

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Maly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noticed that this meeting is being held in compliance with Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on January 26, 2012, in the following manner: on the official bulletin board, official town web site, the electronic sign, and published in the Delaware State News on January 29<sup>th</sup> & February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Maly led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Present for this meeting were Mayor Maly, Councilmen- Casquarelli, Green, King and Lewin. Also present were Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, Police Chief William Bryson and Town Clerk Charlotte Klauder.

**AMENDMENTS**

The following amendments have been added to New Business:

- Election - Candidates for Mayor are incumbent Richard Maly & W. G. Edmanson II
- Correspondence – Letter of Resignation & Letter regarding Streetscape Enhancement
- Correspondence received relative to continuation of streetscape enhancement

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Town Hall will be closed Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> in observance of President's Day.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Councilman Lewin, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, and carried by unanimous favorable voice vote the regular session minutes from January 9, 2012, were approved as presented.

On motion by Councilman King, seconded by Councilman Green, and carried by unanimous favorable voice vote the public workshop minutes from January 11, 2012, were approved as presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- On February 6, 2012, Council received a letter of resignation from Councilman Lewin effective February 10, 2012
- On February 6, 2012, Mayor Maly received a copy of a letter to Jeff Niezgoda of DelDOT relative to the continuation of the streetscape enhancement project

**REPORTS**

Councilman Green addressed the current state of the budget, including but not limited to the following:

- The approved budget was augmented prior to being entered into the finance program
  - Positions that should have been eliminated were not
  - Salary cuts were not made
- Additional expenditures were added
- Assets were not eliminated

Councilman Green reviewed possible measures to tighten spending, including but not limited to the following:

- Eliminate the Mayor's cell phone
- Stop the excessive copies
- Sell vehicles and equipment
- Manage overtime for the administrative and public works employees
- Reduce hours of operation
- Reduce benefit packages

Councilman Green stated going forward the Town will need to hire a part-time accountant to oversee the bookkeeper, as well as hire new auditors. He remarked that in the meantime there is no spending.

Chief Bryson's report included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity resulting in a 33% increase from December 2010. He also thanked Susan Savage for coming forward with information that led to the criminal investigation and subsequent arrest of former Town Manager James Plumley. He then read a prepared statement which suggested additional measures, i.e. background checks and establishing procedures to ensure this does not happen again.

Mr. Tom Rigby of the CWFD reported 171 ambulance calls and 42 in January. He announced the Ladies Auxiliary will be having a soup and bake sale in addition to their monthly breakfasts as a fundraisers.

Mr. Mark Dyer was present on behalf of the Camden-Wyoming Sewer and Water Authority stating they held their reorganization meeting in January wherein he was appointed as Chairman to the Board.

Ms. Tracey Green reported the Friends of Camden will hold Old Camden Days on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and their next meeting is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at Barclay Farms Clubhouse.

Mayor Maly's stated he had not prepared a formal support; he was supporting the Camden Police Department in the ongoing criminal investigation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Councilman Jeffrey M. Lewin's Resignation Letter*

Motion made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilman Green, to accept the resignation letter of Councilman Lewin effective February 10<sup>th</sup>. Upon a unanimous favorable voice vote the motion passed and carried.

Mayor Maly encouraged all citizens interested in filling the remainder of the term (exp. 2013) to submit a resume and letter of interest.

*Rescind Resolution 2011-R-05*

Motion made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli to rescind Resolution 2011-R-05. Upon unanimous favorable voice vote the motion was passed and carried.

*First Reading of Resolution 2012-R-01*

Ms. Klauder read by title only Resolution 2012-R-01 Road Modification "Proposed modification to Thomas Harmon Drive at the Camden Town Center Boundary".

Motion made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve the first reading of Resolution 2012-R-01, set a public hearing and second reading for March 5<sup>th</sup>. Upon unanimous favorable voice vote the motion was passed and carried.

Councilman Green asked Mayor Maly to explain why Resolution 2011-R-05 had to be rescinded and reintroduced as a new resolution, i.e. 2012-R-01.

Mayor Maly stated the Solicitor pointed out there was a procedural error at the time of the first reading wherein the resolution was not read only the report was read and voted upon.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Eliassen prefaced the public comment stating due to the ongoing criminal investigation and pending prosecution, Mayor and Council will be limited in their responses and unable to offer details. Mayor Maly limited each member of the public wishing to speak five (5) minutes to ensure everyone has a chance to be heard.

Ms. Bobbi Toner thanked Chief Bryson and Capt. Melvin for their efforts in the investigation and arrest. Ms. Toner's questions of Council included but were not limited to: salary and any performance reviews of the former Town Manager and authorized check signers.

Mr. John Roth suggested Council go door to door to collect taxes like they did when he was a Councilman. Councilman Green commented they have spoken with the Chief with regard to door-to-door collection by the police.

Mrs. Jennifer Torres stated as an auditor she has concerns about safeguards and procedures to ensure this not happen again, explaining an auditor and internal controls need to be added now.

Mr. Robert Mooney informed Chief, Council and the public of the processes and procedures employed during his tenure prior to authorization of payment for any and all bills. He also stressed the current Town Hall/Police Department is a result of a referendum approved by the citizens of Camden. Mr. Mooney questioned whether or not Mayor Maly was eligible to remain on the ballot for the election as the investigation had not been closed and each member of Council is a suspect of committing a felonious act. Councilman Lewin replied neither Mayor nor Council have been charged with a crime, stating Mr. Mooney was out of order. Mayor Maly indicated Mr. Mooney's five (5) minutes were up.

Ms. Linda Moore expressed her concern relative to repeating the process to close Thomas Harmon Drive.

Mrs. Tracey Green resigned her position on the Camden-Wyoming Sewer and Water Authority effective immediately citing the recent arrest of Camden's Town Manager reaffirms the dangers of one (1) person in charge. She stated she was not present this evening to make accusations; however the majority of the Authority's Board has no issue with the set up and/or limited information provided. She stated each town is outspoken yet neither do anything rectify the situation past the filing of a lawsuit based on FOIA regulations. Mrs. Green stressed the need for real change, urging citizens to hold the Council accountable.

Ms. Susan Savage related her opinion relative to the management within the administrative offices, perceived mistreatment, and reiterated Council's inaccessibility when she voiced her concerns.

Councilman King stated he had advised Ms. Savage of the policy to include another member of Council when an employee particularly when allegations of misconduct is presented; in addition he stated he had advised Mayor and Chief Bryson of her allegation of embezzlement.

Councilman Green confirmed Councilman King's statement regarding the need for two (2) members present for discussions alleging misconduct of any nature. He also expressed displeasure at the references to him by Ms. Savage in her post on the Newszap blog, which he asserted were untrue as recollection is having been approached once by Ms. Savage.

Ms. Savage reaffirmed her discontent for Council.

Mrs. Tracie Torres expressed her gratitude for the swift action taken by the Council on various matters.

**COUNCIL COMMENT**

Councilman Lewin expressed his gratitude to Mayor, Council and the constituents for the honor of serving on Council for the past three (3) years. He stated he had accepted a position in human resources in Baltimore resulting in a move to Bear. He asked that everyone not lose sight of the fact an individual that was trusted by Mayor, Council and the community had breached that trust. Councilman Lewin expressed his gratitude to Ms. Savage for the information she shared, indicating he was wrong in prematurely stating there had not been evidence of fraud.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Councilman Lewin, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, and carried by a unanimous favorable voice vote the regular session was recessed at 8:15 p.m. to open an Executive Session to discuss matters relative to personnel. Upon favorable voice vote the motion carried.

**RE-CONVENED REGULAR SESSION**

Mayor Maly conceded his signature was on the majority of checks, and apologized for inadvertently misleading anyone.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:27 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, and carried by a unanimous voice vote the regular meeting was adjourned.

*Charlotte L. Klauder*  
Town Clerk