

**Town of Camden  
Public Workshop  
Camden Municipal Building  
May 22, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Mayor Schock called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 15, 2023, 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.

Councilwoman Rhodes led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Mayor Schock led a moment of silence.

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

Council Absent: Mayor King and Councilman Woodall.

Staff Attending: Town Clerk Sarah Cahall, Account Specialist Malori Lewis, Chief Whitney, Town Manager Harold Scott Jr., and Chief Financial Officer Tom Josiah.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**REVIEW/DISCUSSION**

*Proposed FY 2024 Budget*

Tom Josiah stated that the trash increase was the only change from the last meeting until now. Both commercial and residential trash services have increased. He stated that the trash increase went up 28 percent. He added that the revenue increase is 4 percent, and the expenditure is almost zero. Mr. Josiah said there is 2.5 million in expenses and no fund balance is being utilized to balance the budget.

Councilman Dougherty expressed that there has been a 15 percent decrease for all line-item budgets except salaries, social security, unemployment, and insurance. He added this is a line-item budget and once it's gone it's gone. He said that if any line items go over budget the Mayor and Council are going to want an explanation.

Harold Scott Jr. confirmed that going forward if an item is over budget it must go to the Mayor and Council for approval.

Councilman Dougherty said yes because the budget is by line item.

Harold Scott Jr. said they were going to increase the trash by \$75.00. However, the trash bids came in higher. He suggested increasing the trash by \$100.00 to break even. He added that the trash contract is for 3 years and will increase each year.

Ms. Lewis explained that the trash bill is currently \$19.40 a month and will increase to \$24.89 a month for residential properties. She said the commercial trash is currently \$19.40 a month and will be a flat fee of \$70.00. She added that commercial businesses can opt to have their own trash provider.

Councilman Dougherty stated he was in favor of the \$100.00 trash bill increase.

Chief Whitney asked about the CPOA negotiations.

Councilwoman Rhodes said they are not getting any more than their 2%. Every year they can come to Council to discuss the contract.

Councilman Dougherty said they negotiated the Holiday increase, time and a half for working holidays, and added the Juneteenth holiday.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, and seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to increase the trash by \$100.00. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, and seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the proposed FY 2024 Budget with the \$100.00 trash increase. All in favor; none opposed.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Vice-Mayor Schock thanked everyone for all their hard work.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made at 6:55 p.m. by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*