

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
October 2, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Councilman Dougherty 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 25, 2023, in the following manner:

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

Councilman Dougherty led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Dougherty led a moment of silence.

Council Attending: Councilwoman Rhodes, and Councilman Woodall.

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

AMENDMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed on October 9th, 2023 in observance of Columbus Day.
Halloween will be observed on October 31st, 2023, from 6 pm-8 pm.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Councilwoman Rhodes, to approve the October 2, 2023 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

FINANCE REPORT

Ms. Lewis said the Town received \$60,647.40 in RETT for the months of August and September. The delinquent tax amount is \$6,798.51 and there has been \$1,969,535 received for 2023 taxes.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

None.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Dan Ridgely said there would be no increase in rates. The next meeting will be October 10th.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

Gale Christensen said the interest in membership is growing. They are working on getting a proposal for flags on North and South Main and Camden Wyoming Ave. She added they have been working on a mural project and their next meeting is October 26th.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Whitney gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He added that there were 68 hours of paid overtime and 3 hours of court overtime.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Scott stated that Savannah Farms received all their approvals from the Board of Adjustments and the Planning Commission. He is working on a grant for battery-powered vehicles and outdoor power equipment. He added that the King Storage Units have started, and the Town received \$159,000.00 in permit fees from this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Selection of Mayor

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Rhodes- Councilman Dougherty
Councilman Woodall- Councilwoman Rhodes
Councilman Dougherty- Councilman Dougherty

Councilman Dougherty will finish Justin King's term as Mayor.

Selection of Vice-Mayor

Roll Call:

Councilman Dougherty- Councilwoman Rhodes
Councilman Woodall- Councilwoman Rhodes

Councilwoman Rhodes is the Vice-Mayor

Consideration of new Council members

Mayor Dougherty stated five people submitted letters of interest.

Michelle Synder- 605 Commons Ln.- Stated she is a long-term resident and has children within the school district. She would like to see her Town grow and move in the right direction.

John Badger- 35 Dill Ln.- 16-year resident, served in the military, gave a brief bio of his work history, and retired in 2006. He currently serves on the Camden-Wyoming Sewer & Water Authority Board and the Board of Adjustments.

Fluer McKendall- 44 E. Fred Circle.- Stated she has experience in the public sector, she is the president of the NAACP, she is an experienced advocator, she said she has experience in writing/monitoring grants, and budgeting. She added she loves public service and would like to make a difference.

Dan Ridgley-215 Camden-Wyoming Ave- He said he serves on many boards, wants the Town to move in a positive direction, and is transparent. He added the comprehensive plan is coming up and would like to see smart growth.

Darlene Sturgeon- 119 E Camden- Wyoming Ave- She stated she has experience working in the housing authority and state government, degrees in finance and development, leadership, and organizational behavior. She added she would like to serve her Town.

OLD BUSINESS

CPOA Contract

Mayor Dougherty stated that the CPOA Contract will be on the agenda for next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gale Christensen-21 S. Main St- Stated the Board of Adjustment has a vacant seat. She was disappointed the selection of Council was tabled.

Fluer McKendall- 44 E Fred Circle- Said she was disappointed that there was no selection of new Council members. She wants to move forward in the right direction.

John Badger- 35 Dill Ln.- Withdrew his letter of intent.

Susan Savage- 302 Meeting House Ln.- She would like to see change within the Town.

Carol Milton- 305 Meeting House Ln.- She inquired about letters that were sent out to some residents regarding property maintenance.

Dawn Gonzalez- 25 N. Launden Ln.- She asked who oversees the Chief of Police. She inquired about the job description from 2018 for the Town Managers position, she asked when the Town Solicitor contractor expires.

Dan Ridgley- 215 Camden-Wyoming Ave- Asked about the status of 218 Camden-Wyoming Ave.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Woodall wished everyone luck and is moving forward.

Vice-Mayor Rhodes thanked the staff for their continued hard work.

Mayor Dougherty is looking forward to learning about the assignment of shift for the Police Department. He added that the Police Department website is outdated. He thanked the Police Union for their negotiations. He thanked everyone who submitted their interest to fill the vacant seats on the council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:07 p.m. by Councilman Woodall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Rhodes, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Cahall, Town Clerk*