

**Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
June 6, 2016**

**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 April 27, 2016, in the following manner:

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

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, and Councilwoman Torres.

Absent: Councilman Casquarelli

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

**AMENDMENTS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Town Hall will be closed Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in observance of Independence Day.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to approve the May 2, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Green, to approve the May 23, 2016 public workshop minutes. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Account Specialist Amanda Marlow reported that the 2016 property taxes will be mailed out July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and will be due September 30, 2016.

**POLICE REPORT**

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

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Chaffinch reported that \$41,700.66 was received for RETT in April. He added that \$30,000 of that amount came from the purchase of the proposed Aldi lot behind the Texas Roadhouse.

Mr. Chaffinch explained the paving project is now complete and that the drainage issue seems to be much better.

**CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

None

**CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

Mr. Dan Ridgely stated that the annual water quality report has been published. He added that they CWSWA are trying to update their website to include links for people that need assistance.

**FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

Donna Chapel explained that Camden Days was a success again this year. She added that they are still working on donations for the Brecknock Manor House.

Councilwoman Torres suggested to work with CR High School and the classic car show.

**VFW**

Lucky Dufresne introduced himself to Mayor and Council as the new Commander of the Camden VFW.

Councilman Dougherty thanked the VFW for all of the past and current presence at the Council Meetings.

Mr. Dufresne explained that they are working on an Autism program that will be open to the general public.

**MAYOR**

Mayor King thanked staff and council for hard-work and dedication. He explained that the Town is losing a valuable and dedicated person, Vice-Mayor Green. He thanked Vice-Mayor Green for always supporting him.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

*FY 2017 Draft Budget*

Chief Financial Officer Mr. Josiah reported that the \$7,000 was added to RETT expense for the police server.

Mayor King reported that he is happy to announce that the Town has another balanced budget.

Mr. Josiah went over budget and revenue figures for all funds.

Pat Kelly thanked Mayor, Council, and staff for work done on the budget to fix the deficit without increasing taxes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Tax discount*

Mrs. Marlow explained that cash flow is low in July and August and the discount offers property owners an incentive to pay early.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Green, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the early bird discount for property taxes in the tax year 2016/2017. A discount will be given of \$20.00 if received in office by July 29<sup>th</sup> 2016 4 o'clock pm. Postmark is not accepted. Discount only applies to property tax accounts that have an assessed value of \$5,250 or greater. Discount only applies if the total balance due is paid in full. If the discount amount is not deducted from payment, a credit will remain on the account until the following tax year. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

*Draft budget – final reading*

Mr. Josiah reported that the tax discount was already built into the budget.

A motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the 2017 fiscal year budget. Roll call;

Mayor King – yes

Councilman Torres – yes

Vice- Mayor Green – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes  
Councilman Casquarelli-absent  
All in favor; motion carries.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Extra payment towards mortgage*

Mr. Josiah explained that the extra payment is already built into the budget.

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve an extra payment of \$13,260.00 to the Town Hall mortgage. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

*Police Contract*

Mayor King explained that negotiations are still in process. The contract ends the end of June.

*Parking lot maintenance proposal*

Mr. Chaffinch reported that there is a rejuvenator machine that will patch all of the holes and creases. It would cost \$6,700 to come in the driveway, front, and back parking lots. An additional \$1,500 will be for the restriping. This would include a 4 year warranty.

Mr. Eliassen explained that this would need to be bid out.

Mayor King asked Mr. Chaffinch to reach out to the Representatives for assistance with funding.

*Noise Ordinance*

Mayor King thanked Chief Bryson for putting together the newly proposed Noise Ordinance. He then read in the title.

Craig Eliassen explained the Town is only adding standards to the Noise Ordinance and it is not a subject standard change.

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed Noise Ordinance. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

*Appointment of new Council Member to fill John Green's term expiring February 2017.*

Mayor King explained that Vice-Mayor Green was re-locating and this meeting would be his last meeting. He thanked Vice-Mayor Green for his service and explained the Town is losing a wonderful Vice Mayor.

Vice-Mayor Green said this has been the most rewarding thing next to family for the past five years. He said there is wonderful people who live in this Town and Council and staff are awesome.

Mayor King presented Vice-Mayor Green with a plaque for his years of service on Town Council.

Mayor King recommended Michael Schock to fill Vice-Mayor Green's term. He stated that Mr. Schock has served on the Planning Commission for the last nine years and works for the Capital School District.

Mr. Eliassen asked Vice-Mayor Green if he submitted his letter of resignation.

Mayor King said yes.

Motion made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve Mayor King's recommendation of Michael Schock to the Town Council to fill Vice-Mayor Green's term expiring February 2017. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Fifer said it was a pleasure of knowing Mr. Green for the past 3-4 years and he has enjoyed their relationship and he appreciates his friendship and he will be missed.

Ms. Donna Chappell said she enjoyed knowing Mr. Green and Tracy and wishes the best to them.

Ms. Donna Chappell said she has driven through Wyoming and has noticed all their flags on the poles and explained that Camden does not have any flags on their poles. She asked Council if something can be done about this?

Councilwoman Torres said at a previous meeting we discussed Wal-Mart possibly donating flags.

Mayor King asked Ms. Chappell what area she we suggest and explained we has a lot more streets to cover than Wyoming.

Ms. Chappell said the Historic District.

Councilman Dougherty suggested Voshell Mill Road to Route 13 because of the high volume of traffic and Route 10 because most of the visitors go through that area. He explained that only the electric poles have lights on them and the United States flag has to be lit.

Chief Bryson said to keep in mind we do not own the poles and we would have to ask permission from the electric or Phone Company.

Mr. Chaffinch said he thought Ms. Chappell was referring to Town of Camden flags or Welcome to Camden flags.

Mr. Garcia said he would work with Ms. Chappell on this project and see if we can have flags donated to the Town.

Mr. Garcia suggested CWSWA provide a handout every month with their bill.

Mr. Garcia suggested having an idea of what the Town would like for the parking lot paving project and put it into the scope of work when bidding.

Mr. Chaffinch explained it will be provided with a bid package.

Mr. Garcia stated he touched base with Town of Wyoming in regards to merging with them and gave them a letter. He explained that the Wyoming Mayor reached out to him and said if Camden gets their debt under control we can reach out to them in regards to merging. Mr. Garcia said he did some research and found out that in 1866 West Camden broke away because of a railroad issue. Prior to this Camden and Wyoming was one Town.

Mayor King asked Mr. Garcia who he spoke with from Wyoming?

Mr. Garcia stated the Mayor of Wyoming.

Craig Eliassen said this should not be discussed during public comment and it is an agenda item if the Town wanted to discuss it.

Mrs. Burke said she had heard that the Southern by-pass was dropped off the agenda for the plans.

Mayor King said that he had not heard that.

Mrs. Burke explained her concern of the traffic through South Street because it is cracking her walls.

Mr. Chappell said where he came from the two Towns joined and it took a lot of compromise and understanding and he thinks it would be beneficial for both Towns to join.

Craig Eliassen said this is an editorial comment not legal but it would take a strong consensus from both Towns to join.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Garcia for his research and said he had some good points and that paying four officers for a small Town and if Wyoming and Camden were to join Wyoming would have 24 hour coverage. He explained he was not against it and he never understood the separation.

Dan Ridgely thanked the Mr. & Mrs. Green for everything and said they would be missed.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilwomen Torres thanked Mr. Green for his service.

Vice-Mayor Schock thanked all councilmembers for allowing him to join Council.

Mayor King thanked Schock for fulling the term and he explained he had big shoes to fill but knows he will do great.

Councilman Dougherty thanked Mr. Green for everything and wished him good luck.

Craig Eliassen explained he is watching Bill395 which would align municipal elections with state wide and national elections.

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to adjourn regular session and enter into executive session. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*To consider a strategy with respect to pending and/or potential litigation and/or with respect to personnel issues.*

Motion made at 9:35pm by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to come out of executive session and go back into regular session. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to move forward with Craig Eliassen's recommendation of the lawsuit with CWSWA. All in favor; none opposed. Councilman Casquarelli; absent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made at 9:36pm by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Marlow, Account Specialist*