

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
September 12, 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 September 2, 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 Schock led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor King led a moment of silence.

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

Absent: None.

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

AMENDMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Property tax payments are due by September 30, 2016. Payments received after September 30, 2016 4:00pm will accrue a 1.5% finance charge each month the account is rendered delinquent.

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the August 1, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Account Specialist Amanda Marlow reported that 85% of residential and senior taxes and 34% of commercial taxes have been collected. She also added that there have been 8 more permits for new homes pulled for Tidbury Crossing.

POLICE REPORT

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

Chief Bryson reported that the overtime is higher this month since one officer is out sick and awaiting doctor approval to come back.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned how the police fleet is doing.

Chief Bryson explained that the new Tahoe is at the shop getting equipment installed now.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported that \$37,651 came in from real estate transfer funds. He added that the catch basin on Main Street has been repaired at the Town's expense.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that he, Mayor King, Representative Yearick, and Senator Buschweller had a meeting to discuss potential street projects for the Town of Camden. Senator Buschweller and Representative Yearick have dedicated a combined total of \$72,500.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

None.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mrs. Fahey, Friends of Historic Camden President, stated that she has met with the Town Manager and requested that the banner project be put on hold for the time being and she will approach the Town when they are ready to move forward again. She added that May 20, 2017 will be Old Camden Day. She stated that she has spoken with Mrs. Marlow and they will again provide cookies for Caroling in Camden.

VFW

Mrs. Kristina Whitman explained that beginning November 4th she will be at the VFW every Friday for clothing collection to assist with Code Purple. Also they are working on having fundraiser events the first and third Sunday of the month at which the proceeds will help provide meals for code purple.

Mayor King thanked Mrs. Whitman and the VFW for all that they do for our community.

MAYOR

Mayor King asked Mr. Chaffinch to help prepare a report of streets in the Town that need to be repaired.

PUBLIC HEARING

Rental Ordinance

A motion was made by Councilman Casquarelli, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to enter into public hearing at 7:38pm. All in favor; none opposed.

Mr. Chaffinch read aloud the title of the Rental Ordinance. He explained that the old ordinance needed to be revamped. If this ordinance is to be passed there will be a fine of \$500 if there are 4 violations in a certain period of time.

Councilwoman Torres questioned if criminal violations are included. Mr. Chaffinch replied yes.

Mr. John Fifer stated that he feels the tenant should have to sign the rental license application acknowledging that they received a copy of all Town ordinances. He questioned if garages and out buildings are included in this ordinance. Mr. Chaffinch replied yes. Mr. Fifer questioned if the caretaker and responsible party are the same people. Mr. Chaffinch replied that they do not necessarily have to be the same person.

Mr. Eliassen reported that if the Town feels this Ordinance needs to be modified at a later date.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to exit out of public hearing at 7:57pm. All in favor; none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Rental Ordinance – Second Reading

Mr. Chaffinch read aloud the title of Ordinance 2016-O-02 Rental Ordinance.

Mayor King explained that this new ordinance has been needed for a long time. He also thanked Councilwoman Torres, Mr. Chaffinch, and Chief Bryson for their hard-work on the newly written ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve the final reading of Rental Ordinance 2016-O-02. Roll Call:

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Schock – yes

Councilwoman Torres – yes

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

Crosswalk sign

Chief Bryson announced that he reached out to Safe Routes to School and they will not cover high school projects. He has gotten a couple more quotes and has gotten the amount down \$200.

Mayor King specified that \$5,370 is the lowest of the 3 bids that Chief Bryson has received.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to purchase a crosswalk sign out of RETT for \$5,370. All in favor; none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Deferred Compensation

Mayor King explained that all full time Town employees are able to benefit from the deferred compensation program. The proposal is that the Town will match up to \$50 per month, per full time employee, for deferred compensation.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, for the Town to match up to \$50 per month, per full time employee, for deferred compensation. Roll Call:

Mayor King – yes
Vice-Mayor Schock – yes
Councilwoman Torres – yes
Councilman Dougherty – yes
Councilman Casquarelli – yes
All in favor; motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Moore – 168 Thomas Harmon Dr, questioned if the water is safe to drink when it comes out brown. Councilman Dougherty explained that the Office of Drinking Water tests the water and says that it is safe to drink.

Councilwoman Torres explained that they can contact the Board of Health to discuss brown water.

Susan Savage – 302 Meeting House Lane, explained that she has been having brown water issues since 1992.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Dougherty stated that he is interested to see how the new water tower affects the brown water.

Mayor King added that the new police officer is doing great. Once all of the police officers are back on regular duty the overtime should decrease significantly. He thanked council and employees for all of their hard-work.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made at 8:45pm by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*