

City of Camanche  
September 3, 2024

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session September 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Austin Pruett presiding, and Council members Bowman, Edens, Farrell and Klahn. Councilman Weller was absent. Also present were City Attorneys Randy Current, John Frey and Braydon Roberts, City Engineer Dan Solchenberger, City Administrator Andrew Kida, and Department Heads Grim, Pewe, Schutte and Schneider. Corporal Snodgrass and Officer Hall attended for Chief Schmitz.

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

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

Mayor Pruett called for public comments on Agenda topics.

Gregg Maxwell 2127 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Camanche commented on the Helmet Ordinance. He said it is hard to see where the City should be big brothering this. There's no federal requirement, no state requirement, there's no county requirement; he doesn't see why we should have a City requirement. Out of 950 cities in Iowa and only 3 or 4 have this kind of Ordinance; there's a reason for that. He said we are heading into kinda dangerous territory, big brother territory. He doesn't think that's where we should be as a city; we are overstepping what City government should do in his opinion. He is all for education, awareness. We should try other avenues before we slap a law in place that numerous levels above us haven't felt is necessary.

Bill Gillespie, McCausland Mayor Pro-Tem, City Council member also commented on the Helmet Ordinance. He said a helmet mandate will not fix the problem, they are kids being kids. The answer is letting your Police Department contact parents when out of control operation is observed. For cell phone use while riding you could enforce Iowa code 321.275 part 6. Education efforts could include a motorcycle and moped awareness day. Have Fire and Police Departments set up kind of a spring check up that day, things like tire pressure, tire wear, visibility flag, headlight operation and more. And a presentation on riding or demonstration or story. The answer is education. The Ordinance you are proposing is a "there you did something" action. There are unintended consequences of such an Ordinance, it's a slippery slope. Where does it go from here? Helmets on golf carts and side-by-sides, what about the motorized skateboard scooters, bicycles? You are setting a precedent for further loss of our liberties. He is asking the Council to oppose the Ordinance mandating the use of helmets on mopeds.

Ryan Veenstra, President and CEO of Snell Zornig Funeral Home 800 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue requested additional time to speak. He commented on the columbarium agenda item. He thinks building a columbarium at Rosehill Cemetery is a bad idea; columbariums are for communities larger than Camanche, like Chicago where cemeteries are landlocked. He said Rosehill has land available for his lifetime and future generations to come and even explained how burials are done at Rosehill. He said Springdale Cemetery in Clinton has a \$75,000 columbarium and has not sold even one niche. He said these things are not built for forever and are not maintenance free; all it takes is three minutes and a sledgehammer to remove and

urn. Most families choose cremation for the cost. He noted that the Clean Water Act prevents people from scattering ashes in the river but said that we would be ignorant not to think that most cremains end up in the river. He said Council should think like his family does, is this a need or a want. He said his funeral home will not lose revenue for this columbarium. He told Council not to make the same mistake the City of Clinton did with the columbarium.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Farrell to approve the Consent Agenda, as corrected due to a typographical error-the amount \$262.00 was typed on item #7 twice, which covered the following: Approve minutes from the Council meeting held on August 20, 2024; approve Abstract No. 855 which includes the following:

ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS SERVICE	549.08
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	LARGE PRINT BOOKS	24.02
CLINTON NATIONAL BANK	FED/FICA TAX WITHHOLDING	13,337.79
CORE-VENS & COMPANY	23-24 WORK COMP, LIAB INS AUDIT	12,173.00
FOLEY TREE CARE	REMOVE DEAD TREES-15TH PLACE	5,000.00
DAN'S OVERHEAD DOORS	CLEAN EYE-PW GARAGE DOOR	107.88
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	BOLTS,PULLEY-LIBRARY FLAG POLE	9.18
VOYA	457 PLAN DEDUCT	2,826.00
IPERS	IPERS	15,665.98
MASTERCARD	QUAD CITY TIMES SUBSC-LIBRARY	4.99
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SVC	ANNUAL DEFIBRILLATOR SVC/PADS	1,282.12
MUNICIPAL FIRE & POLICE	MUNICIPAL PENSION	12,120.08
LIFE INSURANCE	LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,280.13
QUILL CORPORATION	CHALL,PW SUPPLIES,OFFICE SUPPL	197.28
RK AUTOGRAPHICS	LETTERING,GRAPHICS-PD SILVERADO	830.00
SHIVE-HATTERY ENGINEERS	ROUNDAABOUT-ADDRESS IDOT ISSUE	1,642.50
STANARD & ASSOCIATES INC	POST TESTS-POLICE DEPARTMENT	132.50
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	STATE WITHHOLDING TAX	8,277.15
US CELLULAR	PD/PW CELL PHONES	571.77
HAWKINS INC	120 GAL AZONE, 56 GAL LPC	2,050.20
WINDSTREAM	PHONE/LONG DISTANCE	305.68
PREMIER PARTS INC	PARTS-FD, PD, PWORKS, CEMETERY	1,167.38
CENTURYLINK	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	118.87
UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERV	COLLECTIONS-LIBRARY	11.65
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS	24,549.37
AFLAC	AFLAC - PRETAX	697.50
MODERN MARKETING	LIBRARY-CHILDRENS BRACELETS	397.95
CONTINUOUS TOUCH, LLC	SIP TRUNKING	164.60
CASEY'S GENERAL STORES	77.19G FIRE DEPT; 44.01G POLICE DPT; 18.83G AMB;8.11G FLOOD;18.57G PW	565.88
HSA ACCOUNTS	HSA- EMPLOYEES	1,315.00
VESTIS	RUGS,TOWELS-PW,CH;UNIF-PEWE	72.76
AXON ENTERPRISE, INC.	PD-SIDE ARM BRACKET	11.48
REPUBLIC SERVICES	AUG 2024 CITY COLLECTION	32,489.50
MIDWEST GROUP BENEFITS	WEEKLY CLAIMS	574.67
GEMT	STATE SHARE GEMT-SEPT 24, FFS	2,068.06
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO	PAPER TOWELS-COMM CENTER/CHALL	154.91

IRV'S REPAIR, INC	STARTER-CEMETERY MOWER	175.42
TEMP ASSOCIATES-IOWA, INC	LIBRARY-DOHSE THRU 082524	55.83
SHAUNA TEGELER	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE-BALANCE	104.47
ALTORFER, INC.	GENERATOR RENTAL-WELL #5	5,047.00
PCC AMBULANCE BILLING SER	JULY 24 AMBULANCE BILLING SVC	1,459.32
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES	491.95
LIBERTY NATIONAL	LIBERTY NAT PRE/POST TAX DEDUCTS	400.08
VISA	PUMP-7TH AV SEWER;TRAINING-PD,FD	4,511.76
KANOPY, INC.	VIDEO BOOKS-LIBRARY	66.00
DEPOSIT REFUNDS	WATER DEPOSIT REFUNDS	181.77
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS ON 08/30/2024	55,260.38
	CLAIMS TOTAL	210,500.89
	GENERAL FUND	123,364.60
	LIBRARY FUND	11,457.40
	PARKS FUND	2,639.33
	CEMETERY FUND	4,397.50
	ROAD USE FUND	8,153.38
	POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND	132.50
	ROUNDAABOUT-7TH AV/HWY 67 FUND	1,642.50
	PFAS FUND	5,047.00
	WATER UTILITY FUND	15,291.55
	SEWER UTILITY FUND	5,203.47
	LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND	33,171.66

Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes file draft minutes from the Library Board Special meeting on August 18, 2024; Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes from the Park and Recreation meeting on August 26, 2024; Approve Class C Retail Alcohol License for Hides Inn effective 9/1/2024; Approve Final Pay App (retainage) and Change Order #5 to Manatt's for 9<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction \$98,659.93; Approve payment of Core Vens Invoices \$11,911.00 Worker's Comp Insurance and \$262.00 General Liability Audit. On roll call – all Ayes.

City Administrator Kida informed Council that the Development Agreement with Rock Creek Solar, LLC has been thoroughly reviewed and staff recommends approval.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Edens to Approve Development Agreement with Rock Creek Solar, LLC for Utility Scale Solar project. On roll call – all Ayes.

Mayor Pruett read a Resolution Setting a time and date for a Public Hearing regarding Emergency Warning Sirens.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Edens to Adopt a Resolution Setting a time and date for a Public Hearing – Emergency Warning Sirens. On roll call – all Ayes.

Regarding the 96 Niche Columbarium Proposal, City Administrator Kida clarified that Rosehill Cemetery is, in fact, landlocked. The columbarium will provide spaces for 96 cremations while taking up approximately 4 gravesites and would be placed in an area of the cemetery where we cannot do full burials due to soft ground. The City of Nevada paid \$56,000

for a 96 niche unit and we can purchase this one for \$21,000 delivered. It will not be a burden to the taxpayers, as the Cemetery has the funds to pay for it. We should not base our decision on the failure of our neighbors to the north. The Cemetery is a business and should be run like a business; this is an opportunity to double our money. There are also flower connections that could be sold. This unit is much more attractive than the unit at Springdale Cemetery. Councilman Edens disagrees, he doesn't think Camanche will sell much. He thinks we have enough room for 100-150 years. He is leaning toward the cremation garden and would like to see the money spent elsewhere; just because it's a good deal doesn't mean we need to do it. Councilman Klahn said there's really no plan; he doesn't like spending money without a plan. We don't know how much it's going to cost. Edens estimated \$36,000 installed. Councilman Bowman said he is in favor of it; we can make this a lower cost option for people.

Moved by Councilman Bowman to Accept the 96 Niche Columbarium Proposal. Motion dies for lack of a Second.

Mayor Pruett read the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of An Ordinance Amending the Camanche Municipal Code by Amending Title III, Chapter 3 of the Camanche Code of Ordinances (Safety Helmets). Councilman Bowman noted that ISU has a good website and said there were 637 moped crashes between 2016 and 2024 with 40.1% being riders under the age of 16. He brought this idea to Council, he wants to do something; he can't do nothing. He wants to do something before it is too late. Councilman Edens went to that website and said that 60% of the crashes are riders over 16. 40% of the 203 accidents were no fault of the moped driver. He guesses the number would be the same if they had been on bikes. Bowman said the difference is you can hear a car if you are on a bike; if you are on a moped, all you can hear is the moped motor. Edens genuinely believes moped riders should not wear a helmet and doesn't think it is our place to require that. Kida reminded Council this is just the first reading; approving the first reading doesn't pass the law. It just allows the Ordinance to move to the next meeting for further discussion where maybe Councilman Weller may be able to attend.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Klahn to Approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of An Ordinance Amending the Camanche Municipal Code by Amending Title III, Chapter 3 of the Camanche Code of Ordinances (Safety Helmets). On roll call – Ayes – Councilmen Bowman, Klahn and Farrell. Nay – Councilman Edens. Absent – Councilman Weller.

City Administrator Kida thanked the Civil Service group, past and present, for all their hard work getting good candidates for the Police Department, including staff members and volunteers who help with the process. Councilman Edens piggybacked on what Kida said; he sees everyone at the track when the testing takes place. Councilman Klahn brought up a social media post regarding campaign signs in the right-of-way. He said it's the same thing for any signs; house for sale, yard sale. Kida said we have a sign Ordinance. Klahn asked if we can publish those posts also because there are a lot more of those than there are campaign signs. Kida said we generally don't pull yard sale signs unless they are an obstruction to drivers' view because they are in the neighborhood of the sale. Klahn said the thing is, if we are going to pick on politics, we to pick on all signs. Kida said there is a state code regarding political signs. Per this discussion, we will start pulling yard sale signs as well. Councilman Bowman reported he will be out of town so Councilman Klahn will cover for him at the Library Board meeting. Public Works Director Pewe reported they are readying for the closing of the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue railroad

crossing. Well #7 will be tested and the part time high school student started last week. He said the department is falling behind with locates, the water main break and a storm sewer repair. He is waiting on parts for the ditch mower. City Engineer Solchenberger said bids will be opened for the Splash Pad on September 25<sup>th</sup> and considered at the October 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting. The dirt work at Well #7 will be done early next week. Library Director Grim listed the July/August Thank Yous: guest readers including Andrew Kida and Corporal Elliott, Camanche Fire Department for the Fire Hose Splash, Friends of the Library for keeping the grounds looking nice and the upcoming Fall Festival on September 29<sup>th</sup>, and Public Works. She gave a presentation summarizing upcoming events and said there is a link on the Library website to register. She showed patron, circulation and summer reading program statistics and pictures.

Mayor Pruett asked for Public Comments. There were none.

A brief recess was taken at 7:08 p.m.

Reconvened at 7:17 p.m. for the third Goal Setting Session led by Kida. He showed how the selected projects fit in to the Capital Improvement Plan and put estimated costs with the new projects. Detailed discussion ensued regarding these projects including the Library Project, Yard Waste Site and Storm water. Kida will get together with Chief Schutte regarding the timing for purchases of Fire Equipment. Kida will then let Council know when we are ready for the next step.

Mayor Pruett adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Austin Pruett  
Mayor

Toni L. Schneider  
City Clerk/Treasurer