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     City Manager W. Kevin Bronson (absent)
Councilmember Patrick D. Partin     Assistant City Manager Mel Pearson
Councilmember Walter M. Long     City Clerk Brenda Davis
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Mae Drakeford 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
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.

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Mayor Jeffry R. Graham

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk