

Town of Camden
Public Workshop
Camden Municipal Building
May 17, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:33 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 11, 2021, in the following manner:

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

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

Mayor Torres led a moment of silence.

Council Attending: Mayor Torres, Vice-Mayor Schock, and Councilwoman Rhodes.

Absent: Councilman Girty and Councilman Woodall

Staff Attending: Account Specialist Yvette Yerkes, Chief Whitney, Town Clerk Sarah Cahall, Town Manager Jason Stewart, Public Works Superintendent Harold Scott Jr. and Chief Financial Officer Tom Josiah.

Roll Call:

Tracy Torres
Michael Schock
Vicky Rhodes
Marcus Whitney
Thomas Josiah
Yvette Yerkes
Harold Scott
Jason Stewart
Sarah Cahall

AMENDMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commission Sweeney explained that roughly seven years ago county gave the Camden Police Department \$13,104.00 which is based on the number of times Municipal agencies went out of their jurisdiction to help the State Police Department. He stated that this year Camden Police Department will receive \$68,976.00 to help with the budget. He said it is a one-time event and

use how you see fit.

Commissioner Sweeny also advised that the Town should consider reaching out to him if there is a Town event. He stated there is a form to fill out and Levy Court is willing to help if need be.

Chief Whitney thanked Mr. Sweeney.

REVIEW/DISCUSSION

Proposed FY 2022 Budget

Tom Josiah stated the budget was updated for an additional officer. The first reading was a deficit of \$168,000.00 and now it is at \$235,406.00 which includes the new officer. He added RETT lowered from \$615,662.00 to \$300,000.00.

Mayor Torres asked if the money that is received from Commissioner Sweeny will enter the general fund for this fiscal year.

Mr. Josiah confirmed it will enter this fiscal year 2021.

Mr. Josiah stated that it is still unknow what the ARPA Grant can be used for.

Mr. Stewart stated he is positive that the funds can be recouped by employees being out for two week that were affected by COVID-19, infrastructure for sewer and water, broad band, and pipes.

Mayor Torres said adding an additional officer is much needed because the Town is growing. She wants the police department to be protected and public safety is a top priority. She said residents to be prepared for some type of increase by next year. She added public safety impact fee is in affect for residential dwelling.

Vice-Mayor stated they have been wanting to add an additional officer and it needs to be done. He cautioned on how to spend money for the next year. He added that hopefully they can recover some of the money that was made by multiple mistakes and with COVID-19.

Mr. Josiah added that with growth come responsibility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gale Christensen- 21 S. Main St. Asked how the Apartment complex tax are charged.

Mrs. Yerkes explained once the buildings are completed, they will have to be re assessed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice-Mayor Schock asked what 2021 fund balance was.

Mr. Josiah stated \$98,000.00; however, it was not really used because of the influx of building permits.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made at 7:00pm by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*