

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
October 6, 2014**

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 September 29, 2014, in the following manner:

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

Mayor King 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 Finance Officer John Kelly.

AMENDMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed October 13, 2014 in observance of Columbus Day.

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the September 8, 2014 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

PRESENTATION

Dale McCallister – billboard for commercial properties

Dale McCallister with First State Signs explained that currently the Town of Camden does not allow billboards in the town.

Mr. McCallister explained that all billboards in the State of Delaware have to follow parameters set by the state and would need a state permit even if within a town's incorporated limits.

Mr. McCallister stated that for two, two-sided billboards the town would collect approximately \$8,000 in building permit fees, adding that the state and Sussex County has annual renewal fees.

Vice Mayor Green questioned how billboards would benefit the town.

Mr. McCallister explained that the initial costs of the permits would be a financial benefit for the town. Also it would benefit the businesses that are in town by giving them another advertising avenue.

Mayor King explained that he would like to know what the financial benefit would be to the town. He asked Mr. McCallister to look into other town's annual renewal fees.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. John Kelly stated nothing seemed out of the ordinary.

Vice-Mayor Green questioned Chief on the maintenance of his fleet.

Chief Bryson explained that it is ok right now and should average out through the year.

POLICE REPORT

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

Chief Bryson stated that the new Tahoe has been ordered.

Chief Bryson added that the town was not given the grant for a new police officer.

Councilman Casquarelli thanked Chief Bryson for going out of his way to get the grant for the LED lights in the parking lot.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported that new LED lights were put on the maintenance building as well.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that Chief Bryson assisted the electrician in installing the new lights which resulted in a significantly less cost to the town.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that the town is still waiting on approval for the CTF. Once the funds are approved and the town is notified then A-Del will be able to start work.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Tom Rigsby of the CWFD reminded residents to change their smoke detector batteries when the clocks change.

Mr. Rigsby also reminded residents to be mindful of CO gas especially when using heaters.

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

Mayor King thanked Mr. Rigsby and the entire Camden Wyoming Fire Department for all that they do for the community.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Chaffinch read a report from Peter Couming. There was a water main break on Front Street that may have caused some discolored water.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mrs. Burke stated that the next regular meeting will be October 21st, 2014, 7pm, at Barclay Farms clubhouse.

Mrs. Burke explained that they are continuing to work diligently on getting grants to repair the Brecknock Manor House.

MAYOR

Mayor King explained that this year Caroling in Camden will be located at Town Hall, December 5, 2014 at 6:30pm.

Mayor King thank Chief Bryson for the getting the grant for the LED lights and for assisting putting them up. He also thanked Chief Bryson for all of the hard work trying to get the COPs grant.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Camden Wyoming Fire Department

Mr. Tom Rigsby and Mr. Matt Brown represented the Camden Wyoming Fire Department.

Mr. Brown explained that up until about 8 years ago the fire department did not have financial problems. He explained that funding for the department has gone down significantly. Mr. Brown explained that the fire department would appreciate any financial assistance that the town could give.

Mr. Rigsby added that Camden is the second busiest fire department in Kent County with Dover being the first. He added that Dover is mostly funded by the city.

Mr. Rigsby stated that Camden Wyoming Fire Department does approximately 600 calls a year over 44 square miles.

Mayor King explained that the town supports the fire department and that he is in favor of helping.

Councilwoman Torres questioned if the department reached out to the senator.

Mr. Brown explained that he has already met with Senator Bushweller.

Mr. Brown stated that Representative Blakey assisted with getting the parking lot repaired.

Councilwoman Torres added that she would like to help with fundraising.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marc Newman – VFW Post Master- stated that the VFW has scholarships available for middle and high school children. He also specified that he would like to assist with the Caroling in Camden event.

Mr. Newman added that currently there is nowhere in the town is there a monument for the Camden Veterans. He explained that the VFW would like to donate a veteran monument to the town.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Newman for his presentation and for attending the town meetings.

Barbara Tinus- 137 Theater Ln, explained that she has neighbors that she would like to bring to the town's attention for trash and grass.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that the Code Enforcer would be out there to look at the house.

Mike Schock-21 Wilder Rd, questioned if the pot holes by Taco Bell are a part of the street repair project.

Mayor King explained that yes those holes would be repaired.

Susan Savage-302 Meeting House Ln, questioned if the back entrance by Chick-fil-A would be repaired.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that is also a part of the street repair project.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Dougherty explained that he would like to have a part time high school worker added to the November agenda.

Vice-Mayor Green explained that he thinks a part time worker would be a good idea.

Vice-Mayor Green added that he would like the requirements for a deck be put on the November agenda as well.

Mr. Eliassen explained that the porch requirements would be a text amendment that would be presented to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned if quarterly billing for property taxes could be done for new construction.

Mr. Eliassen explained that he would have to review the process farther before answering that question.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:23p.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*