

Camden continues efforts to extend SR75

Comet staff report

Camden Town Council President Pete Wagoner announced at last Thursday night's meeting that he attended a Hoosier Heartland Highway (HHH) and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) meeting earlier in the day.

He said that the economy does not appear to be impacting funding for the HHH project at this time. He said that the most difficult challenge is meeting the needs and requirements for the Main Street interchange in Delphi.

"Everything is proceeding with the assumption that SR 75 will be extended north to connect with the HHH," Wagoner said. "The best spot in Carroll County for development is along that highway north of Camden, due to access to the railroad as well as a four-lane highway. Industrial development there could provide a meaningful opportunity for job

creation."

Wagoner said that he presented a letter to INDOT requesting the state assume financial responsibility for the road extension.

He also said the county commissioners are working with Congressman Joe Donnelly to have the road extension project included in the 2010 Federal Transportation Bill. The road extension is expected to cost \$6.5 million in addition to monies already committed to the project.

Unity Healthcare

Wagoner said that efforts by Unity Healthcare to bring a primary care physician to Camden have been unsuccessful. He said efforts will continue to secure a physician but in the meantime, Unity will vacate the building in Camden on June 30.

Wagoner suggested that the council explore options on what to do with the building. It will be discussed again at the June meeting.

Town projects

Ken Smith with Municipal Civil Corp. is overseeing the wastewater upgrade project. He said that construction is expected to begin on May 27 and should take 60 days.

"Jerry (Snavelly) and Tom (Mears) have been doing a lot of work down there (in the lagoon area) in preparation for the work to begin," said Wagoner. "We're ready to go."

Law enforcement and shooting sports will not be permitted to use the range until after the project is completed.

The second public hearing for the downtown revitalization project will be held at 1:30 p.m. today, Wednesday, in the Reading Room at the library. The final hearing will be May 27 at 7 p.m. in the Reading Room.

The planning grant funds have been released, said Smith. He said he will bring streetscape drawings to the June meeting.

Town residents are encouraged to complete surveys about what they want to see done in the downtown area. Surveys are available in the town office.

Once the study is complete the town expects to apply for a grant to fund the work phase of the project.

Animal control

"Are we close to the point where we consider if there is

anything we can do ourselves concerning animal control?" asked Wagoner. "We've about given up hope that anything is going to be done."

"I know people who are carrying walking sticks, but not for walking," added utility superintendent Snavelly.

Other business

A pre-season service agreement for the Community Building with Goodrich Quality Mechanical was approved for \$245.

Town-wide spring clean-up day is tomorrow (Thursday). Items should be set out by the curb the night before as the truck typically comes early.

"We will be more vigorous about the nuisance and junk vehicle ordinances after May 25," said Wagoner. Letters addressing ordinance violations will be sent to property owners.

The township is collecting scrap metal items to raise money for upgrades at the par through May 25. Items may be left in the dumpster in the lot next to the Community Building.

Residents who need limbs/sticks/brush and bagged leaves picked up

should call the town office.

FEMA Disaster Assistance may be available to those who suffered damaged from the storms of March 8-14. Questions can be answered by calling 1-800-621-FEMA or visiting the web site www.disasterassistance.gov.

The town is seeking cooperation from residents for the 2010 U.S. Census. "All the federal money, grants,

etc. that the town may receive will be dependent on the head count in Camden," said Wagoner.

Clerk-Treasurer Pat Casserly is working on publicizing and promoting the census.

The Youth Day Parade will be June 6 at 10 a.m.

The next council meeting will be June 11 at 7 p.m. in the library's Reading Room.

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Burlington to step up clean-up efforts

Comet staff report

Burlington officials are warning residents that town nuisance ordinances will be enforced.

Council members said at last week's meeting that they have been receiving complaints.

"Junk vehicles, garbage, tall weeds, uncut yards, animal excrement - we're going to enforce ordinances," said council president Stan Moore. "Expect a letter outlining action and fines."

"It's ludicrous that the town council has to get on property owners to keep their properties cleaned up," he said.

Moore suggested that the town rent a dumpster for a weekend as a way to help property owners get rid of items that regular trash pickup will not take.

Council member Joe Armstrong expressed his approval for the idea but the council could not come up with a place for the dumpster.

Council members met recently with Dallas Wilson

regarding the 2010 Census.

"We would like for the people of Burlington to help us with the Correct Count campaign," said Moore. "It is very important that we get the correct count, our funding will depend on it."

Moore stated that the form is not nearly as invasive as the previous form. "There are only 10 questions," he said.

"The amount of money that Burlington stands to lose is phenomenal over a 10-year period," he added. "We are going to work really hard on this. It's vital that we get this done and done right."

The council also met recently with representatives of the Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Committee (Kirpcy) and Carroll County Economic Development Corp. Executive Director Daryl Smith concerning grant funding.

Moore explained that Kirpcy is a mechanism for the town to secure needed grant funding.

Council member Teddy Huffer said that the park board has expressed concern

that budgeted monies are being depleted quickly due to repair expenses at the park caused by vandalism. "There is probably another \$600 to \$700 needed in repairs," he said.

Marshal Jill Hammond requested that the council provide input on lettering for the new police car. She had a couple of styles from which they could choose.

They all preferred bolder lettering for the new car.

"I want people in town to know our marshal is out and about. They feel safer knowing you are in town doing your job," said Moore.

The council decided to accept sealed bids for the stripped down former police car. A minimum will be set and the car will be properly advertised.

Hammond said that she and the deputy marshal had two case reports, 27 calls for service, two title checks, one criminal arrest, and issued two gun permits in April.

Moore announced the Burlington American Legion will conduct Memorial

Day Services on Monday.

"It's a great program," he commented. "People in Burlington should plan to attend."

The next meeting will be June 9 at 7 p.m. in the town office.

Business Briefs

CRAIG WELLNITZ, an attorney in Indianapolis for 30 years, has moved his law office to 1001 S. Washington St., Suite B1 in Delphi. A sole practitioner in the general practice of law, Wellnitz concentrates on the area of creditor's rights.



Wellnitz

Wellnitz has served as a public defender in Marion County and sat on the bench as Master Commissioner in the Marion Superior Court, Criminal Division. He is also a registered civil mediator with the Indiana Supreme Court. His biography appears in the "Who's Who in American Law" and "Who's Who in American Education."

Contact Wellnitz at (765) 564-3500 or by e-mail at craig@craig-wellnitz.com.

Commodity Credit Corporation agreement now with Co-Alliance

Comet staff report

The Carroll County Farm Service Agency (FSA) recently announced that any grains put into storage at the Excel Co-op in Flora will not be eligible for loans during the period this facility is terminated from the list of



warehouses approved by the Commodity.

Termination action was

taken by the FSA Commodity Office in Kansas City, Mo., because the warehouse changed ownership and the succession agreement is now with Co-Alliance LLP.

For information, contact the FSA office at (765) 564-2849.

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From: plsexson...
To: rinehartrealestate@embarqmail.com
Sent: Saturday, April 04, 2009 3:48 PM
Subject: the auction
Hello Bret,
We cannot express how pleased we are with the outcome of the auction! You and your group know what you are doing and you execute with efficiency and provided great results.
I was looking at the appraisal that Sheldon did in December and was amazed to see that he valued the farm at \$674,038 and it brought 672,000! Between the farm and the Flora lot, we were only off by \$3500, which to me, is mind boggling. NO ONE gets the appraised value, especially in this economy.
I was sorting papers today and found a note taken during one of our early conversations. You guessed that the acreage would bring between 5300-5400 per acre. Again, wow.
We are so glad that we chose Rinehart Realty. It pleases us that Dean got some of the land. We know that it would make our Dad happy. That the Skiles' are a multigenerational group of family farmers is great. Knowing that Carroll County residents are farming the land is comforting. They told us that this land will be called the Brown Farm .. almost had us in tears knowing that in some way Max and his father John will still be connected to the land.
Thank you for everything. Peggy

From: Beth Troxell
To: rinehartrealestate@embarqmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2009 9:09 AM
Subject: Fw: Thank you

Sorry for the delay in this note. I want to thank you for your excellent work in and for the auction and for the lot in Flora. Selling Dad's land was a difficult decision, and the process scared me from the beginning. We didn't know you, Bret, or your staff, or the first thing about farmland. I think you picked up on my fear. I realize now it was unfounded. You and your staff know what you're doing! Throughout the process, Bret, you have been right. Thank you for your professionalism, and knowledge. I also thank you for "holding our hands" throughout the process, educating us along the way as well. I know that took a lot of, your time, and we greatly appreciate it. Hats off to you and your staff.
Thank you, Beth Troxell

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Bret Rinehart, Marcy Nelson, Sandy Simpson, Dave Miller, Pam Ennis, Carolyn Wagner

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