



City of Camden
South Carolina

CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

4:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Jeffrey R. Graham
Councilmember Patrick D. Partin
Councilmember Walter M. Long
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Mae Drakeford (absent)
Councilmember X. Willard Polk

City Manager W. Kevin Bronson
Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson
City Clerk Brenda Davis
City Attorney Charles Cushman
Chronicle-Independent Reporter Martin Cahn
and interested Citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeffrey R. Graham called the Camden City Council Work Session to order at 4:30 p.m.

WELCOME –City Manager Kevin Bronson welcomed Council to the August 28, 2012 Camden City Council Administrative Briefing and Work Session.

BRANDING DEVELOPMENT

The launch of the city of Camden “Grab Life” Branding Campaign was presented to Council for review. The citizen’s stakeholder committee to include: Joseph Bruce, Hope Cooper, Kristen Cobb, Betsy Greenway, Glenn Tucker and Brittany Stewart along with Dave Shaw, consultant with Flying Napkins, Inc., and Staff assisted in developing a brand to promote the City of Camden. The “Grab Life by the Reins” brand was chosen by the committee and presented to council for consideration.

Council discussed the “Grab Life” branding Campaign and decided the best course of action would be to consider a Resolution at the September 11, 2012, City Council Meeting.

Economic Development Director, Wade Luther presented this item to Council. For additional information please refer to Memo dated August 21, 2012, **RE:** “Grab Life” Branding Campaign.

HARDSCAPE PROJECTS

Council was presented with an update on the Four Hardscape Projects wherein the City of Camden released a Request for Proposal (RFP) on June 27, 2012. The projects listed in the RFP included: South Rutledge Street Parking Lot / Haigler Lane & Arthur Alley, Commerce Alley, Gateway Corridor Enhancements and Gate Way Corridor Feature.



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LandPlan Group South, Thomas & Hutton, Alliance Engineering and URS Corporation submitted proposals in response to the RFP.

Staff is negotiating with URS Corporation based on cost and criteria put forth in the RFP.

There was general discussion and questions regarding this matter.

City Manager Kevin Bronson presented the item to the City Council. For additional information, please refer to memo dated August 22, 2012 **RE:** RFP – Four Hardscape Projects Prepared by City Manager W. Kevin Bronson.

FINE ARTS CENTER

On June 27, 2012, the City of Camden released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Special Events and Marketing Management. Three proposals were received to include two from local organizations and one from a Columbia-based organization. Staff ultimately accepted the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County proposal due to the Columbia firm seeking more funds than the \$34,000 budgeted for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and the withdrawal of proposal submission from the other local organization. The Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County, proposed several events on the Town Green in addition to events for the 16th Carolina Downhome Blues festival October 4, 5, & 6, 2012, the Pre-Colonial Cup Party on the Town Green, Friday November 16, 2012, Jazz Concert on the Town Green, Jazz at the Center Music Festival, Saturday, April 13th 2013 and the Taste of Camden on the Town Green, Saturday May 18, 2013.

Councilmember Long recommended hosting an Art in the Park event at Hampton Park and also made recommendation for the Fine Art Center to host their Finally Friday event on the Town Green. Staff will provide a report at a later date on Councilmember Long's suggestions.

City Manager Kevin Bronson presented the item to Council. For additional information please refer to MEMO dated August 23, 2012 RE: Special Events Partnership with the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

As an effort to respond to citizens complaints and deter speed violations occurring throughout the city, the Camden Police Department conducted a targeted enforcement in the downtown area of Broad Street and on Springdale Drive. As a result, 107 Uniform Traffic Tickets and 457 Warning citation were issued in the downtown area of Broad Street and 113 Uniform Traffic Tickets and 26 warning citation were issued on Springdale Drive. The Camden Police Department will continue selective and targeted enforcement throughout the city to maintain safe streets for the citizens of Camden.



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There was general discussion and questions regarding this matter.

City Manager Kevin Bronson presented the item to the City Council. For additional information, please refer to letter dated August 21, 2012 Prepared by Chief of Police, Joseph M. Floyd.

GRANT LIST

Council was presented with an updated list and status of the City of Camden past and current grants received and applied for. Appreciation was given to former City of Camden Grant Writer, Sonia Canzater (who has left her position to pursue a law degree) for her efforts in receiving grants for the City of Camden. The City of Camden is currently looking for a new Grant Writer with hopes of hiring a replacement within the next month.

There was general discussion regarding this matter.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

As a part of the effort to transition from the Historic Landmarks Commission to a Board of Architectural Review, a revised version of the City of Camden Design Guidelines was prepared by C & K Historic Consulting agency. A copy of the revised version was given to Council for review and will be discussed at a later date.

There was general discussion regarding this matter. A copy of the revised design guidelines will be posted on the City of Camden website for public view and feedback. Council discussed other avenues to receive public feedback on this matter.

Councilmember Polk requested the consultant be present at future discussions and/or meetings regarding the revised design guidelines.

City Manager Kevin Bronson presented the item to the City Council.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

The Building Infrastructure capacity for Economic Development was presented by PowerPoint presentation as follows-As a part of the Council's 2012 strategic plan-focusing on the business component- the City of Camden vision and mission statement and critical success factor plays a key role in the preparation for future business development.

Infrastructure impacting economic development includes areas of focus such as the Exxon Sewer Pump Station Construction, Black River road Sewer System Analysis, Water Line Loop to the Steeplechase Water Tank and the New Wastewater Treatment Plant.



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The Exxon Pump Station was the main focus during this presentation. Staff determined that the Exxon pump station should be the first priority to carry out the City's future business developments. Staff reported favorably on the bid from MJL, Inc of Moncks Conner in the amount of \$390,350. Total construction expense of \$431,590 for the Exxon pump sewer station includes \$38,500 for cost to underground new electric line and \$2,740 for SCANA natural gas line for generator.

There was general discussion regarding this matter. Council recommended city staff bring a bid proposal for consideration at the next city Council Meeting on September 11, 2012.

City Manager Kevin Bronson presented the item to Council. For additional information please refer to PowerPoint presentation dated August 28, 2012 RE: Building Infrastructure Capacity for Economic Development @ <http://www.cityofcamden.org>.

AGENDA SETTING

City Attorney Charles Cushman advised City Council of The South Carolina Supreme Court decision to prohibit public bodies governed by FOIA from amending their agendas during meetings. City Attorney Charles Cushman advised Council not to make substantive revisions to its agenda during a regularly scheduled meeting.

There was general discussion regarding this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Polk, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 6:15 p.m.

RECONVENE

Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Mayor Graham agreed to reconvene Council's Work Session to give Council time to discuss other business.

OTHER BUSINESS – Council

Councilmember Long requested Council revisit the idea of conducting community surveys.

City Manager Kevin Bronson noted that savings from the lease purchase of the 800 MHz radios would cover most of the expense for the community survey if council so chose to direct staff to use those savings.

Council directed staff to move forward - reporting back to Council the timing it will take to for the potential survey firm(s) to conduct community surveys.



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Councilmember Long also suggested Council give staff direction on developing a particular plan or improvements on the South Board City Area Park. Councilmember Long asked staff check on funding availability and also obtain bids and/or quotes for potential improvements on the South Broad City Arena Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Long, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor, Jeffry R. Graham

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk