

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
September 12, 2022**

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 September 6, 2022, in the following manner:

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

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

Mayor King led a moment of silence.

Council Attending: Mayor King, Vice-Mayor Schock, Councilwoman Rhodes, Councilman Dougherty, and Councilman Woodall.

Council Absent: None

Staff Attending: Town Manager Harold Scott Jr., 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 30th, 2022.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve the August 1, 2022 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, Seconded by Councilman Dougherty to approve the August 1, 2022 executive meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Yerkes said there was \$24,858.90 received from RETT for the month of July. She added that delinquent taxes are \$12,379.18. Current taxes that have been collected are \$647,831.66 of taxes.

Councilman Dougherty asked what the difference was from last year to this year with the elimination of the early bird discount.

Mrs. Yerkes said she would provide him with that information.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Brown gave a report that included but was not limited to fire and EMS calls. He added that the two new ambulances are expected to arrive in June or July of 2024. He thanked Mayor King and Council for their donation and support.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Dan Ridgley said they will be having a budget meeting on September 7, 2022.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Dan Ridgley said there will be a meeting on September 21st at 7:00 pm at the Burkes house.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Scott Jr. said he attended a meeting regarding the bipartisan infrastructure bill out and getting assistance with grant writing. He added that MPO said they are doing a pedestrian traffic study and would like sidewalk connectivity around Town.

Halloween will be held on October 31, 2022, from 6-8 pm.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked the Town staff and the Police Department.

OLD BUSINESS

Townsend Property

Town Council made a recommendation to authorize Mayor King to execute a possible purchase of the Townsend Property consistent with their discussion on the August 1, 2022 executive session.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, and seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to authorize Mayor King to execute the purchase of the Townsend property. Four in favor; one opposed.

Roll Call:

Mayor King- yes

Vice-Mayor- yes

Councilwoman Rhodes- yes

Councilman Dougherty- yes

Councilman Woodall- no

Motion carries

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-R-01

Mr. Scott stated the purpose of this resolution is to rename the portion of East St from Voshell Mill road to the entrance of South Street to King Boulevard.

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, and Vice-Mayor Schock, to approve Resolution 2022-R-01. All in favor; none opposed.

Solar Panels

Tom Colveci with CNC Solar went over the benefits of a carport system and the ground mount solar panels. Mr. Colveci stated the carport would not be efficient to take care of all the electricity needs for the building. He added that the ground mount system would take care of all the electricity for the building but a fence would have to go around the ground mount. He said Delmarva Power offers a \$55,000.00 grant. Mr. Colveci stated the estimated amount for the carport is \$408,000.00 and the ground mount is estimated at \$380,000.00.

Mayor King asked what the advantage or disadvantages were between the two.

Mr. Colveci stated the ground mount would be the most efficient.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked how much of the property would be used.

Mr. Colveci stated it wouldn't affect the signage in front of Town Hall and it would be around the curb line.

Councilman Woodall asked if stone would be needed for where the panels sit.

Mr. Colveci stated that no stone would be needed.

Vice-Mayor Schock would like to see what other grants were available for this project.

Councilman Dougherty asked if the total cost for the ground mount included everything including the fence and gravel under the panels.

Mr. Colveci said everything except the gravel.

Councilman Dougherty asked if a hybrid system was possible.

Mr. Colveci said yes.

Councilman Dougherty asked to provide more measurements, specific cost amounts, and look into grants.

Mayor King asked if there would a warranty.

Mr. Colveci said he would recommend using string inverters which would allow replacing the single inverter which comes with a 10-year warranty, CNC Solar has a 10-year warranty and will replace them within the 10 years. He also suggested adding another 10 years to each inverter which would roughly cost between \$10,000.00-\$20,000.00 to cover the lifetime of 20 years there would be coverage.

Councilman Woodall asked Mr. Colveci if he viewed the electric bills.

Mr. Colveci said there were 200,000 KWH used in a year.

Councilman Dougherty questioned how long the price was good through.

Mr. Colveci stated he would look into that.

Mayor King and Council thanked Mr. Colveci and look forward to seeing him in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susan Savage- 302 Meeting House Ln- expressed her concerns about the tree in a neighboring yard.

Dan Ridgley- 215 Camden Wyoming Ave.- asked to have the zoning ordinance project placed on the agenda.

Joe Simpson- Questioned the status of the property at 218 Camden-Wyoming Ave.

Harold Scott Jr. stated they go to court on September 19, 2022. He added that he has an agent that has a potential buyer, and they want to demo the house and rebuild it.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Rhodes thanked the staff.

Councilman Woodall thanked the staff.

Vice-Mayor Schock thanked the staff.

Mayor King thanked Town staff and the Police Department.

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 8:19 pm by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to adjourn the council meeting and enter executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:19 pm by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Schock, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*