

Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
July 12, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Torres 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 June 29, 2020, in the following manner:

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

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

Mayor Torres led a moment of silence.

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

Council Absent: Councilman Woodall,

Staff Attending: Town Manager Jason Stewart, Town Clerk Sarah Cahall, Account Specialist Yvette Yerkes, Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, and Chief Marcus Whitney.

**AMENDMENTS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Property taxes are due by the close of business on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Girty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve the June 7, 2021 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilman Girty, to approve the June 7, 2021 executive session minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Mrs. Yerkes said that the Town received \$66,826.34 in RETT. Tax bills for 2021 were mailed out and there was roughly \$1.8 million in total.

**PLANNING & ZONING REPORT**

Mrs. Cahall stated the final site plans for Sunset Village Apartments were approved. The plans were picked up and could take up to two weeks to be recorded. Once they are recorded then construction can start. They have a year to start work and keep continuous progress.

**CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Jeff Brown gave a report that included but was not limited to fire calls. He stated that they did not have any assistance by outside agencies for the past month, however they help assist other agencies.

Mayor Torres thanked them for the ride along. The ride along was to view the parking in the street and how difficult it is for the fire trucks to maneuver.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked if they view plans for new developments.

Mr. Brown said yes. He said the issue occurs from the time the development is getting built and getting turned over to the Town is where the problems occur. He stated that when they park practically on both sides of the road or wherever they can. Mr. Brown said when there is a dire emergency, they need to respond quickly to save a life instead of trying to maneuver around cars that are causing the roadway to be congested.

Mr. McPhail said another issue is cars blocking the fire hydrants.

Mayor Torres asked Mr. Scott if in the future we can request to make it the developer's responsibilities to paint all the curbs and fire hydrants.

Mayor Torres added another issue that has been occurring is parking right up to the stop signs.

Mayor Torres asked what the rule is for parking near the stop signs.

Chief Whitney stated it is 15 feet. He stated an ordinance would have to be established to supersede that for safety.

**CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

None.

**FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

None.

VFW

None.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He followed up regarding the vacation buy out and if all the officers excluding 3 were to potentially sell back 100 hours it would cost as much as \$23,126.42 which could also be less. He does not want the officer to lose their vacation time.

Councilman Girty stated that he does not want the officers to lose their vacation time.

Chief Whitney briefly discussed a hiring bonus for new officers.

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Stewart thanked Town staff for hard work.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked if the sewer and water was hooked up at 118 Main St.

Mr. Stewart said CWSWA needs the documentation from the property owner to get the permit from Del-Dot. He added that CWSWA has the document and then it gets turned into Del-Dot and then goes back to CWSWA and then goes to the contractor.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked if that was turned in last month.

Mr. Stewart said yes, that was what turned it.

Councilman Girty asked if a step was missed.

Mr., Stewart stated that when the engineer turns the documentation into CWSWA there was a part that was missing that they were not aware of. CWSWA then informed them about that minor part and that was turned in yesterday (7/11/21) and he was taking it to Del-Dot to get the process started.

Mayor Torres asked for an approximate turnaround time.

Mr. Stewart said he was not given an answer.

Mayor Torres asked if the owner still understands the deadline, is September.

Mr. Stewart stated yes.

**MAYOR**

Mayor Torres gave her condolences to the Chappell family. She is saddened by the unexpected loss of Mr. Chappell and prays Mrs. Chappell has a strong recovery. She stated Mr. Chappell was the reason she made the decision to run for. Mayor Torres expressed in detail how she was forever grateful for the Chappell's confidence and support.

Mayor Torres thanked the Town staff for the dedication during the transition.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Text Amendment to Zoning Ordinance Table 240-15*

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, and seconded by Councilman Girty, to approve the first reading of the Text Amendment to Zoning Ordinance Table 240-15. All in Favor; none opposed.

*Edmunds Payroll*

Mrs. Yerkes explained there has been several issues with the current payroll system and its affecting pension rates. She explained there is a cost because Edmunds will have to set up a master conversion to bring us back to Edmunds.

Councilwoman Rhodes asked if this was going to increase her workload.

Mrs. Yerkes said she does not have to do the conversion. She said Edmunds was a good payroll system for the Town and if it was not broken before it should not have been switched.

Chief Whitney said the current payroll system is affecting the police department salary rates. This has been an ongoing situation since they have made the switch from Edmunds.

Vice-Mayor Schock said the problem stems from listening to someone they should not of.

Mr. Stewart stated that there is no reason why we should be having this many issues with the current payroll system.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked if we could use some of the funds out of RETT since this has affected the police department.

Mr. Eliassen stated that we could use RETT if we determine what is police vs civilian.

A motion was made by Councilman Girty and seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock to approve Edmund's payroll system switch over in the amount of \$4,500. All in favor; none opposed.

*Cleaning Company*

Chief Whitney explained reasonings for switching the cleaning company and the new cleaning company will cost \$800.00 a month.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, and seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve switching cleaning companies. All in favor; none opposed.

*Juneteenth*

Mr. Stewart stated that on June 17, 2021, this became a Federal Holiday and asked Mayor and Council to add 8 hours of vacation time to employees since Town Hall was open that day.

Mayor Torres does not think the hours should be added to this year's vacation.

Councilwoman Rhodes stated the employees should receive it.

Chief Whitney said an amendment needs to be written up for the CPOA contract to add that Juneteenth to the holiday calendar.

A motion was made by Councilman Girty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to add 8 hours of vacation time. All in favor; none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Danielle Vincent: 301 E Camden Wyoming- Went into detail about a letter they received from the Town of Camden in violation of a business license.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Girty thanked Harold Scott.

Vice-Mayor Schock thanked Mrs. Cahall and Mrs. Yerkes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*To consider strategy with respect to pending and/or potential litigation and/or with respect to personnel issues.*

A motion was made by Councilman Girty and seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes to adjourn the regular meeting session and enter executive session without returning. All in favor; none opposed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made at 8:30pm by Councilman Girty, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*