

**Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
June 4, 2018**

**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 May 25, 2018, in the following manner:

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

Vice-Mayor Torres led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor King led a moment of silence.

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

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

**AMENDMENTS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Town Hall will be closed Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance to Independence Day.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to approve the May 7, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Findley, to approve the May 7, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilman Findley, to approve the May 21, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Mayor King questioned Mrs. Marlow if she is satisfied with the switch to Shore United Bank.

Mrs. Marlow stated that she is absolutely satisfied with the switch to Shore United Bank.

#### **CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

None.

#### **CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

None.

#### **FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

Mrs. Chapel explained that they have monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month. She invited Mayor, Council, staff, and Camden residents to the annual picnic on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Brecknock Park at one of the pavilions.

#### **VFW**

Christina Chidester, Commander for the Camden VFW Post, explained that the Post is still collecting water. She added that the VFW will be hosting a yard sale on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am. There will be a \$10 fee to rent space.

Mayor King congratulated Mrs. Chidester again on her election to Commander of the Camden VFW Post.

#### **POLICE REPORT**

Chief Bryson gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity.

Chief Bryson explained that he is expecting the over time to go up due to one officer on light duty until next Monday and one officer leaving.

#### **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Chaffinch reported that the April RETT was \$28,757.02. He explained that Dominic from Republic Services has requested a time to speak to Mayor and Council at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting. Mr. Chaffinch explained that Republic Services currently holds our trash contract and was awarded the bid for a 3-year contract based on them being the lowest bidder.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that he looked into the discussion from the May Council Meeting about the adequate public facilities. He explained that Mayor and Council would need to adopt an ordinance for the adequate public facilities to go into effect with new development.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned when the potholes on Thomas Harmon would be repaired.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that Mr. Scott has been in contact with Ralph Cahall, our contractor that is repaving Walmart Drive, to see if they could repair the holes correctly.

Chief Bryson explained that to properly fix the holes the contractor will have to saw cut around the existing hole to help prevent it from cracking around the repair.

## **MAYOR**

Mayor King stated that he is working with DelDot to get an accurate drawing of where the new Camden Bypass will be located.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### *FY 2019 Draft Budget*

A motion was made at 7:28pm by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to enter public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

Mr. Josiah explained that the only adjustments that were made to the expenses since the Public Workshop on May 21, 2018 was the 38% increase to the fuel for the police, public works, and town admin.

Mayor King explained that there was a drastic increase to the health insurance and pension.

Mrs. Marlow explained that the police pension rate went up and that it varies every year.

Mr. Josiah added that only the employer rate increased for the pension, not the employee rate. He reminded Mayor, Council, and staff that everyone needs to stick to the plan set forth with this budget and that there will be consequences to changes.

Mayor King questioned if there was an extra mortgage payment planned in this budget.

Mrs. Marlow stated that there will be a review at the end of this fiscal year to see the remaining surplus and then she will present it to Mayor and Council for their decision.

Mayor King asked Mr. Josiah if he recommended the budget as presented.

Mr. Josiah stated that he does recommend the budget as presented.

Mayor King thanked Mrs. Marlow and Mr. Josiah on their excellent work on this budget.

Mayor King questioned Mrs. Marlow if she would recommend the budget as presented.

Mrs. Marlow replied that she does recommend this budget.

A motion was made at 7:37pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Findley, to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### *COLA*

Mrs. Marlow explained that the 2.4% COLA has already been worked into the presented budget for all full-time employees.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Schock, to approve the 2.4% COLA for all full-time employees. All in favor; motion carries.

### *Tax discount*

Mayor King explained that the early bird tax discount helps bring cash flow in faster along with helping those on fixed incomes.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to approve the early bird discount for property taxes in the tax year 2018/2019. A discount will be given of \$20.00 if received in office by July 31st, 2018 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; motion carries.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Public Works vehicle*

Mayor King explained that he and Councilman Dougherty have looked at the public works vehicle that Mr. Scott was discussing, and they are both in agreeance in recommending purchasing a new public works vehicle.

Councilman Dougherty added that he feels the current truck needs mechanical help and is rapidly deteriorating. He explained that he feels that a new truck needs to be purchased now.

Mayor King stated that it can be paid for out of RETT.

A motion was made by Councilman Findley, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the purchase the purchase of a GMC Sierra 2500 Crew Cab 4wd Standard Box from Hertrich for \$33,764.95. Roll call:

Mayor King – yes  
Vice-Mayor Torres – yes  
Councilman Schock – yes  
Councilman Dougherty – yes  
Councilman Findley – yes  
Motion carries.

*Draft budget – second reading*

Mrs. Marlow made a recommendation to amend the RETT expense budget \$50,000 to reflect the purchase of the new public works vehicle and town hall parking lot resurfacing.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Schock, to approve the draft budget as presented with a \$50,000 amendment to the RETT expense. Roll call:

Mayor King – yes  
Vice-Mayor Torres – yes  
Councilman Schock – yes  
Councilman Dougherty – yes  
Councilman Findley – yes  
Motion carries.

*Town Hall – Parking lot*

Mr. Chaffinch explained that he obtained three bids to resurface the parking lot at town hall. Driveway Maintenance LLC bid \$9,380, Bayside Sealcoating & Striping bid \$9,400, and Darren Wroten Construction bid \$11,300. He stated that his recommendation was to go with Driveway Maintenance.

Mayor King stated that he likes the 4-year warranty.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Findley, to approve Driveway Maintenance LLC to do the resurfacing of the town hall parking lot for \$9,380. All in favor; motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Chapel stated that she was contacted by Kathy Lessard from Lessard Builders about obtaining approval from the Friend of Historic Camden for a sign that Lessard Builders wanted to construct. Mrs. Chapel explained that the FOHC are in favor of the sign as presented.

Mrs. Chapel questioned who was maintaining the property at the corner of Camden Wyoming Ave and Main St.

Mayor King stated that he has spoken to a landscaping company that is willing to maintain the property for free. He suggested that he would like to see donations to purchase a nice clock with pavers for that corner.

Mrs. Chidester stated that the VFW would help with donations for the clock and pavers.

Mr. Chaffinch, Chief Bryson, Mayor King, Councilman Dougherty, Vice-Mayor Torres, Councilman Schock, Councilman Findley, and Craig Eliassen committed to making donations towards the beautification of the corner of Camden Wyoming Ave and Main St.

Pat Kelly stated that he had two solicitors come to his house recently.

Chief Bryson explained that Mr. Kelly needed to call for Camden Police to come if solicitors come to his house.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Vice-Mayor Torres thanked Mrs. Fenske for putting the message on the electronic sign out front for the CR High School Boys Lacrosse team going to championship.

Councilman Dougherty congratulated Mayor, Council, and staff on another successful balanced budget.

Councilman Findley thanked Mrs. Marlow and Mr. Josiah for their great work on the budget.

Mayor King thanked everyone for their donations toward the beautification of town square.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

A motion was made at 8:25pm by Councilman Schock, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to enter executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made at 8:52pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Findley, to adjourn executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made at 8:52pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Schock, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*