

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
December 5, 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 November 25, 2016, in the following manner:

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

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

Mayor King thanked everyone for attending the fifth annual Caroling in Camden on Friday, December 2nd, 2016. He also wished everyone safe and Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

MINUTES

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Delaware Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Albert Biddle explained that this is for consideration by the Town of Camden for the Community Development Block Grant application. The first step is a public hearing to give an overview for those that are unaware that the Town of Camden is considering turning in an application for the CDBG. The Delaware State Housing Authority makes the decision on the funding awards. Most of the money is spent on housing repairs. To be awarded money it must be used on an owner occupied home in low and moderate income households.

Mr. Biddle explained that there are several candidates in the Camden Wyoming area. He added that it would be a better application if the Town of Camden and Town of Wyoming submitted one application together. He explained that each application would need at least 4 candidates.

Mr. Chaffinch added that the last time the Town of Camden submitted an application we joined with the Town of Wyoming and submitted one application together.

Councilwoman Torres questioned if there were residents already on a list.

Mr. Biddle stated that he does have some names already but more people can always be added if they need to be.

Mrs. Burke questioned if churches could get the assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

Delaware Community Development Block Grant Resolutions

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve Resolution 2016-R-03. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve Resolution 2016-R-04. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Account Specialist Amanda Marlow explained the auditors plan to attend the February Council Meeting to give their report. She added that business and rental licenses will go out December 7th and will be due January 30th. She detailed that the past due taxes as of the November 2016 Council Meeting was about \$91,000, this month it is about \$78,000.

Mrs. Marlow added that there is a Newells Creek property tax that is delinquent. After she did a review she noticed that this is no longer a taxable property, it has being billed in error and should be adjusted off.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, for account 1473, Newells Creek Associates LLC, to remove the delinquent balance from the tax roll for the amount of \$3,286.84 because account has been being billed in error and is being billed on another account. All in favor, none opposed.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor King thanked the Camden Wyoming Fire Department, specifically Tom Rigsby for bringing Santa and Mrs. Claus for Caroling in Camden.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Dan Ridgely wanted to bring to the public's attention that there is an aquifer that has dropped significantly in the last decade. There are test being ran to see how this affect this area in the future. He assured Mayor and Council that he will keep them up to date on this matter.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mrs. Burke explained that the cookies were donated by the Friends of Historic Camden.

Mayor King thanked Mrs. Burke for her assistance at Caroling in Camden.

VFW

Chaplin Christina Whitman explained that \$1657.82 was collected to assist with providing meals for the Wyoming Methodist Church. She added that they are still doing a collection for clothing on Fridays. She welcomed Mayor and Council to assist with serving meals to the Wyoming Methodist Church shelter during Code Purple.

Mayor King thanked the VFW for their assistance and hot chocolate at Caroling in Camden.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Bryson gave his report.

Mayor King thanked Chief Bryson and the Camden Police Department for their assistance with Caroling in Camden.

Councilman Casquarelli questioned the status of the vehicles.

Chief Bryson ensured that all of the vehicles are running right now.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch thanked everyone for attending Caroling in Camden. He also thanked Mrs. Marlow, Mrs. Fenske, Mrs. Piazza, and Harold Scott for their hard work on Caroling in Camden.

Mr. Chaffinch added that the new crosswalk sign is installed and working great.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Chaffinch for lighting the tree at Caroling in Camden.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked everyone again for Caroling in Camden.

Mayor King also thanked Mrs. Marlow, Mrs. Fenske, and Mrs. Piazza on helping collect turkeys to assist the Boys and Girls Club on New Burton Road.

Mayor King added that there is commercial growth coming to the Town of Camden. With the additional commercial growth will come additional tax income to help assist the Town of Camden. He explained that the Town would like to work with DelDOT to help get the Camden Bypass to come which will also help bring more commercial growth to the Town.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Works Position

Mayor King tabled this until farther notice.

NEW BUSINESS

Annexation 4912 S Dupont Hwy

Mr. Chaffinch read the resolution title only.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Casquarelli, to approve Resolution 2016-R-02. All in favor; none opposed.

Mr. Amir's neighbor stated that he welcomes Mr. Amir and his business.

Resignation of Councilman Casquarelli

Councilman Casquarelli explained that he has really enjoyed his terms, Councils, and the Town staff in his journey with the Town of Camden.

Mayor King presented Councilman Casquarelli with a plaque for his dedication and hard-work with the Town of Camden.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Chappell – 262 Cambridge Rd, questioned where the new annexation is that was discussed at tonight's meeting.

Mayor King explained that it is just south of Southside Baptist church on Route 13.

Mr. Fifer suggested inviting DelDOT for an open forum to show DelDOT that the Town of Camden residents do want this bypass.

Mrs. Burke stated that she asked DelDOT about the bypass and they stated that since it is on the plan it will go through.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Casquarelli stated that the Governor and Senate have tried to increase the gas tax.

Councilman Dougherty explained that he loved the Police tree that is in the lobby.

Chief Bryson informed everyone that the local 4-H decorated the police tree.

Councilman Dougherty thanked Councilman Casquarelli for his hard work and dedication on Council.

Vice-Mayor Schock thanked Councilman Casquarelli for his service.

Councilwoman Torres wished Councilman Casquarelli the best for his future. She also suggested forming a committee to help push DelDOT.

Mr. Garcia stated that he would also like to be on that committee if Mayor King would like.

Mayor King thanked Councilman Casquarelli for his service here at the Town of Camden and in the Air Force.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made at 8:23pm by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*