

**Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
April 6, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noticed that this regular Council Meeting was being held in compliance with the Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on March 27, 2015, in the following manner:

- a. The electronic sign,
- b. The Official Bulletin Board,
- c. The official Town of Camden Web Site,
- d. The Delaware State Newspaper, and
- e. The News Journal.

Vice-Mayor Green led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor King led a moment of silence.

Council Attending: Mayor King, Vice-Mayor Green, Councilman Dougherty, Councilman Casquarelli, and Councilwoman Torres.

Staff Attending: Chief William Bryson, Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Town Clerk Jamie Fenske, Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, and Account Specialist Amanda Marlow.

**AMENDMENTS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor King thanked the Town staff, VFW, Texas Roadhouse, and Chick-fil-A for all of their help at the Town of Camden Easter Egg.

He also thanked Mr. Marc Garduno with the Camden VFW for his wonderful speech and presentation at the monument dedication ceremony.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve the March 2, 2015 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Account Specialist Amanda Marlow, announced that her, Mr. Tom Josiah, and Horty and Horty will meet tomorrow to discuss the audit. The goal is to have the audit available for the June Council Meeting.

Mrs. Marlow instructed Mayor and Council that a copy of the draft FY 2015 budget is in their packets for review. Mr. Josiah will be available at the May Council Meeting to discuss the draft budget.

Councilman Dougherty questioned why the projected building permits revenue was \$20,000 and the actual was around \$60,000. Mrs. Marlow explained that this is budgeted conservatively due to unsureness on who will obtain building permits from year to year.

#### **POLICE REPORT**

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

Councilman Dougherty questioned how the new Tahoe was working out.

Chief Bryson stated that is running good.

Councilman Casquarelli asked how the rest of the fleet is working.

Chief Bryson explained that the maintenance budget is being used as the fleet is aging.

Mayor King asked to have a purchase of a new police vehicle on next month's agenda.

Chief Bryson detailed that before December 2015 four new radios will need to be purchased to take advantage of the discount.

Vice-Mayor Green questioned Chief Bryson if he would like to go with the Tahoe again for a new vehicle.

Chief Bryson stated that he would like to purchase another Tahoe. They are good on gas mileage, they are pursuit rated, and have selectable four wheel drive.

#### **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Chaffinch reported that there was a good turnout for the VFW memorial.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that there was a large sink hole at a catch basin on Center Street and West Street that has been repaired. There is also a bump on West Street that will be repaired.

Mr. Chaffinch informed Mayor and Council that the Town was under budget for both snow removal and for snow supplies.

#### **CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Chris Dufresne of the CWFD reported 269 medical calls and 53 fire calls

Mr. Dufresne stated that bingo is every Tuesday, doors open at 5:30.

Mr. Dufresne reported the Fire Department is working on purchasing a new apparatus. The ladder truck that they just purchased is 10 years old.

#### **CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

None.

Mayor King thanked all of the CWSWA Board Members for their dedication and will to volunteer.

#### **FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

Mrs. Burke stated that the next regular meeting will be April 21, 2015, 7pm, at Barclay Farms clubhouse.

Mrs. Burke announced that Camden Day will be May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

#### **VFW**

Commander Marc Garduno explained that the Camden VFW had a total of 583 volunteer hours for March 2015. In the month of March, \$3,200 was donated to various community assistance programs. March 28<sup>th</sup> was the monument dedication ceremony that took place at Camden Town Hall and was followed by a dinner at the Camden VFW hall.

Mr. Garduno added that there will be a Memorial Service on May 25<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.

Mayor King thanked Commander Garduno for his assistance with the Town Easter Egg Hunt. Also thanking him for his very heartfelt speech about the veterans and the veteran's monument.

Mayor King thanked Vice-Mayor Green for requesting to have the VFW as a monthly agenda item and thanked Commander Garduno for always being present at the monthly council meetings.

#### **MAYOR**

Mayor King thanked the town staff on the Easter Egg Hunt. He also thanked the VFW for their help in the Easter Egg and for the monument dedication ceremony.

Mayor King specifically thanked Mrs. Marlow on doing an awesome job on the budget.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

*Ordinance 2015-O-1 Annexation of CWSWA*

Mr. Chaffinch read title only of Ordinance 2015-O-1 Annexation of CWSWA.

No public comments.

*Ordinance 2015-O-2 Zoning ordinance amendment*

Linda Moore – 168 Thomas Harmon Dr., question what happens if something is allowed by the town but not by the HOA.

Town Clerk Jamie Fenske explained that if a permit application meets all of the Town's requirements than the permit will be issued.

Mr. Eliassen stated that the more rigorous text would most likely supersede in court.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Ordinance 2015-O-1 Annexation of CWSWA*

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve Ordinance 2015-O-1 Annexation of CWSWA. Unanimous.

*Ordinance 2015-O-2 Zoning ordinance amendment*

Mr. Chaffinch read the title of Ordinance 2015-O-2 Zoning ordinance amendment.

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve Ordinance 2015-O-2 Zoning ordinance amendment. Unanimous.

*Police officer position*

Mayor King explained that he has made a recommendation to review the town budget to see if it would be feasible to hire another police officer. The town residents are required to wait at times due to a small police force. Mayor King explained that another police officer would help provide better coverage, cut down on overtime, helps deter crime, and would allow for less reliance on the State Police.

Vice-Mayor Green questioned if there was anything inflated in the budget to cover the proposed new officer.

Mrs. Marlow explained that nothing has been inflated. The FY 2015 budget, as presented, is actual.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned why the fuel costs have been way lower than what was budgeted.

Chief Bryson explained that the drop in gas prices helped with this excess.

Mrs. Marlow explained that the fuel cost was budgeted the same in FY 2016 as it was in FY 2015 to allow for a possible rise in prices.

Vice-Mayor Green questioned Chief Bryson if he was confident with a new police officer hire.

Chief Bryson explained that this is the first time in 14 years that he has not had to provide the finance department with salary figures. He explained that Mrs. Marlow is very competent in what she does and she is confident in hiring another police officer so he is as well.

Mayor King reported that when officers were being laid off, moral went down and would like to bring that back up.

Chief Bryson specified that the officers want to make sure that no one will end up losing their jobs if a new officer position is created. He added that if Mrs. Marlow says that the numbers work than it will work.

Mayor King stated that he would like to have an overlapping shift so that our officers have back up when needed.

Chief Bryson detailed that adding another police officer position will also help decrease overtime expenses.

Councilman Dougherty replied that he thinks the town should hire a new police officer.

Councilwoman Torres stated that the police department is already over on overtime expenses for fiscal year 2015.

Mayor King reported that the next police academy will start in September 2015 which will last 26 weeks. Also a new officer will have to go through 3 months of on the job training, riding with another officer.

Chief Bryson explained that he has added the academy cost to his fiscal year 2016 budget.

Councilwoman questioned how long the hiring process is.

Chief Bryson stated that it could take 2-3 months to allow for sufficient advertising, interviews, and testing.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to allow Chief Bryson to start the hiring process for a new police officer position. All in favor, none opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*PLUS Application – Comprehensive Plan*

Linda Raab, Senior Land Use Planner, explained that it is required by state law to update the zoning within 18 months after adopting a new Comprehensive Plan. The update will go to PLUS for review in which they will return any comments they have. The annexation of the CWSWA two properties will now be shown on the map. The maps will also reflect the mixed use changes made to Old Camden Road.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to submit the PLUS application. All in favor; none opposed.

*Zoning update*

Linda Raab stated that the most concern was at the Old Camden Road area. It is a mixed use area that uses both R-1 and C-1. The zoning has to match the future land use map. The mixed use will allow for both residential and small commercial to collaborate in the same area.

*Donation to Fire Department*

Vice- Mayor Green explained that Tom Rigsby and Matt Brown from the Camden Wyoming Fire Department came to Mayor and Council to ask for a financial donation a few months back.

Vice-Mayor Green stated that the Fire Department is always present at all of the Town functions and are very willing to help. They also have a very aging fleet.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to make a one-time donation of \$10,000, from RETT, to the Camden Wyoming Fire Department. All in favor; none opposed.

Mayor King explained that he fully supports Vice-Mayor Green's recommendation.

*Tamarac delinquent tax amount*

Mr. Eliassen explained that the open space property could be taken to monition but it is undevelopable land so there may not be any buyers and then it would be the Town's responsibility.

Mrs. Marlow explained that \$39.76 is billed annually for property taxes.

Mr. Eliassen recommended forgiving the non-real estate portion of the total due.

Vice-Mayor Green requested to waive the code enforcement charges but keep the property tax amounts and continue to annually bill the property taxes.

Councilman Casquarelli stated that no more grass cutting will be done there so there should not be any additional code enforcement charges.

A motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to write off all code enforcement and late penalties for Tamarac open space. All in favor; none opposed.

*Part-time employee*

Chief Bryson explained that there is a need for a part time employee that will be able to help the police department as well as the town admin. He would like to get an accreditation for the police department which the person that he has in mind has already completed for Greenwood.

Vice-Mayor Green questioned if it could work into the budget.

Mrs. Marlow explained that this position is already in the fiscal year 2016 budget but she can work it into the current budget as well.

Vice-Mayor Green stated that the employee will report to the Town Manager.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to hire a part-time employee, effective immediately. All in favor; none opposed.

*COLA*

Mayor King explained that last year the Town approved a 2% increase for the police department and 1% increase for the civilian employees. As it was requested last year this is due to be renewed again.

Councilman Dougherty explained that he would like to use the Philadelphia cost of living report to support a COLA increase.

Mayor King asked Mr. Chaffinch to find the COLA documentation to support an increase.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned if there have been any benefits that have increased out of pocket expenses for the employees.

Mrs. Marlow explained that that health insurance deductible has gone from \$250 to \$750.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Linda Moore- 168 Thomas Harmon Dr, stated that all insurance deductibles are significantly going up.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor King thanked Reily Brown Elementary for inviting him to speak at their Career Day.

Councilman Dougherty mentioned that he would like to see more employees participate in the deferred compensation program. He also would like to see the Town match a certain amount to help get more participation.

Mr. Eliassen stated that a benefit consultant would need to be hired to do this.

Vice-Mayor Green thanked everyone for coming.

Councilman Casquarelli explained that he felt the fire department does a great job. He requested that they try to ask for more money from the County and other towns that they cover.

Mr. Dufresne explained that \$250,000 comes from the County on a \$1.1 million budget.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 9:31p.m. a motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*