

Town of Camden
Public Workshop
Camden Municipal Building
May 21, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and noticed that this Public Workshop was being held in compliance with the Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on May 7, 2018, 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 Dover Post.

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.

Absent: None.

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

AMENDMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.

REVIEW/DISCUSSION

Proposed FY 2019 Budget

Mrs. Marlow explained that the current health insurance is paid 85% by the Town and 15% by the employee. There is currently a \$2500 deductible but is covered at 100%. The plan that L&W is recommending has a deductible of \$2850/100%. The other option is a deductible of \$3000 but is only covered at 90%. She explained that the difference in cost to the town between the \$2850/100% plan and the \$3000/90% plan is \$1,485.42.

She explained that the changes made to the May 7th draft budget have been highlighted in yellow. She added that Chief Bryson's contract ends June 30th so he will receive the COLA if it is approved.

Chief Bryson informed Mayor and Council that Patrolman Reynolds' last day is May 25th.

Mr. Josiah explained that the budget was affected \$1,045 but if the police department reconfiguration goes as planned then the budget is still ok.

Mayor King added that the police chief salary is good for the budget and can be reviewed after a one-year probationary period.

Mayor King questioned if the \$8,000 budgeted for the police training is correct since only \$2,360 was used this year.

Chief Bryson explained that he is not doing training that he normally goes to since he is leaving. He added that due to shortages and sick leave there was not enough training time available, but it will be needed during the fiscal year 2019.

Mayor King cautioned that there is a great possibility in a large fuel price increase.

Chief Bryson expressed that he believes one year his fuel cost were about \$26,000.

Mrs. Marlow stated that there is a current budget of \$20,000 for fuel but she will do a review of past years fuel costs.

Councilman Findley explained that his worries for this year's budget were health care and fuel. He thanked Mrs. Marlow and Mr. Josiah for their great work on the budget again this year.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned what the police department storage line item was for.

Chief Bryson explained that they must pay for a storage unit to store all the lost bikes that are picked up.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned if all the vehicles on the budget were vehicles that we still owned.

Mrs. Marlow replied that any vehicle with a \$0 in the budget is not a vehicle that we still own.

Vice-Mayor Torres stated that there will be two new police officers to replace the Chief and patrolman leaving but that the budget is still very tight.

Mr. Josiah stated that with more homes there will be more income from taxes that may help support future police officers.

Vice-Mayor Torres explained that she would like new developments being responsible for contributing to additional officers.

Mrs. Marlow suggested adding a one-time fee on to the permits.

Mayor King explained that he feels there would either must be an increase in taxes or to have a larger tax base to pay for additional police officers.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned what would be needed to be done to enforce new developments to contribute to additional police expenses.

Mr. Chaffinch explained that an ordinance would need to be adopted by Mayor and Council.

Mr. Josiah stated that it is expected to have some additional homes from Tidbury Crossing to be added to the tax roll very soon. Also, there was an additional \$4,000 added to the commercial tax budgeted revenue. He did explain that the budget amount for building permits is being held low because that is something that is hard to project.

Chief Bryson added that Patrolman Reynolds owes the Town of Camden approximately \$18,000 when he leaves for training.

Councilman Dougherty questioned if it is correct that he must give all his leave pay due to him back to the town and owe an additional \$18,000.

Chief Bryson verified that is correct, per the contract that Mr. Reynolds signed.

Councilman Dougherty questioned if the early bird discount can be given to only properties that are owner occupied and not income accruing properties.

Mrs. Marlow replied that she will have to see if there is a way in the system to do that.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned if the early bird discount is worked into the draft budget that has been presented.

Mrs. Marlow replied that the discount has been worked in to the draft budget.

Mayor King asked if Mr. Josiah had a recommendation about the draft budget that was presented.

Mr. Josiah recommended Mayor and Council accept the budget as it has been submitted, with further consideration given to the rising fuel cost.

Mayor King explained that the last day to put in for the Chief's position is June 1st so there should be a better idea of the police department reconfiguration come the June 4th Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Dougherty questioned if the COLA was worked into the draft budget already.

Mrs. Marlow confirmed that the COLA has been worked into the draft budget for all full-time employees, and a \$.50 increase to the part time admin.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Josiah and Mrs. Marlow on another successful presentation of the budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made at 7:20pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilman Schock, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Marlow, Account Specialist*