

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
August 3, 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 July 24, 2015, in the following manner:

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

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, Account Specialist Amanda Marlow, and Financial Officer Tom Josiah.

AMENDMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor King announced that the next Council Meeting will be the second Monday of September.

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to approve the July 6, 2015 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Financial Officer Tom Josiah reported that permitting and RETT exceeded its budgeted revenue because of unexpected proceeds.

Mayor King questioned if the Mayor and Council decided to help the Fire Department again, when would this need to be discussed.

Mr. Josiah explained that his recommendation would be to wait until June to see how the year went.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Josiah for his excellent and detailed report.

POLICE REPORT

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

Chief Bryson informed Mayor and Council that the background phase for the new police officer has been completed and one conditional offer has been made.

Mayor King questioned how the new camera is working out.

Chief Bryson explained that the officers can log on to view the camera from anywhere.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch congratulated Commander Marc Garduno for receiving an All American Honor.

Mr. Chaffinch reported that tax payments are coming in very well.

Mr. Chaffinch reported that he, Mayor King, Senator Bushweller, and Representative Yearick had a meeting about funding assistance with a street paving project for the Town of Camden.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Peter Couming explained that the CWSWA has a contract for the building of a new water tower which the contractors will not start until they have a building permit. He requested Mayor and Council to waive the fees and issue the building permit.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Couming for his time and his service.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mrs. Tracy Green explained that there will not be a regular scheduled meeting in August. September 19th at 4pm will be the annual picnic.

VFW

Mayor King congratulated Commander Garduno on his honor.

Commander Garduno announced that the Post 3238 earned All-American Distinction for the 2014-2015 program year.

Commander Garduno added that the Post's areas of focus are homeless veterans, code purple, PTSD awareness, and veteran's suicide.

Vice Mayor Green, Councilwoman Torres, Councilman Dougherty, and Councilman Casquarelli congratulated Commander Garduno on his Honor.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked Vice-Mayor Green for hosting the Harriet Tubman Byway press conference. He also thanked the Friends of Historic Camden for all of their hard work on the Harriet Tubman Byway.

PUBLIC HEARING

Amendment to Operating budget for CR Capital Funds

Mr. Chaffinch explained that the funds will be given to the Caesar Rodney School District on a yearly basis apart of the annual budget, if this ordinance is passed.

No public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

PW Employee

Mr. Chaffinch explained that the Code Enforcement Officer is spending about 30 hours a week doing grass cutting. After reaching out to different contractors, the average cost is about \$35 an hour.

Mr. Josiah recommended that Mayor and Council wait until next year to allow for budgeting for the possible need of new equipment and a new salary.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned if a temporary person would be cheaper.

Councilman Dougherty explained that a temporary employee cannot drive the Town vehicles. He added that a full time employee would be able to drive the Town vehicles and would be available all year. He expressed that he felt it would be beneficial to hire a new full time employee.

Vice-Mayor Green stated that he would like to see a new public works employee be hired before the snow plowing season starts.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to table the public works employee until the September Council Meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

CWSWA Permit

Mayor King stated that he felt that Mr. Ridgeley gave an excellent presentation at the July Council Meeting. He questioned Ms. Fenske what the permit fee would be.

Ms. Fenske explained that according to the evaluation from the Marshall and Swift book the permit would be \$94,760, if the evaluation from the CWSWA was used it would be \$64,000.

Mayor King explained that he feels Harold Scott Sr. is a wealth of knowledge for the CWSWA and the Town. He would like to keep a solid team relationship with the CWSWA. He added that he would like to see a fair conclusion for this permit.

Mayor King recommended that the permit fee for the new water tower stay in line with Kent County.

Mr. Eliassen explained that the CWSWA attorney, Mrs. Sherlock, confirmed via email the amounts for the different counties.

Mayor King stated that he does not want the permit fee to affect the rate payers.

Mayor King questioned if there is a fee for the permit, will it affect the rate payers.

Mr. Couming replied that if there is no fee there will not be an increase. Any other way there will have to be a vote by the board.

Councilwoman Torres specified that she serviced on the CWSWA board for four years. She added that Mr. Scott runs a very financial business and understands why it is more beneficial to borrow the money than to use the saved money that they have. Adding that this project has been budgeted for four years and it is not appropriate to say there will be an increase for rate payers if there is a fee assessed for the permit.

Mr. Couming added that he felt the permit was unplanned.

Vice-Mayor Green stated that Kent County's fee would be about \$28,000. He added that he has heard rumors that the fee will be passed on to rate payers. If there is permit fee, he does not want it to be passed on to any rate payers.

Councilman Dougherty explained that he will not vote on the permit fee because he is on the CWSWA Board. He added that one member from the board did try to propose a fee that would be divided by the rate payers as a surcharge to cover the permit but the five other board members voted it down.

Councilman Casquarelli explained that Tidewater has to pay fees and taxes but the CWSWA does not. Camden Police Department has to patrol the property and will have to respond if there are any complaints.

Mayor King made a recommendation of charging a fee based off Kent County of \$27,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to charge the CWSWA a permit fee of \$27,000 for the proposed water tower. Roll Call:

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Green – no

Councilwoman Torres – yes

Councilman Dougherty – abstain

Councilman Casquarelli – yes

Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Amendment to Operating budget for CR Capital Funds – Second Reading

Mr. Chaffinch read the title for Ordinance #2015-O-03 Ordinance to provide for a school capital reserve fund.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Dougherty; approve the second reading of Ordinance #2015-O-03 Ordinance to provide for a school capital reserve fund.

Roll Call:

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Green – yes

Councilwoman Torres – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes

Councilman Casquarelli – yes

Ordinance 2015-O-04 2015 Amendment to the 2007 Camden Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Chaffinch read the title Ordinance #2015-O-14 2015 Amendment to the 2007 Camden Comprehensive Plan.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Dougherty; approve the first reading of Ordinance #2015-O-14 2015 Amendment to the 2007 Camden Comprehensive Plan. All in favor; none opposed.

Ordinance 2015-O-05 Adopt Zoning Map

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli; approve the first reading of Ordinance 2015-O-05 Adopt Zoning Map. All in favor; none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Paul Cable – Wyoming Councilman stated that he would like to see clean water for our children. He added that Mr. Winchell came to the Wyoming Council meeting to explain the fee. If the permit was \$94,000 the fee would be \$35 per rate payer. He explained that he would recommend the CWSWA to fight the permit fee.

Mr. Ridgely explained that as a board member he is appreciative of the compromise and comments about good relationship between the Town and the CWSWA. He added that he is going to work hard to not pass on the permit fee to the rate payers.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Torres explained that she feels there is no reason that there should be no effect on the water and sewer customers.

Councilman Dougherty added that the Town has changed a lot, streets have been resurfaced, there is money in the bank, making improvements to the town, a new police officer position, and we are doing very well financially.

Councilman Casquarelli stated that he feels that Mayor and Council look at the facts to make decisions for the Town.

Mayor King explained that Mayor and Council have accomplished a lot. He hopes for all positive relationships and is proud of the town and its citizens.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:36pm. a motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*