

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
March 4, 2019**

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 February 25, 2019, in the following manner:

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

Blake King 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, Councilwoman Rhodes.

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

None

OATH OF OFFICE

Larry L. Dougherty Sr.

Mayor King swore in Larry Dougherty Sr. to a three-year term to council.

Mayor King thanked Councilman Dougherty for his dedication and his fantastic job that he has provided to the Town of Camden for the past eight years and the next three years.

Councilman Dougherty thanked Mayor King and explained that it is his honor to be a part of this council.

REORGANIZATION FOR THE YEAR 2018

Selection of Vice-Mayor

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to appoint Councilwoman Torres as the Vice-Mayor. All in favor; none opposed.

Appointment of Town Clerk

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Schock, to appoint Jamie Fenske as the Town Clerk. All in favor; none opposed.

Appointment of Town Solicitor

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to appoint Craig Eliassen as the Town Solicitor. All in favor; none opposed.

Appointment of Building Inspector

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to appoint Harold Scott Jr. as the Building Inspector. All in favor; none opposed.

Appointment of Engineer

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to appoint Kevin Minnich from Minnich Engineering in Camden as the Town Engineer. All in favor; none opposed.

Selection of official newspaper for notices of publication

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Schock, to select Delaware State News and the Dover Post as the official newspapers for notices of publication. All in favor; none opposed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Schock, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to approve the February 4, 2019 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the February 4, 2019 executive session minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Marlow explained that she and Mr. Josiah will begin preparing the fiscal year budget for 2020 in April.

Councilman Dougherty explained that he would like to move \$100,000 from the general fund money market to the savings money market. He added that there would be no penalties if Town needs to use the money from the savings.

Mayor King thanked Councilman Dougherty for his suggestion and stated that he supports his recommendation.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to move \$100,000 from the general fund money market account to the savings money market account. All in favor; none opposed.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Mayor King explained that he has not heard a lot of complaints lately on brown water.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mayor King stated that the last time he spoke with Mr. and Mrs. Burke that they expressed there is a low membership and that they would be actively seeking new members.

VFW

Commander Christina Chidester stated that they will be hosting dinners on March 8, 15, 22, and 29th. She invited everyone to attend the 84th anniversary celebration on March 16th. She explained that they will be presenting their scholarship winners and other distinguished members with awards that night and dinner will cost only \$5.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He added that the camera server that they have through Advantech has been down since January 8th and is only holding recordings for 14 days.

Mayor King highly recommended retaining recordings for 60-90 days.

Chief Whitney added that he will be asking Mayor and Council to purchase new body cameras at the April Council Meeting. He added that there are incentives running right now if the cameras are purchased by the end of March. He explained to his representative that he will not be able to obtain Mayor and Council approval until April 1st and that the representative is willing to work with the Town.

Councilman Dougherty questioned if Chief Whitney had a quote on the body cameras.

Chief Whitney explained that it would be \$21,715 for a 5 year period that would include 2 free upgrades, replacements if needed, and the storage space for 6 cameras.

Chief Whitney explained that after a conversation with Councilman Dougherty about getting rid of the storage unit that the Town pays for monthly, he would like to discuss building a sally port. He explained that he would like to see a 30'x40' or 20'x30' and that it would be used to transfer prisoners to the jail cells safely, the cars will not need to run outside in the weather and will be used for storage.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported that the January RETT was \$861.30. He explained that the new part time employee started working on February 20th.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked everyone for their great work that they do for the Town of Camden. He explained that he has had conversation with DelDot and that he has learned that they are actively working on funding for the third lane that is to come on Route 13. He added that DelDot is stating that the bypass will not be delayed by the third lane project.

Mayor King congratulated Vice-Mayor Torres on her second appointment to Vice-Mayor.

NEW BUSINESS

Purchase of new police vehicle

Chief Whitney stated that the purchase of a new vehicle was discussed but never voted on so he is bringing it back to Mayor and Council to get a vote on purchasing a new Tahoe for the Police fleet. He added that the trade in value for one of the Explorers is \$6,500, to be used on the purchase of this new vehicle.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Schock, to approve the purchase of a new Tahoe for the Police Department, with a price not to exceed \$50,000 to purchase the vehicle, have it equipped, and marked. All in favor; none opposed.

HOA past due property taxes

Mrs. Marlow explained that during the audit several tax accounts were brought up with balances that are not being paid. She added that the account for Newell's Creek Associates, LLC is for a parcel that does not exist and there should not be a tax bill. Tamarac-Burwood Homeowners Association and Tamarac, Inc are open space parcels in the Tamarac development. She detailed that these are the parcels that the Town of Camden used to mow but no longer do. She also explained that Tamarac Burwood does not have an HOA, but these parcels are in fact open space for the development. She stated that the Camden Town Center, LLC is for the pond that is behind that is behind the Dollar Tree shopping center. She added that there are multiple parcels that use that stormwater pond on the parcel, but the property is in Camden Town Center, LLC name. She detailed that a gentleman related to this LLC has stated that he is not going to pay the account.

Mr. Eliassen explained that he is comfortable in removing the Newell's Creek Associates, LLC balance as it is not a parcel and should not be generating bills. He is also comfortable in removing balances from open spaces if they are really open spaces, as both parcels for Tamarac-Burwood Homeowners Association and Tamarac, Inc are. He stated that he is not ok with removing a balance on an account because a person said that they are not willing to pay it. He explained that the Camden Town Center, LLC is 51% commercial responsible and 49% Newell's Creek responsible.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to adjust off the balances for Newell's Creek Associates, LLC, Tamarac-Burwood Homeowners Association, and Tamarac, Inc. All in favor; none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Deirdre Milenes – 28 Fellowship Dr, stated that she feels that Tidbury Crossing is unbelievably crowded and that there is a lot of trash blowing around the neighborhood. She added that many of her neighbors do not bring their trash cans back from the street after they are emptied by the trash company.

Jennifer Saltarelli explained that the CR High School boy's lacrosse team is doing fundraising to help supply the boys with practice t-shirts. She stated that it will cost \$7 per players with 75 players on the team, which would result in \$525 needed to be raised to purchase the shirts.

Chief Whitney stated that he would speak to the CPOA to see if they would be willing to donate to the CR High School boy's lacrosse team.

Pat Kelly – 62 Nanticoke Dr, congratulated Councilman Dougherty on another three-year term. He added that he felt that the election was ran very smoothly thanks to the administrative staff.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice-Mayor Torres, Councilman Shock, and Councilwoman Rhodes congratulated Councilman Dougherty on his re-election.

Councilman Dougherty thanked everyone for another opportunity to serve the Town of Camden for the next three years.

Mayor King thanked Ms. Fenske, Mrs. Marlow, Mr. Chaffinch, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Schock, and Mrs. Crowell for running another successful election. He thanked Councilman Dougherty for being willing to continue to serve as a Councilman for the Town of Camden.

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 8:18pm by Councilman Schock, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to adjourn the council meeting and enter executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made at 10:20pm by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to adjourn executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 10:20pm by Councilman Schock, seconded Councilwoman Rhodes, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*