

**Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
April 4, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Mayor Green 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 28, 2016, 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 News, and
- e. The News Journal.

Commander Garduno led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Mayor Green led a moment of silence.

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

Staff Attending: Chief William Bryson, Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, Account Specialist Amanda Marlow, and Chief Financial Officer Tom Josiah.

**AMENDMENTS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 trash fees will increase \$1 a month. Vice-Mayor Green explained that this will be a total of \$12 a month.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve the March 7, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the March 7, 2016 executive session minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Amanda Marlow explained that she and Mr. Josiah have started working on the FY 2016-2017 budget. She added that she has spoken with Mr. Owensby about his delinquent property taxes and he stated that he is looking to refinance and then he will pay the past due taxes.

#### **POLICE REPORT**

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

Chief Bryson added that the new vehicle is in and the equipment is being installed.

Councilwoman Torres questioned how the new recruit is making out.

Chief Bryson explained that he is doing very well and he is in training for four more weeks.

#### **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Chaffinch detailed that he has met with Ross from Delaware Micro and the Town has a computer that is in use that is about 10 years old that needs to be replaced. He added that the 2 humidifiers have been installed in the police department to help prevent future mold issues. He also stated that he attended a DFIT meeting that was on cyber security. They suggested having a better cyber security to help prevent hackers from getting sensitive information.

Mr. Chaffinch reported that the ADA compliant ramps are done at Camden Commons and at Walmart Drive. The paving project is due to begin around the middle of April and should be completed by the first week of May.

Chief Bryson added there is a scam going around that people are calling pretending to be Camden Police Department seeking donations. He informed everyone that the police department is not soliciting at all.

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

VFW Commander Garduno presented the Camden Wyoming fire department with a large garrison flag.

Matt Brittingham reported that they have one paid employee that is leaving the department and they are looking to hire two more. They will be changing the coverage time to better assist the residents. They have applied for several grants to help pay for the additional employee. He added that the carnival will be here April 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Brittingham explained that they have on average between 11 and 19 calls a day.

Chief Bryson detailed that he listens to the scanner and there are EMS calls one right after another.

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

Mr. Dan Ridgeley reported that the new water tower on Upper King Road is near completion. He added that there will be a vote at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting about the water tower permit.

Mr. Ridgely stated that they want to give access to the CWSWA sewer to Tamarac and Burwood.

Mr. Ridgely added that the CWSWA has not had an increase in rates since 2008.

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

None

#### **VFW**

Commander Garduno reported that they are continuing to make generous donations to different local organizations. He added that the VFW hosted a successful PTSD workshop with 32 attendees.

Commander Garduno informed Mayor and Council that this will be his last meeting as Commander of the Camden VFW.

#### **MAYOR**

None.

#### **PRESENTATION**

##### *MPO – Long Range Plan*

Kate Layton – MPO gave a presentation about the Dover/Kent MPO long range plan. She explained that it is updated every 4 years and this is the fifth update since the original plan.

Mrs. Layton stated that they are looking for public input. She may be reached by mail at PO Box 383 Dover, DE 19903 or phone (302)387-6030.

##### *Comcast*

Chris Comber – Comcast Director of Government Affairs, explained that there is a franchise agreement between Comcast and the Town of Camden that is due to expire November 30, 2018. With this agreement 5% of all cable fees go to the Town of Camden. He added that just because Comcast holds this franchise does not mean that other companies cannot come to the area. He stated that other companies can come to the area as long as they are equipped to do so.

Mr. Comber specified that he would have a draft franchise agreement available late this year for Mr. Eliassen's review.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

*Discuss the fees associated with the potential marking of the new CWSWA water tower located on Upper King Road.*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to enter into public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

Vice-Mayor Green explained that the proposal is for the new water tower on Upper King Road only. It is proposed at \$15,000 for the town seal and \$4,500 for the Town of Camden lettering only.

Linda Moore – 168 Thomas Harmon Dr, stated that she does not see the need to spend the money to have Town of Camden on the water tower.

Patrick Kelly – 62 Nanticoke Dr, stated that he feels the money could be better used by the police department. He also thanked Chief Bryson and the police department for their presence.

Councilman Dougherty stated that he does not want to spend the money on the painting of the water tower.

Councilwoman Torres added that she does not see the purpose to paint the tower either.

Vice-Mayor Green expressed he agreed with both Councilman Dougherty and Councilwoman Torres.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to leave public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Reappointment of Planning Commission members*

A motion was made to reappoint Vicki Rhodes to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term.

Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: yes

Motion carried.

A motion was made to reappoint Michael Johnson to the Planning Commission for a 2 year term.

Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: yes

Motion carried.

A motion was made to reappoint Mary Ellen Gray to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term.

Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: yes

Motion carried.

*Reappointment of Board of Adjustment members*

A motion was made to reappoint Dohn Hershberger to the Board of Adjustment for a 2 year term. Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: no

Motion carried.

A motion was made to reappoint John Badger to the Board of Adjustment for a 3 year term. Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: no

Motion carried.

A motion was made to reappoint Mark Girty to the Board of Adjustment for a 3 year term. Roll call:

Councilman Dougherty: yes

Councilwoman Torres: yes

Vice-Mayor Green: no

Motion carried.

*COLA*

Vice-Mayor Green explained that cost of living is something that Mayor and Council have agreed to review on a yearly basis using the Philadelphia index.

Mrs. Marlow added that per Mr. Josiah's recommendation the COLA should be 0% according to the 2015 April CPI.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to not have a COLA for the FY 2016/2017. All in favor; none opposed.

*Potential marking of the new CWSWA water tower located on Upper King Road.*

Councilman Dougherty explained that he would not like to have his tax dollars spent on painting the water tower with the Town of Camden seal or logo.

Councilwoman Torres and Vice-Mayor Green agreed with Councilman Dougherty.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dan Ridgely stated that he would like to reach out to Mr. Comber from Comcast to see if there is a community wifi service available.

Mr. Eliassen added that Bethany Beach has a free community wifi service.

Mrs. Linda Moore questioned if FIOS was available in Newells Creek.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that FIOS is not in the Town of Camden at all.

Mr. Kelly stated that he personally does not see a difference between FIOS and cable.

Councilman Dougherty stated that he would like to see competition in town for television service.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Torres stated that she would like to review a nuisance ordinance for the town.

Councilman Dougherty explained that he would like to see a new tree for the Caroling in Camden.

Vice-Mayor Green thanked everyone for their attendance.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:56 pm. a motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Marlow, Account Specialist*