

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
April 1, 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 March 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, Councilwoman Rhodes.

Council Absent: Councilman Schock

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

MINUTES

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

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to approve the March 4, 2019 executive session minutes. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Marlow explained that she and Mr. Josiah will begin preparing the fiscal year budget for fiscal year 2020 in April. She added that Mr. Josiah will be present at the May 6th Council Meeting to present the first reading of the fiscal year 2020 budget adding that the Public Workshop will

be May 20th at 6:30pm. She explained that the three property tax accounts discussed at the March 4th Council Meeting have been adjusted off and the \$100,000 has been transferred from the general fund money market to the savings money market.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Ridgely explained the CWSWA is looking into doing monthly statements instead of quarterly statements starting in January 2020. He added that he is trying to get the CWSWA to allow for electronic payments which has been a request by several customers he has spoken to. He stated that he appreciates the open dialog between the Town of Camden and the CWSWA and would like to see that continue with future projects and annexations in the Town of Camden.

Mr. Ridgely detailed that there has been a 10% increase from Kent County on sewer fees. He explained that this does not necessarily mean an increase to the customers. He stated that this increase will begin to affect the CWSWA in July 2019. He added that

Mayor King questioned why they are suggesting to change to monthly billing.

Mr. Ridgely explained that the bills will be lower amounts and will hopefully help reduce unpaid debt.

Mayor King stated that he is in support of the monthly billing statements.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned if the 10% increase has been approved by the Board of Directors to be passed onto the customers.

Mr. Ridgeley confirmed that this 10% increase has not been voted on to be passed on to the residents at this time. He explained that it will be reviewed with the budget in August. He added that the Board of Directors is trying to cut the budget so that the increase does not affect the customers.

Councilman Dougherty clarified that the 10% is on the sewer only, not the entire bill. He added that the 5% increase has to be voted down each year or it is automatically applied each year.

Councilwoman Rhodes explained that she is in favor of the monthly billing statements.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Mrs. Burke explained that the Friend of Historic Camden is very low on members and welcomes anyone that would like to join. She explained that they have met with Mr. Jodi Sweeny and that he would like to do a feasibility committee to see what the Brecknock Manor House should be used for. She added that she would like to see it opened more for the public.

Mrs. Chapel stated that Mr. Sweeney has expressed that the house is in stable condition. She added that there is a great need for donations to help restore the Brecknock Manor House.

Mayor King thanked Mr. and Mrs. Burke and Mr. and Mrs. Chapel for attending the Council Meeting on behalf of the Friends of Historic Camden.

VFW

Vice-Commander Todd Fairhurst stated that the VFW will be hosting dinners on April 5, 12, 19, and 26th. He added they will be hosting a vendor fair on April 7th from 11am until 3pm and a post cleanup on April 14th. He explained that they will be participating in the first responders' luncheon at the Camden Wyoming Fire Department on April 24th.

Vice-Mayor Torres questioned how much and what time the weekly dinners are.

Mr. Fairhurst explained that they price varies depending on the meal and the dinners are from 5pm until 7.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He added that the new officer is still doing FTO and is doing great. He suggested that people be more mindful of always locking their doors to help deter theft.

Mayor King stated that he appreciates the police department and their great work.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported that the March RETT was \$14,404.50. He announced that Town Hall will be closed April 19th in observance of Good Friday. He added that the sealing and repaving of Town Hall parking lot should be finished this month, depending upon the weather.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that we have recently paved Walmart Drive but some of the businesses are not maintaining their sections which is causing water to erode the pavement which could soon affect the areas that we just paved. He explained that he will reach out to the businesses and hopefully get their support to repair their sections.

MAYOR

Mayor King stated that he has spoken with Dover Councilman Anderson and would like to do a food drive to help benefit the children. He added that he attended career day along with three of Camden's police officers and had the best experience he has had yet. He detailed that the children really enjoyed the interaction with the police officers.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Comprehensive Plan Ordinance

Ms. Fenske explained that the staff along with Sean O’neill and Linda Raab from the University of Delaware IPA have been working diligently to do the 10-year update to our Comprehensive Plan. She stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the plan in great detail, made their suggestions, and recommended that Council approve the plan and send it PLUS for their review. She detailed that the we have received letters of objection from Wyoming and Kent County, and hope to receive Woodside’s within the next day or so. She explained that the City of Dover has sent a letter of no objection with a statement that the “Tiemen” property is in both City of Dover and the Town of Camden Comprehensive Plans for future annexation, and that it is an area of concern. Ms. Fenske explained that the only change that the Town of Camden is making to accommodate the City of Dover’s letter is to stripe the property commonly known at the Tiemen property to show that it is an area of concern for both the Town of Camden and City of Dover. She added that previously Briar Park was removed from the future annexation map but after hearing comments from PLUS the staff decided it is in the Town’s best interest to add that development back on to the future annexation map.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the first reading of 2019-O-01 2019 Update to the 2007 Camden Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

Rezoning Ordinance

Ms. Fenske explained that in conjunction with the Comprehensive Plan the town staff, Sean O’Neill, Linda Raab, Planning Commission, and Mayor and Council discussed zonings in the Town of Camden. She explained that two property owners have approached the Town of Camden with interest to rezone their properties. She detailed that there are 3 properties on Willow Grove owned by Nathan Sipple that he would like to change to C-2. Ms. Fenske explained that this zoning fits in perfectly for that area as the business parks are in front of and next to these properties. She added that there is a property in front of Town Hall to the north that has been requested to be zoned R-3 for multi-family. She added that this property is also surrounded by residential.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the first reading of 2019-O-02 Adopt Zoning Map. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

Body Cameras

Chief Whitney explained that if Mayor and Council approve the bid as submitted this will be for the purchase of 6 cameras, 2 for each shift with one spare. He detailed that this could be paid in one lump sum or throughout the five-year contract, with no penalty or interest if it is paid throughout the five years. He stated that if there is a camera to turn in, the company will provide

free replacements for the length of the 5-year contract and it will include upgrades. Chief Whitney explained that the cameras will see what the police officer can see, explaining that it does not have night vision or 180-degree views. He added that it has multiple wearing options. He explained that the body cameras will result in a new policy that will help defend the police officer if need be.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to approve the purchase of 6 body cameras from Axon; with payments of \$5,539.00 the first year, \$4,044 for years 2 through 5, with a total cost of \$21,715 to come from RETT. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

Sally Port

Chief Whitney explained that he has met with Delaware Pole Buildings, Yencer Builders, and Deputy Builders to obtain quotes for a new sally port. He explained that the builders did not have enough time to construct accurate quotes. He asked to have this tabled until the June Council Meeting.

Police Video Server

Chief Whitney explained that the camera server is currently only holding recordings for 14 days. He stated that he would like to see the recordings being held for 60 days. He added that the existing server will not allow for new cameras to be recorded.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to approve the purchase of a server and PTZ cameras for \$21,985 to come from RETT. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pat Kelly – 62 Nanticoke Dr, stated that he would like to volunteer to help with the food drive to benefit the children.

Mr. Ridgely questioned when the new WAWA is to begin construction.

Ms. Fenske explained that she has spoken to a representative from WAWA and that they are anticipating starting construction the end of May.

Mr. Chapel - 262 Cambridge Rd, stated that he has noticed pot holes by the one-way on Thomas Harmon Drive and around the curve on Cambridge Road. He questioned what was going on with the house at 118 N Main Street.

Mayor King explained that a doctor has purchased the property to bring his practice to the Town of Camden. He added that the impact fees from the CWSWA and connection fees were too high and so the property sits at a stand still again.

Mrs. Burke added that there is a large pot hole in front of her house that has been filled about 4 weeks ago but is not holding up.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice-Woman Torres detailed that she is working with a non-profit group to sponsor a first responders luncheon on April 24th from 12-4pm at the Camden Wyoming Fire Department. She explained that all the proceeds will help benefit Camden, Wyoming, Dover, and Troop 3 police. She added that she would like to ask Mayor and Council for a donation.

Mrs. Marlow suggested reaching out to the Delaware State News to see if they could be included in the free community events section.

Councilman Dougherty stated that he was notified by Representative Yearick about coffee with a cop at Bob Evans, which he attended and enjoyed.

Mayor King stated that he would like the Town of Camden to make a donation of \$500 to the First Responders Luncheon.

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 8:30pm by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Torres, to adjourn the council meeting and enter executive session. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:53pm by Vice-Mayor Torres, seconded Councilwoman Rhodes, to adjourn the council meeting. Councilman Schock absent. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*