

Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
June 4, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Edmanson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and noticed that this regular Council meeting is being held in compliance with Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on May 25, 2012, in the following manner:

- a. The electronic sign; and
- b. The Official Bulletin Boards; and
- c. The official Town of Camden Web Site;

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

Council Attending: Mayor Edmanson, Vice Mayor King, Councilman Green, Councilman Casquarelli and Councilman Dougherty.

Council Absent: none

Staff Attending: Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Account Specialist Lisa Driggins, Code Enforcement Officer Harold Scott, Jr., Town Finance Office Patrick Cullen and Chief William Bryson

AMENDMENTS

The following amendments have been added:

- EEBCG Grant presentation

PRESENTATION

Mr. Tom Wilkes discussed the EEBCG grant and how the funding is going to be utilized. The Town of Camden received two (2) grants totaling \$123,000.00. Mr. Wilkes is making a recommendation to Council to accepted John Hiott Refrigeration AC, Inc. base bid in the amount of \$44,034.00. Mr. Wilkes also stated it will cost an additional \$20,000.00 for change orders and balancing of system. With this said, this will leave approximately \$43,000.00 remaining for other projects.

Mr. Chaffinch indicated this is an amendment to the agenda and cannot be voted on tonight. A public workshop will be held June 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Camden Municipal Building so council can vote on moving money.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:20 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to recess the regular session meeting and open an Executive Session to discuss matters relative to personnel. All in favor; none opposed.

At 8:52 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular session. All in favor; none opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- none

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilman Green, to approve the May 7th regular meeting and May 22nd public workshop minutes as submitted. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Councilman Green introduced Patrick Cullen as the new finance officer. Mr. Cullen will take over the budgetary responsibilities.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Bryson's report included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He announced after July the Combat for Violent funds will be prorating appropriations to Municipalities. The Town of Camden should receive around \$15,000.00. He announced James Plumley and Mark Moore received probation and Mr. Moore has to pay restitution in the amount of \$33,000.00.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Camden-Wyoming Fire Department was not represented nor did they submit a report.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Mark Dyer was present on behalf of the Camden-Wyoming Sewer and Water Authority reported the following: next meeting will be held June 12th at 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Ms. Tracey Green reported the Friends of Camden Historic House & Garden Tour or Old Camden Days is scheduled for June 23rd, 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and their next meeting is scheduled for the June 19th at Barclay Farms Clubhouse.

MAYOR

None

PUBLIC HEARING FY 2012/2012 BUDGET

At this time Councilman Green presented the FY 2012/13 Operating Budget for the Town of Camden. He stated there are no changes in salary and overtime has been approved under Mr. Chaffinch's management. He recommends adopting the budget as is and making amendments if needed during the year.

Motion made by Vice Mayor King, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve the FY 2012/13 Budget as submitted with the exception of no salary cuts and the \$3500 overtime approval. All in favor; none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Property – 261 E. Camden-Wyoming Avenue

Mr. Chaffinch brought to Council's attention that the vacant property insurance coverage is about to expire and the new quote is \$3,000 more than last year. Mr. Chaffinch recommends demolition to this structure.

Mr. Dougherty expressed his concern about the amount of work that needs to be done to the building.

Status Report – Thomas Harmon Drive

Mr. Chaffinch stated he has solicited for three (3) bids. He stated if the town purchased the materials we would save 8%. He also stated Senator Bushweller will be able to appropriate more funding to this project.

Motion made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to move forward on closing one lane on Thomas Harmon Drive. All in favor; none opposed.

Status Report – Storm Drains

Mr. Chaffinch stated his intentions are to bring an update at the next Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – Storm Drain Issues

Councilman King made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to appoint Mr. Harold Scott, Jr. to the position of Building Inspector. By a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

Councilman Casquarelli made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to reappoint Dr. Ernest Cannava to a three-year (3) term on the Board of Adjustment. By a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

Councilman King made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to reappoint Perry Ehli and Sherry Goldsmith to a three-year (3) term (respectively) on the Planning Commission. By a unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherri Goldsmith expressed her dismay and frustration regarding the potholes in Camden Commons and the street light out near her home. She stated she has called Town Hall since March and still has the problems. Mr. Chaffinch stated he will look into the situation.

Susan Savage gave credit to the Police Department regarding the hard work done over the court case involving Mr. Plumley and Mark Moore. She also expressed her enthusiasm for a new Town Manager. As a resident she is glad the Town is moving forward.

Ryan Scanlon wanted to know if it is ok for Police Officers to be on cell phones while driving. Chief Bryson stated law enforcement are exempt from the law because phones are provided to communicate with dispatch.

Tracey Torres wanted to know how the town is going to handle grass violations of vacant homes. She stated there are at least 20 vacant/foreclosed homes in Newell's Creek that need to be mowed. Councilman Green asked her to email Town Hall with the properties that have issues.

Susan Savage wanted to know if the Town of Camden will be spraying for mosquitos. Mr. Chaffinch instructed Mr. Scott to look into this.

Linda Moore stated she was told Thomas Harmon Drive will never open.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Dougherty expressed his dismay and thoughts relative to landlords, business owners and property owners delinquent in payment to the Town. He stated Council needs to review the current ordinances and amend penalties for failure to comply.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:56 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa B. Driggins, CMC, Account Specialist