



City of Camden  
South Carolina

**CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL**

**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

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Tuesday, October 9, 2012

4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

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**PRESENT**

Mayor Jeffrey R. Graham  
Councilmember Patrick D. Partin  
Councilmember Walter M. Long  
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Mae Drakeford

City Manager W. Kevin Bronson (absent)  
Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson  
City Clerk Brenda Davis  
Councilmember X. Willard Polk  
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 4:00 p.m.

**WELCOME** –Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson welcomed Council to the October 9, 2012 Camden City Council Administrative Briefing and Work Session.

**PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Council was presented with a briefing of changes to the Personnel Policy and Procedures handbook. As noted during the presentation, minor revisions and additions were made by staff and by the Municipal Association of South Carolina attorney. The revised handbook included no substantial changes but minor revisions and/or additional sections. Minor revision were made to the Inclement Weather Policy, Cell Phone policy, Travel Expense Policy, the Employee Recognition Policy, and additional section included the Purchasing Policy.

There was lengthy discussion and concerns from Council regarding this matter. Councilmember Polk voiced his concerns and suggested several minor revisions to the handbook. During discussion, Councilmember Polk was concerned with the personal policy section which states that “Employees must provide an operation email account at all times during his/her employment. Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson responded by saying that all current employees have signed up for their paycheck to be distributed by personal email account with the exception of one employee.

Councilmember Polk was also concerned with the Level of Authority section, suggesting that changes be made to the policy which states that “All items over \$100,000 not included in the fiscal year budget must be approved by City Council”. Councilmember Polk suggested that City Council should review all proposed procurements regardless of whether or not it was included in the fiscal year’s budget. Councilmember Polk also suggested that



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City Council review all procurements over \$100,000 and any professional services excluding and exceeding the \$25,000 limit. After further discussion, Councilmember Partin disagreed with Councilmember Polk suggestions and Mayor Graham noted that the same procurement policy was passed in January 2011 with Councilmember Polk voting against the Level of Authority Policy.

Assistant Manager Mel Pearson presented this item to Council. For additional information, please refer to Personnel Policy and Procedures handbook revised as of October 23, 2012.

**RECYCLING PILOT PROGRAM**

Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson updated Council on the launch of the new city of Camden recycling pilot program. Mr. Pearson noted that since the start of the program on Monday, October 8, of the 160 -65 gallon recycling containers - thirty applicants have applied and the city is expected to deliver to those applicants soon.

There was general discussion regarding this matter.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Graham reported that Mr. Ross Beard would like make a presentation at the next city Council Work Session on October 23, 2012 about his collections and an opportunity for the City of Camden. There were no objections from Council regarding this matter.

Councilmember Partin questioned the date of the upcoming dedication of several statues created by local artist Maria J. Kirby-Smith. The King Haglar and Joseph Kershaw statue upcoming dedication will be held October 25, 2012 @ 3 pm at the Camden Town Green. Mayor Graham noted that the project is a gift from, former native of Camden, John Hagins Jr, who is a practicing attorney in Greenville, SC. The statues representing baseball hall of Famer Larry Doby and philanthropist Bernard Baruch will be revealed next April at the Camden Archives and Museum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Council, on motion by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Polk, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 4:40 pm.

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk

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Mayor Jeffry R. Graham