying agreement with Eide-Walton and Clinton County Advocacy Control Board; Approve renewal of Class B Retail Alcohol License as submitted by Kwik Trip, Inc. dba Kwik Star #632 effective 02/08/2023; Approve renewal of Class B Retail Alcohol License as submitted by Dolgencorp, LLC. Db a Dollar General #65512 effective 03/01/2023. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Determann to Adopt a Resolution Amending the FY2023 City of Camanche Budget. On roll call – all Ayes.

City Attorney Randy Current led a discussion regarding the Railroad Merger – Surface Transportation Board (STB) Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Results. He informed everyone that the Surface Transportation Board issued their 5,700+ page Environmental Impact Report last week. He prefaced his comments by saying that he certainly did not review all of it but he believes he has determined the most significant things regarding the City of Camanche. However, it is possible that he could have missed something in all of that. He mainly looked at the issues of crossing delay. They studied the tracks from Chicago to the Mexican border and claim to have analyzed 1,365 crossings. According to the study, Canadian Pacific is stating, if the merger is approved, the trains going through Camanche are going to be shorter. They are estimating that it will go from 8 trains a day to somewhere in the 20-24 range. The report also said the trains will be going approximately 40 m.p.h. through Camanche, down to 20 m.p.h. through Clinton. They do not consider a crossing eligible for an overpass unless there are 2,500 crossings per day with 30 trains, so they did not recommend any overpasses anywhere between Chicago and the Mexican border. Mr. Current noted the report had 37 crossings between Chicago and Mexico with no viable alternate crossings within 2 miles. Of those, 20 are in Iowa; of the 20 in Iowa, 7 are in Camanche.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to Adopt a Resolution Establishing a Public Hearing for the FYE2024 Tax Levy. On roll call – all Ayes.

The rates for solid waste collection will be increased to match the annual contractual increases from Republic Services.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to Adopt a Resolution Adjusting Fees for Residential Garbage and Recycling, as amended to read the City of Camanche “may” be converting to services charged on a monthly basis. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to Adopt a Resolution Ordering Sidewalk Completion in the Edens 2nd Addition. On roll call – all Ayes.

Regarding the Resolution establishing a Fund Balance Police, City Administrator Kida reminded Council that we discussed this six or seven months ago trying to establish a floor in some of these funds. If Council adopts this resolution and, in the future, it is decided to drop below the floor in any of the funds, it would need to take action to do so.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Determann to Adopt a Resolution Establishing Fund Balance Policy. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Varner, second by Councilman Bowman to Adopt a Resolution to Authorize the City Administrator to Apply for RCTP Funding of \$25,000 for the 9th Street Project. On roll call – all Ayes.

Kida explained that staff worked together to develop an amendment to the ordinance to accommodate monthly billing and how that would work. Essentially, we will send out one monthly bill. If it goes unpaid, the next monthly bill shows the current amount and past due amount, and it serves as your delinquent notice. This will eliminate the practice of a separate

mailing of a few hundred hand-stuffed delinquent notices under the quarterly billing ordinance. If the second monthly bill is not paid, a shut-off notice will be sent. The late fees have not changed. There will no longer be payment agreements unless there is someone with a significant leak, 150% more than their normal bill. A lot of the language is the same as what is in our current ordinance, it is just a timing change. Councilman Bowman expressed his opinion by saying that we are raising our costs and there is no benefit for us; I am not supportive of this change. I have big concerns about doing something that raises our costs, raises costs to the taxpayers. Kida added that this has been in talks for quite some time. We have been on quarterly billing for decades. Quarterly billing was established when it took weeks of the Public Works staff to go hand read every meter and then all of that information was calculated and then entered into the system manually, when they were typewriting bills. That's why it was quarterly then. The justification to keep it quarterly because "that's the way it was", in my opinion, should have been done away with when we went to reading them remotely, when you eliminated the need for all that manpower in Public Works to go read the meters by hand. To Mr. Graves position, this will equal the frequency by which we bill, it's just the volume so it saves nothing in time, and I don't know that our system will accommodate this. Schneider spoke to that and said no, our current system will not accommodate this. Kida added that this is not cart before the horse. This whole space, including the space in City Hall was designed for expanded staffing for when, not if, we go to monthly billing. That was all discussed during those processes. You need the experience of the staff on hand before you go experimenting with monthly billing because we know it's going to increase the cost. It's also going to increase the workload tremendously. You have to have the staff on hand. To just have random staff people get cross trained to come over and learn that process and do it and then have to deal with customers who are in those situations who have shut offs or have transfers in and out. It's a very large, intricate system to cross train people on. I can tell you our current staff member picked it up well, but it still took a few months to get that under control, the everyday work. So, the notion that we're going to be able to get a part-time person to come in once in a while to cover that, my recommendation is that's not probable. It's a challenging function. Mayor Pruett read the First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Title 6 Chapter 5 Section 3 of the Camanche Municipal Code: Utilities Billing Charge.

Moved by Councilman Determann, second by Councilman Varner to Approve the First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Title 6 Chapter 5 Section 3 of the Camanche Municipal Code: Utilities Billing Charge. On roll call – Ayes – Councilmen Determann and Varner. Nay – Councilman Bowman. Absent – Councilmen Schnoor and Weller.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to Authorize Chief Schmitz to apply for CCDA Grant for PD Facilities Improvements. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Determann to Authorized Park & Rec to apply for CCDA Grant for Splash Pad project. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to Authorize Chief Schutte to have repair work to valves and springs on Tanker 1303 done during the current Fiscal Year. On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Varner, second by Councilman Determann to Authorize Chief Schutte to purchase 1996 75' Ladder Truck from Cordova Fire Protection District to Replace 1978 50' Ladder Truck. On roll call – all Ayes.

Chief Schutte presented the Camanche Fire Department December 2022 Report and Chief Schmitz presented the Camanche Police Department 2022 Report.

City Attorney Current said the wording on the Overpass Ordinance will be ready for the next Council meeting.

Councilman Bowman, the Library Liaison, reported that they changed the Director position to a salary position and set the salary at \$55,960 which is included in their budget proposal, and they are asking for a budget amendment for an additional staff member. The Library is also looking into parking lot repairs, they have one bid \$14,500 from Bargaen. Kida said Pewe is trying to coordinate that work with some road work to lessen the Library's cost.

Bowman also informed everyone that he attended a speech from the County Health Department regarding radon. Iowa has the highest average concentration of radon in the home. He has information about testing and encourages people to contact the County Health Department about getting their homes tested. The Library is getting tested. By law, only preschools and day cares need to be tested. He also talked about doing a little more enforcement of the snow removal ordinance.

Pewe gave an update on a few things. We had a couple of water main breaks which caused flow, pressure changes and some dirty water issues which were communicated on our text system, website and social media. He is still waiting on a reply from Automatic Systems and computer parts to get a timeline for the SCADA system. He is also working with ABM looking for building upgrades and efficiencies and several other items. Cahoy is rehabbing well #5 and preparing to install the test pump next week. He is still on the hunt for a truck.

Mayor Pruett called for public comments.

Jerry Wiebers said he thinks he has been in this town longer than anybody else in the room. He said he just wants to make a comment. I heard all these sad stories about these every quarter billing checks that have to be written. I've got one question for you people. How do you pay your real estate taxes when you only have to pay them every 6 months? Maybe the City Council, the City Manager ought to get together with the school district, get together with our County Supervisors, get together and get that on monthly billing. Thank you.

Tom Klahn asked for clarification from City Attorney Current about the length of the trains. He then told City Administrator Kida the language in the old ordinance and the new ordinance were not the same; he read them this afternoon, they're different. Read them, okay? The billing part of that is different for the new one and the old one, I read it this afternoon. He said he took offense to something that was said earlier in the meeting. The last thing is, I've said before, I'm going public with it, if nobody wants to do anything about it, there's a flag flying over here that's torn and tattered, has been for 3 days. It's ridiculous. You have all these nice facilities; nobody wants to put a flag up that looks good. To leave them up when they are torn and tattered is ridiculous. That's my rant, thank you.

Frank Wiebers back to the train situation. I understood 40 mph? Current said that's what the report is based upon for their estimated blockage time per crossing when a train goes through. Frank asked if that's what they are proposing, 40 mph? Current said he doesn't know if that's what they are proposing, it's just what they are saying their estimates are based on. Kida added that the change in the grade on 4th Avenue on the curve allows them to accommodate 40 mph if they want to. Frank said if they are going to run through here at 40 mph and I can only do 25 mph on the streets. Here we've got 3 engines, 90 cars worth of pushing behind it running through here at 40 mph with hazardous material on it, it don't seem very safe to me. Mayor Pruett said the speed limit is federally regulated. Kida added that they have removed the municipality's ability to regulate the speed of trains.

A recess was taken at 8:15 p.m. Reconvened at 8:29 p.m.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Varner to go to Closed Session: Pending or Imminent Litigation per Iowa Code 21.5. On roll call – all Ayes.

Reconvened to Open Session at 9:09 p.m. for a FYE2024 Budget Work Session

Kida explained changes being made by the legislature that will negatively affect the City's FY2024 Budget.

Mayor Pruett adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.