

City of Camanche
October 1, 2024

The City Council of the City of Camanche, Iowa met in regular session October 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Camanche City Hall. Present on roll call: Mayor Austin Pruetz presiding, and Council members Bowman, Edens, Farrell, Klahn and Weller. Also present were City Attorneys Randy Current, John Frey and Braydon Roberts, City Administrator Andrew Kida, and Department Heads Grim, Pewe, Schmitz, Schutte and Schneider.

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

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

Mayor Pruetz opened a Public Hearing regarding the Splash Pad at 6:01 p.m. Images of splash pad were shown as City Engineer Dan Solchenberger explained that it will be 2,500 square feet in Platt Park, where the horseshoe pits are now. The water lines will come from 9th Avenue and the new sewer lines will go to Hiawatha and will resolve the current issues in that neighborhood. In the absence of public comments, Mayor Pruetz closed the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor Pruetz opened a Public Hearing regarding Eminent Domain at 6:04 p.m. City Administrator Kida explained that this is a requirement for the Camanche water supply. In the absence of public comments, Mayor Pruetz closed the Public Hearing at 6:05 p.m.

Visitor Joe Vens with Core-Vens Insurance joined the meeting online to provide details about a Worker's Compensation Insurance Endorsement invoice that were requested at the previous Council meeting.

Visitor Benjamin Beard with Straka Johnson Architect used a Power Point presentation to describe the planning process of the Camanche Public Library expansion project. To date, it has been a detailed process, incorporating the Library's mission statement and beginning with defining the team. A project schedule came next, followed by goals and objectives, guiding principles, assessing existing conditions, evaluating the existing building and footprint, a space summary and site opportunities. He presented conceptual drawings; Concept A, a one-story solution and Concept B, a two-story solution. They will study the budgets all the way through as they continue to vet the options and look at the pros and cons of each.

Mayor Pruetz called for public comments on Agenda topics. Gregg Maxwell 2127 10th Street commented on the Splash Pad cost, saying his recollection is originally the commitment was \$300,000 and believes the other \$100,000 didn't materialize and the City stepped up to cover that. The base bid is right on that target, however there is an option to add \$120,000. His concern is it wouldn't take much in terms of problems, cost overruns, change orders for that \$500,000 to become \$600,000 or so which would put the City at double what the original commitment was. He has concerns with that. If this is something we choose to go forward with he sure would like to see us start small. We can always do more later. He said as a taxpayer, we are already hurting here in town.

John Dixon 1429 3rd Street commented on Quiet Zones. He lives on the other side of the tracks. He said he moved here about 30 years ago and the most important thing about a community was not a splash pad or a library; the most important thing was safety and public works. We were lucky to have a Council and a great Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works Department funded well by the Council and we had access to the school where we could use the library. A quiet, comfortable, safe environment was the most important issue for me moving to Camanche. Long term, he wants to see a way to get EMS across the tracks to a major portion of our population which we can't now. As we've increased the trains, we've increased the slowness of the trains and the blockage of the tracks so our kids have more difficulty getting to school; they have to maybe eventually crawl under a train to get there if it stops. So, the train situation has changed immensely since I have moved here, also the noise factor. It's not very comfortable living in Camanche anymore. So, I would like to see some of the funding, if we have a lot of money for libraries and splash pads that's great. But he would like to stay to basics. He thinks there are good libraries at the schools and he is sure the Council has looked into sharing those libraries with them. He would like to see, at least, long term, a method of getting our EMS services across the tracks and back over the tracks. He explained how a delay in the care of a heart patient affects them. The noise needs to be reduced for comfort. We need more emphasis on basics; safety, comfort and public works.

Moved by Councilman Edens, second by Councilman Bowman to approve the Consent Agenda which covered the following: Approve minutes from the Council meetings held on September 17, 2024 and September 25, 2024; approve Abstract No. 857 which includes the following:

ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS SERVICE	551.77
CAMANCHE VOL FIRE DEPT	MONTHLY MAINTENANCE	500.00
CLINTON NATIONAL BANK	FED/FICA TAX WITHHOLDING	12,602.57
IOWA DNR	ANNUAL WATER USE FEE #2933	115.00
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	LIBRARY-PAINTING SUPPLIES	317.39
IOWA ONE CALL	99 ONE CALL LOCATES	89.10
VOYA	457 PLAN DEDUCT	2,324.00
IPERS	IPERS	10,278.90
KWIK TRIP/KWIK STAR STORE	596.49G PWORKS; 28.804G FIRE DEPT 27.76G AMB;253.85G PD; 38.75G FLD	3,329.59
LESLIE ELECTRIC	REPAIR PUMPS-9TH ST LIFT STA	72.00
LIBRARY PETTY CASH	LIBRARY-POSTAGE, PROG SUPPLIES	47.10
TOM MCMANUS BACKHOE	STR PATCHES-STORE/SEWER/WATER	14,570.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY CO	ELECTRIC SERVICE	5,384.70
MIDWEST BREATHING AIR	QUARTERLY AIR TEST	199.75
MUNICIPAL FIRE & POLICE	MUNICIPAL PENSION	12,322.02
PRESTO-X-COMPANY	PEST CTRL-CCTR,CHALL,LIB,HIST BLDG	224.78
LIFE INSURANCE	LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,280.13
QUALITY CONCRETE	CUBIC YD HALF BLOCKS-PW SHOP	180.00
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	STATE WITHHOLDING TAXES	5,387.55
US CELLULAR	PD/PW CELL PHONES	571.77
UTILITY EQUIPMENT CO	PVC SEWER PIPE,COUPLING,RING	661.84
HAWKINS INC	120 GAL AZONE-WATER DEPARTMENT	435.80
CHRISTY SCHUTTE	GLASSES/EYE EXAM ALLOWANCE	65.00

PREMIER PARTS INC	DOOR HANDLE-PW 2010 SILVERADO	217.81
BWC EXCAVATING	REPAIR STORM,SEWER,WATER MAINS	41,307.35
CENTURYLINK	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	1,111.14
XOP NETWORKS	FIREBAR SERVICE 10/1/24-12/31/24	779.00
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS	22,888.81
AFLAC	AFLAC - PRETAX	465.00
CONTINUOUS TOUCH, LLC	SIP TRUNKING	164.60
TROY ALDERMAN	REIMBURSE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	17.71
CASEY'S GENERAL STORES	76.38 G FIRE DEPT;9.21G AMBULANCE	367.73
	23.76 GAL POLICE DEPARTMENT	
FREY, HAUFE & CURRENT PLC	LEGAL SERVICES,WELL #7, SOLAR	6,561.62
HSA ACCOUNTS	HSA- EMPLOYEES	1,165.00
VESTIS	RUGS,TOWELS-PW,CH;UNIF-PEWE	72.76
REPUBLIC SERVICES	SEPT 2024 CITY COLLECTION	32,264.50
SPARKS SMALL ENGINE	PARTS-PW CHAINSAW	407.91
GENESIS OCC HEALTH	MEDICAL DIRECTOR SERVICES	156.25
MIDWEST GROUP BENEFITS	WEEKLY CLAIMS	992.43
GEMT	STATE SHARE-GEMT OCT 2024	1,205.30
RILEY SOWLE	REISSUE PAID ON CALL CHECKS	752.00
HAROLD TEAGARDEN	BOOT ALLOWANCE	68.20
AIRGAS USA, LLC.	CYLINDER RENTAL	47.36
ALTORFER, INC.	GENERATOR RENTAL-WELL #5	5,047.00
PCC AMBULANCE BILLING SER	AUGUST 24 AMBULANCE BILLING	1,038.40
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES	202.56
LIBERTY NATIONAL	LIBERTY NAT PR DEDUCTIONS	266.72
VISA	PD-ADAPTER PLATES,WEAPONS	2,237.89
FERGUSON WATERWORKS	WATER METER PROJECT	612,958.03
FIREPENNY FIREFIGHTER EQ	KUSSMAUL PUMP-FIRE DEPARTMENT	1,073.52
ALAN SHEPLER	REFUND AMBULANCE BILL PD 2X	750.00
TELEFLEX	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES	677.50
PAYROLL CHECKS	PAYROLL CHECKS ON 09/27/2024	53,005.81
	CLAIMS TOTAL	859,780.67
	GENERAL FUND	110,644.15
	LIBRARY FUND	8,552.04
	PARKS FUND	2,364.45
	CEMETERY FUND	3,839.94
	ROAD USE FUND	26,020.01
	POLICE & FIRE PENSION FUND	41.33
	PFAS FUND	5,196.25
	WATER UTILITY FUND	633,485.47
	SEWER UTILITY FUND	36,541.10
	LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND	33,095.93

Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes file draft minutes from the Historical Board meeting on September 9, 2024; Receive, accept and place on file draft minutes from the Park and Recreation meeting on September 23, 2024; Approve Mural for Lift Station for Hometown Pride funding and private dotation \$1,500; Approve salt purchase from Skyline Salt Solutions for

120 tons of treated salt to be delivered \$12,600 + delivery \$2,238.00 Total of \$14,838.00; Approve Tom McManus Backhoe estimate for repair of street – water main break 311-9th Street \$5,700.00 On roll call – all Ayes.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Edens to Approve payment of Core-Vens Insurance-Policy Endorsement for Workers Comp Audit \$7,971.00. On roll call – all Ayes.

City Engineer Solchenberger led the discussion regarding awarding Splash Pad bids. We received 7 bids; Eastern Iowa Excavating and Concrete was the low bidder. They have done work in town and are good to work with. The base bid is for the splash pad, sewer, water and a temporary building to house the controls. The addition of Alternate A would be restrooms with a permanent building to house the controls between them. We currently have \$400,000 plus we will get \$25,000 from CCDA so for Alternate A, we would be looking at an additional \$100,000. We are awarding based on the Base Bid. Councilman Klahn asked, if we have restrooms, what the cleaning schedule would be; what will it cost us. He said he is not against the project. He asked what are the hours and how we will open and close the restrooms. Councilman Edens said previously, the restrooms were unlocked and locked by the Police Department. Councilman Klahn added that maintenance costs money every year and it scares him a little.

Moved by Councilman Bowman, second by Councilman Weller to award the Splash Pad Bid – Base Bid – to Eastern Iowa Excavating & Concrete, LLC. On roll call – all Ayes.

City Administrator Kida led a discussion and Power Point presentation regarding Quiet Zones. He thanked Councilman Klahn for making him dig a little deeper regarding the crossing at Park Drive. The presentation defined Quiet Zones and outlined the 8 crossings in the City of Camanche. The different styles of crossing warning requirements were outlined with reasons why certain crossings require specific warning styles. It was previously thought that the crossing at Park Drive could not be a quiet crossing but has been discovered it is eligible to use wayside horns that direct the sound down to the road; they are very expensive. The cost to do all crossings would be a minimum of \$600,000; possibly up to \$1.5 million with the City responsible for the entire expense. We would need to borrow the money to do this which would result in an additional tax levy or move the Capital Improvement Plan projects around. A chart from CP was displayed estimating the cost at \$900,000 - \$1.1 million. The railroad cannot fund Quiet Zones and there is no grant funding for them. No matter what we do, Camanche will not be a complete Quiet Zone. There will be informal, town hall-type meetings scheduled for the public to have input; the first one being held on Thursday at City Hall.

Mayor Pruett asked for the new emergency warning sirens discussion be tabled.

Councilman Bowman led a discussion regarding moped rider safety. He said after the last meeting, he got an email about a modified Share the Road program. He suggested that we pick a day where maybe a business could inspect mopeds, someone could check helmet fit, multiple things that we could chase down; we have time to do it for spring. He will share the email with Council. Councilman Edens said he reached out to both Chiefs and would like to also include the SRO; maybe with assemblies at school.

Chief Schmitz presented the Camanche Police Department August 2024 report.

City Administrator Kida pointed out the extra duty the Police Department has been doing, said he is grateful for the staff we have and expressed his gratitude for all of them. He also said that when he was at his conference in Pittsburgh and heard his colleagues talking about PFAS, he noted that we are sitting way better than any other places. Mayor Pruett said, with Homecoming approaching, he wants to thank the Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works. Councilman Klahn gave his time to Chief Schutte to promote the Fire Department Open House. Chief Schutte said the 55th Annual Open House will be October 12th from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. with many things for everyone to see, hopefully they will be able to bring in the Life Flight helicopter again. Councilman Bowman encouraged everyone to go to the Library and look at the caboose. It is repainted and looks good. Kida added that he wants to try and schedule a ribbon-cutting for that project. Bowman also asked about the Urban Renewal Area. Kida said he has no projects and is waiting on the bonding attorneys. When he gets information from them, he will share it with Council. Library Director Grim said they have had a very busy August and September.

Mayor Pruett asked for Public Comments. Adam Steines 2019 14th Street commented about a communication he received in the mail from the City of Camanche. It included a section of the ordinances that relates to fences. He thought it was from Building Inspector Teagarden, regarding a fence around his pool. He stated that when he came to City Hall to discuss it, he encountered Mr. Teagarden in the parking lot. Mr. Steines had a conversation with Teagarden and explained he does have a fence around his pool. At that point, Mr. Teagarden told him he was good. The situation has been resolved but Mr. Steines feels it was unprofessional in nature.

There were no other Public Comments and Council had no requests for Agenda items.

Mayor Pruett adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Austin Pruett
Mayor

Toni L. Schneider
City Clerk/Treasurer