

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
October 1, 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 September 24, 2018, in the following manner:

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

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 Dougherty, Councilman Schock and Councilman Findley.

Council Absent: None

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

AMENDMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed Monday, October 8 in observance of Columbus Day.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to approve the September 10, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

PRESENTATION

Kent Economic Partnership

Gregory Moore, Chairman of Kent Economic Partnership, explained that they recently hired Linda Parkowski as their Executive Director to help reestablish the Kent Economic Partnership. He added that they have approached other towns to get more involvement to help bring more businesses to Kent County. He explained that the Kent Economic Partnership found that Kent

County residents spend more money on distributions, warehousing, logistics, health care, and business and legal services outside of our county and that they would like to change that.

Mrs. Parkowski detailed that they are currently working on updating their website to show the partnerships with the different towns and what incentives towns may have for future business.

Mr. Moore explained that there is no fee to be apart of the Kent Economic Partnership but they are trying to gain funding so that they may be able to help the individual towns better.

SWEARING IN

Chief of Police

Mayor King explained that Chief Bryson has built a very successful police department and that he is very sad to see him retire from the Town of Camden.

Mayor King swore in the new police chief Marcus Whitney.

Chief Whitney thanked Mayor and Council for this opportunity.

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Marlow reported that property taxes were due Friday, September 28th, 2018 and the current past due tax balance is \$126,651.87. She added that Mr. Josiah will be present at the November Council Meeting and that the auditors will begin their onsite audit around the middle of November for fiscal year 2018.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Dan Woodall explained that the CWSWA budget was approved with no rate increase. He added that the budget was reviewed in detail. He stated that he feels the brown water complaints have decreased a lot since the new tower has been put online.

Vice-Mayor Torres thanked Mr. Woodall for his attendance at the CWSWA board meetings.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

None.

VFW

Vice-Commander Todd Fairhurst stated that the Camden VFW will be hosting dinners for \$9 on October 7, 21, and 28th, November 11, 18, and 25th, to help raise money for code purple. He added that they will have an Oktoberfest event on October 26th from 5-8pm. They will also be hosting trunk or treat from 6-8 on Halloween, October 31st.

Mayor King thanked the Camden VFW for their presence at his grandfather's funeral.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned if the Camden VFW accepts monetary donations for code purple if people are unable to attend the dinners but still want to help.

Mrs. Chidester replied that they do accept monetary donations.

POLICE REPORT

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

Chief Whitney added that one of the recruits in the academy has dropped out of the academy due to personal reasons.

Chief Whitney stated that he was requesting to use \$19,150 from RETT to purchase the camera and antenna to go on to the new tower.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Findley, to use \$19,150 from RETT to purchase a camera and antenna to go on the new tower. Roll call;

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Torres – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes

Councilman Schock – yes

Councilman Findley – yes

Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported that the August RETT was \$48,560.41.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that he has received written approval from Senator Buschweller and Representative Yearick that they will split the cost of the storm water drain replacement at Newells Creek. He added that the draft Comprehensive Plan update was presented to the Planning Commission at the September Planning Commission Meeting. He explained that there were changes made to the annexation areas and future land use map.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked Mr. Eliassen for his dedication to the Town of Camden.

Mr. Eliassen replied that it has been his true pleasure working with Town of Camden Mayor, Council, and staff.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pat Kelly – 62 Nanticoke Dr, congratulated Chief Whitney on his promotion.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Kelly for his dedication to the Town of Camden.

Bret Daniels stated that he felt that his brother in law, Marcus Whitney, was the best choice for the chief position.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor and Council congratulated Chief Whitney on his promotion.

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 8:22pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Schock, to adjourn the council meeting and enter executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

Mayor, Council, Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, Chief Whitney, Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Account Specialist Amanda Marlow, and Town Clerk Jamie Fenske met to discuss personnel issues.

Discussion updating Mayor and Council about P.F.C Reynolds and potential litigation against the Town due to personnel issues.

Mayor King, Vice-Mayor Torres, Councilman Dougherty, Councilman Schock, Councilman Findley, Chief Whitney, Town Clerk Jamie Fenske, Account Specialist Amanda Marlow, Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, and Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch were present.

No motion was made during executive session.

A motion was made at 8:29pm by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilman Findley, to adjourn executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:29pm by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilman Findley, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*