

**Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
March 4, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Edmanson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noticed that this regular Council meeting is being held in compliance with the Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on February 25, 2013, in the following manner:

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

Mason Bush led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Edmanson led a moment of silence

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

Council Absent: Councilman Green

Staff Attending: Town Clerk Jamie Fenske, Police Chief William Bryson, Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Financial Officer Patrick Cullen, and Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen.

**AMENDMENTS**

None

**OATH OF OFFICE:**

Mayor W.G. Edmanson, II officiated the oath of Office/Swearing in of Councilman Larry Dougherty for a term of three (3) years.

**REORGANIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2013 :**

Mayor Edmanson nominated Councilman King for the position of Vice Mayor, seconded by Councilman Dougherty. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

Councilman Casquarelli made a motion to appoint Jamie Fenske as Town Clerk, seconded by Vice-Mayor King. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

Vice-Mayor King made a motion to reappoint Craig Eliassen as Town Solicitor, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

Councilman Casquarelli make a motion to name Dover Post and Delaware State News as the official news publication, motion seconded by Councilman Dougherty. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

## **MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Vice Mayor King to approve the February 4, 2013 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **FINANCE REPORT**

Patrick Cullen stated that there is a projected small surplus, between eight and twenty five thousand by the end of the year.

Mayor Edmanson asked if the move from the third floor to the second floor was an unexpected expense.

Patrick explained that the expense will be depreciated over the years. The move has benefits to both the town and the tenants.

Vice-Mayor King indicated that he had closed the savings account with a zero balance on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Chaffinch expressed that "X" amount has been transferred into the Money Market Savings account.

Vice-Mayor King added that the Money Market Savings account has higher interest margins.

Councilman Dougherty asked Mr. Cullen if he could break the expenses down for the past eight months and come up with a proposed draft budget.

Mr. Cullen conveyed that he could come up with a proposed draft budget.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Bryson's report included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity.

Chief Bryson explained there has been a 1.6 billion dollar cut in the COPS Grant. This cut will not affect current grants but will affect future grants.

Councilman Casquarelli inquired if both of the new police vehicles were now in working condition.

Chief Bryson stated that as of today both vehicles are operational. He also informed that two televisions have been purchased from Wal-Mart for the King Meeting Room.

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Chaffinch indicated that he has received a letter from Richard Webb in reference to the new traffic light north of Redner's Market. With the new reconfiguration of the intersection we are no longer financially responsible for the light.

Mr. Chaffinch informed everyone that Redner's Market will have a Public Open house on March 19<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 8pm. The Grand Opening will be March 20<sup>th</sup> at 8am.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that 100 percent of the catch basins have been completed.

Councilman Dougherty expressed his pleasure to finally have the catch basins finished.

**CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Tom Rigsby – of the CWFD reported 210 medical calls and 38 fire calls.

Mr. Rigsby also reminded residents bingo every Tuesday night, doors open at 5:30pm.

**CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

No member present

**FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

Mrs. Green stated there is a meeting March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:00pm, at Barclay Farms.

Mrs. Green further advised the Harriet Tubman Anniversary Program is March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 10:30 am at the Zion AME Church.

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Mrs. Green indicated that the Brecknock Manor House fundraiser is on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 4:00pm to 6:00pm, at the Schwartz Center. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Mrs. Green also advised June 8<sup>th</sup> is Camden Day.

Penny Marshall added The Harriet Tubman Journey will be held March 10<sup>th</sup> at 12pm at Brecknock Park.

**MAYOR**

Mayor Edmanson expressed that the eight to twenty-five thousand dollar projected surplus speaks volumes. He is fixated on making more surplus.

Mayor Edmanson announced that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 4pm here at the Town Hall.

Mayor Edmanson stated that he is very pleased with the new light at Old North Road vacating traffic away from the Historic District.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Appointment of new Planning Commissioner for a 3 year term. Effective March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Expiring March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016*

- *Michael W. Johnson*

Mayor Edmanson requested Mr. Johnson to introduce himself.

Mr. Johnson articulated that he was looking forward to working with the board and the community.

Motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to approve Michael Johnson to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term effective March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and expiring on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

*Wyoming Resolution*

Mr. Chaffinch discussed that there are two letters, one from May 2002 and one from September 2002, stating that Camden is giving the land to Wyoming. This process was not carried through with a Resolution.

Mr. Chaffinch read the Resolution.

Councilman Casquarelli made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Camden Wyoming Little League Property, seconded by Vice-Mayor King. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

*Potential Charter Committee*

Mayor Edmanson stated that he wanted to speak about this with Councilman Green. Since this is subject to FOIA he wants to make sure that if there is a Committee, they are fully compliant.

*Harriet Tubman Proclamation*

Mr. Chaffinch read the Harriet Tubman Proclamation aloud.

Mayor Edmanson signed the Proclamation.

*261 E Camden Wyoming Ave – property line adjustment*

Mr. Brian Lessard came forward. He discussed that he appeared before the Board of Adjustments to ask to be granted variances to set backs and line up the building to match the other buildings on the street as well as for safety issues. Also he appeared before the Planning Commission for site plan approval and for lot line adjustment request. He was approved by both Board of Adjustment and by Planning Commission.

Mayor Edmanson reviewed the engineering report that was presented by Mr. Lessard.

Mayor Edmanson emphasized that the moving of the building will assist with safety and will keep with the surrounding buildings and historic charm.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cullen stated the Town could afford for an additional payment to made towards the mortgage. His recommendation is to make a payment of \$13,000 and keep the remaining \$956.69 in reserve to pay such fees and charges as may occur.

Mayor Edmanson questioned if an extra payment should be made annually or if a certain amount should be made monthly.

Vice-Mayor King expressed that if extra monies are paid monthly than more of the interest will be paid off faster.

Councilman Casquarelli made a motion to approve the presentation made by Mr. Cullen, seconded by Vice-Mayor King. Roll call:

Councilman Casquarelli, yes

Vice-Mayor King, yes

Councilman Dougherty, no

Mayor Edmanson, yes

With three votes to approve, one not to approve, and one absent, the motion was carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jennifer Torres, 209 Lone Tree Drive- Wanted to congratulate Mayor and Council on having a balanced budget. She also stated that the Town appreciates their hard work.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Casquarelli advised that the Town spent "X" amount on an energy grant and has saved approximately ten percent each month.

Councilman Dougherty stated that he voted no to the extra mortgage payment because of the fund that the money is coming from. If the money was coming from the general fund he would have voted to approve the motion.

Mayor Edmanson congratulated Councilman Dougherty on his re-election to Council.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Strategy session pursuant to Section: 10004 (b)(4) relating to a parcel of real estate.*

At 8:26PM a motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Vice-Mayor King to go into executive session relating to a parcel of real estate. All in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

At 9:01 PM a motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to return from executive session into regular session. All in favor none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

Councilman Casquarelli made a motion to reject the real estate offer at 4 Stevens Street and Councilman Dougherty seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:04 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor; none opposed. (*Councilman Green absent*)

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*