

City of Camden
South Carolina

MINUTES
CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

6:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

Mayor Anthony P. Scully; Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Mae Drakeford; Councilmember Walter M. Long, Jr., Councilmember Laurel M. Parks, and Councilmember X. Willard Polk; City Manager W. Kevin Bronson; City Clerk Brenda Davis; Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson; Chronicle-Independent Reporter Martin Cahn and interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Councilmember X. Willard Polk gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anthony P. Scully called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford made a motion to amend the agenda to include a Special Presentation. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Polk, voted unanimously to adopt the November 27, 2012, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Drakeford abstained from voting due to being absent at the November 27, 2012 meeting.

PROCLAMATION

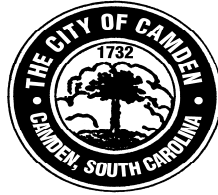
Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks, voted unanimously to proclaim the month of December 2012 as Impaired Driving Prevention Month. Chief Joseph M. Floyd was in attendance to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no public comments.

AUDIT/FINANCE REVIEW

Mel Pearson, Assistant City Manager, presented an overview of the City's Financial Year End Report for Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. Assistant City Manager, Mel Pearson reported some highlights of the governmental fund and utility fund in his



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presentation. Some highlights Mr. Pearson explained included; that the local retail economy was down by approximately 7% for the last three consecutive years. The difference in local option sales tax and the credit given to taxpayers was supplemented by the restricted funds received in prior years. Other highlights in the General Fund included an explanation of the Property Tax Base, the Net Assets Governmental Funds position, Governmental Fund Debt, Operating Cash, Local tax and the position the Capital Project Fund. Mr. Pearson also briefed Council on the Utility Fund.

There was general discussion and questions from Council regarding the Annual Audit/Finance Review presented by Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson. For additional information please refer to the City of Camden 2011-2012 Annual Audit/ Finance Review.

2013 CITY COUNCIL/MEETING/WORKSESSION SCHEDULE

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, followed by comments from City Manager Kevin Bronson, voted unanimously to approve the 2013 City Council Meeting/Work Session Schedule.

2013 CITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, voted to approve the 2013 City Holiday Schedule. During discussion, Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, second by Councilmember Polk, made a motion to amend the 2013 City Holiday Schedule to include Veterans Day, November 11 as a city holiday.

After further discussion from Council, Mayor Scully called for question on the original motion to approve the 2013 City Holiday Schedule with the amendment. Council on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks, voted unanimously to approve the 2013 City Holiday Schedule with an amendment - including November 11- Veterans Day as an additional city holiday.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM FOR YEAR 2013

Councilmember Long made a motion to nominate Councilmember Drakeford as Mayor Pro-Tem. Hearing no second, the motion failed.

During discussion, Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Mayor Scully, made a motion to nominate Councilmember Polk as Mayor Pro-Tem. Those voting in favor of the motion were Mayor Scully, Councilmember Parks and Councilmember Polk. Voting in opposition was Councilmember Long. Councilmember Drakeford abstained from voting.



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ORDINANCE #12-028 1st Reading

Council on motion by Councilmember Drakeford, seconded by Councilmember Long, followed by discussion, voted to approve first reading of an Ordinance amending and restating the City of Camden's Purchasing Policies and Procedures.

During discussion, Councilmember Polk made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Parks, followed by comments from Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson and interim City Attorney Lawrence Flynn, voted 3-2 to table the ordinance amending and restating the City of Camden's Purchasing Policies and Procedures. Those voting in favor of the motion to table were Mayor Scully, Councilmember Polk and Councilmember Parks. Voting in opposition of the motion were Councilmember Long and Councilmember Drakeford.

ORDINANCE #12-029 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Long, followed by comments from City Manager Kevin Bronson and discussion from Council, voted unanimously to approve first reading of an Ordinance authorizing the Termination of a Right of Way permit described in the aforesaid Deed Book EX, at Page 138 in exchange for the acquisition of an alternate utility easement from the present property owner, Family Dollar Stores of South Carolina, Inc.

RESOLUTION #12-025

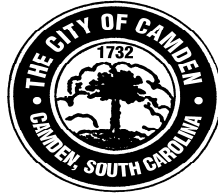
Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Polk, followed by comments from City Manager Kevin Bronson and discussion from Council, voted unanimously to approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an employment agreement between the City of Camden and the Interim City Manager. The Employment agreement is made between the City of Camden and Melvin "Mel" Pearson beginning January 4th, 2013.

RESOLUTION #12-026

Council, on motion by Councilmember Drakeford, seconded by Councilmember Long, voted to approve the Resolution amending and restating the City of Camden's Employee Handbook.

During discussion, Council on motion, by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, voted unanimously to amend the Resolution to include an additional city holiday – Veterans Day- November 11.

During further discussion, Mayor Scully called for question on the original motion. Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks, voted unanimously to approve the Resolution amending and restating the City of Camden's Employee



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Handbook with an amendment - including Veterans Day – November 11, as an additional city holiday.

RESOLUTION #12-027

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks, followed by comments from City Manager Kevin Bronson and discussion from Council, voted unanimously to approve a Resolution further acknowledging the results of a referendum conducted in the City of Camden, South Carolina on November 6, 2012 and asserting the intention to cease activities associated with the construction and administration of the proposed recreation facility.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks, followed by discussion, voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Allen Robert to Seat 4 on the Historic Landmarks Commission with term to expire on August 31, 2014.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A certificate of appreciation and a watch were presented to City Manager Kevin Bronson, who was attending his last City Council meeting. Councilmember Long and Councilmember Drakeford personally thanked Mr. Bronson for his dedication and hard work throughout his four year tenure as Camden's City Manager.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Scully adjourned the Council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor Anthony P. Scully, Mayor

Brenda Davis, City Clerk