

Town of Camden  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Camden Municipal Building  
June 5, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Mayor Schock 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 May 30, 2023, in the following manner:

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

Councilwoman Rhodes led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Mayor Schock led a moment of silence.

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

Absent: Mayor King

Staff Attending: Town Clerk Sarah Cahall, Account Specialist Malori Lewis, Town Manager Harold Scott Jr., Town Solicitor Craig Eliassen, CFO Tom Josiah, and Chief Marcus Whitney.

AMENDMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Town Hall will be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Woodall, to approve the May 1, 2023 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Woodall, to approve the May 1, 2023 executive session meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the May 22, 2023 public workshop minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Ms. Lewis said that \$46,562.47 was received from RETT. She said the delinquent taxes are \$9,506.47.

**CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Jeff Brown gave a report that included but was not limited to fire calls. He added that the ambulance project should be completed in late September or October of 2024.

Councilman Woodall asked whose responsibility it was to clean up the streets after a traffic accident.

Mr. Brown said it's the responsibility of the Tow company, but they help assist.

**CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY**

None.

**FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN**

Dan Ridgley said they are revisiting the Historic Camden beautification project.

**TOWN MANAGER**

Mr. Scott thanked Ms. Cahall for attending the bench dedication for the Chapels. He stated they have been cleaning up the new property that was recently purchased. Mr. Scott added that they are finishing up the cleanup project in Tamarac.

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He added there were 15.5 hours in paid overtime and 2 hours of court overtime.

Councilman Woodall asked what can be done with people living in their cars.

Chief Whitney said that if it is private property, they are limited if the property owner allows it. However, they do make contact.

**MAYOR**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

*FY 2024 Budget*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to enter a public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

Mr. Josiah said that the only change to the budget is the trash fee increase. He added that fund balance wasn't needed to balance the budget. It was based on current revenue and expenses.

Mr. Scott added that residential trash will increase to \$379.00 and commercial will increase to \$940.00. He said that the trash company has been charging the residential rate to commercial businesses and they have increased that rate.

Vice-Mayor Schock asked if commercial businesses pay their own trash bill.

Mr. Scott said that there are 19 accounts that do not have their own trash provider. He said Ms. Lewis will be mailing letters out to the 19 accounts to advise them of the changes and offer them the chance to opt-out or they can continue with their current services.

Ms. Lewis stated that commercial businesses can opt out of what the Town provides and can obtain their own.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dan Ridgely- Asked if there were any changes from FY2023 to FY2024.

Councilman Woodall stated that they have the resources now to bring in code enforcement revenues.

Chief Whitney added there was a 15% reduction in expenditures.

Fleur McKendall- Asked if funds are available for enhancing the technology. She asked if the Town has resources or partnerships to assist the homeless.

Mr. Scott said he applied for funds for technology upgrades but is unaware if the cost will cover it.

Chief Whitney said they interact with the shelters but as for funding that is state level.

*Conditional Use application for approval of seasonal Microbrewery, for applicant High Tide Lab Company, located at 169 Old Camden Rd. Camden, DE 19934.*

Ms. Cahall said that on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the planning commission approved the recommendation to the Mayor and Council with the conditions of additional parking on the property, maintenance of the fence, enclosure of the portable bathrooms, enclosure of the trash, and hours of operations are Monday – Saturday 12:00 pm-9:00 pm and closed on Sunday.

Councilman Dougherty asked what is considered seasonal.

Mr. Woodall said it would be during warm months roughly April through December, but he doesn't foresee it going that long in the colder months.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lynn Jeandell- 114 Cambridge Rd.- She said she was concerned about the noise, parking, and traffic.

Gale Christensen- 21 S Main- In favor of microbrewery and loves seeing Camden coming alive and growing.

A motion was approved by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to exit the public hearing. All in favor; none opposed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*COLA*

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the COLA for non-uniform employees. All in favor; none opposed.

*FY 2024 Budget- Final*

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Councilman Dougherty to approve the final FY 2023 budget presented with the residential trash increase to \$379.00 a year and commercial to \$940.00 a year. All in favor; none opposed.

Roll Call:

Vice-Mayor Schock-yes  
Councilwoman Rhodes-yes  
Councilman Woodall-yes  
Councilman Dougherty-yes  
Mayor King-Absent

All in favor; Motion carries.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Appointment of Camden-Wyoming Sewer & Water Authority Board Member*

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, and seconded by Councilman Woodall, to appoint John Badger. All in favor; none opposed.

*Conditional Use application for approval of seasonal Microbrewery, for applicant High Tide Lab Company, located at 169 Old Camden Rd. Camden, DE 19934*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhodes, and seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the conditional use application for the seasonal microbrewery with the conditions of additional parking on the property, maintenance of the fence, enclosure of the portable bathrooms, enclosure of the trash, and hours of operations are Monday – Saturday 12:00 pm-9:00 pm and closed on Sunday. 3 in favor; 1 abstain.

*CPOA contract*

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to table the CPOA contract. All in favor; none opposed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gale Christensen- Asked what the CPOA contract was.

Dan Ridgley- Asked about Mayor King presence.

Dawn Gonzalez- Is in favor of the Friends of Historic Camden beautification project.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Dougherty thanked the fire department and the public.

Councilwoman Rhodes and Councilman Woodall thanked the Town Staff.

### **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 Woodall, and seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to enter into an executive session. All in favor; none opposed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*