



City of Camden
South Carolina

CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 8, 2013

4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Mayor Pro-Tem X. Willard Polk

Councilmember Walter M. Long

Councilmember Alfred Mae Drakeford

Councilmember Laurel M. Parks

Interim City Manager Mel Pearson

City Clerk Brenda Davis

Chronicle-Independent Reporter Denise Schnese

and interested Citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anthony P. Scully called the Camden City Council Work Session to order at 4:00 p.m.

WELCOME – Interim City Manager Mel Pearson welcomed Council to the January 8, 2013 Camden City Council Work Session. Mr. Pearson introduced Ms. Amy Stenger, City of Camden’s new Grant Writer.

REVIEW OF ELECTRIC RATE COMPARISON

Interim City Manager, Mel Pearson presented Council with a review of the current rate comparison of South Carolina’s Municipal Electric Systems.

REVIEW TEMPORARY CHANGE IN POTABLE WATER TREATMENT CHEMISTRY

Council was informed of the temporary change in the treatment chemistry used to purify City of Camden’s water system. This change will be made to eliminate a build-up of harmless biofilm in the waterlines. Beginning January 24 through January 29, 2013, the City will halt the addition of ammonia at the Water Treatment Plant, flush the distribution lines, and disinfect with chlorine. As a result, a slight chlorine taste and smell may be detected in the city’s water. From February 21 to February 26, 2013, the City will resume adding the ammonia to the chlorine disinfectant at the treatment plant and flush the system.

There was general discussion regarding this matter. Interim City Manager Mel Pearson presented this item to Council.

SECURITY REVIEW AT ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Council was given an overview of the current security system at the Archives and Museum. The current security system was found to be adequate for the Archives and Museum needs. However, Council was given some recommendations on improving the security system to



City of Camden South Carolina

house future historic collections. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

Chief Joseph Floyd presented this item to council. For additional information, please refer to Memo dated December 20, 2012 prepared by Captain Mike Stone RE: Archives.

REVIEW OF GATEWAY ENHANCEMENTS AND HARDSCAPE PROJECTS

Economic Development Director, Wade Luther presented council with an overview of the ongoing hardscapes project program. Two major goals of this project involved the enhancement of city's appearance and to address infrastructure needs. City Council allocated funding for the "hardscapes" projects in efforts to achieve the strategic planning goals during Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The overarching goal is to enhance the visitor experience, enhance downtown, and improve the marketability of the City's core values by promotion key tourism elements, such as horses, history, the arts, architecture, agriculture, etc. Fiscal Year 2012-2013 funding covers planning, public involvement, design, and permitting. Therefore the result of the "hardscapes" projects would be 100% "shovel ready" Design Plans.

The projects can be viewed as a means to:

- increase downtown parking opportunities for business and visitors
- improve the overall aesthetic environment of the City's parking areas and gateways for visitors and business patrons, and
- create synergy between Commerce Alley, area merchants and restaurateurs, and the Kershaw County Farmer's Market through the corporation of landscape, hardscape, and built amenities.

In December 2012, the City of Camden, in coordination with URS Corporation, launched three projects programs known as the "Hardscapes".

Economic Development Director, Wade Luther reviewed the details of the Hardscapes Program, the project budgets, and the Project Milestones & Schedule. For additional information please refer to Memo dated January 3, 2013 RE: Hardscape Program.

There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW SCHEDULE

Interim City Manager Mel Pearson opened the discussion regarding the Board of Architectural Review (BAR). Council was asked to give staff direction on ample timing to discuss the BAR. Council agreed to discuss the matter at the next scheduled Work Session on January 22, 2013, and reserve the opportunity to discuss the matter at a special Work Session, if necessary.



City of Camden
South Carolina

DISMISSAL OF LEGAL MATTER

City Council received a brief update from Interim City Attorney Lawrence Flynn on the dismissal of the matter concerning the City of Camden vs. Camden Referendum Coalition. The case is no longer outstanding and a dismissal has been filed.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING DATES

City Council was informed of Staff's strategic planning meeting on January 24, 2013 and City Council's strategic planning meeting on January 31, 2013.

There was general discussion regarding this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Long, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:10 pm to discuss a personnel matter, a pending legal matter concerning Water Plant repairs and a pending legal matter concerning Faber litigation.

REGULAR SESSION

Council unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Session at 5:40 pm. No action was taken during Executive Session. Interim City Attorney Lawrence Flynn gave a brief update on the matters discussed in executive session as follow: the personnel matter was dismissed, with the city pursuing settlement agreements; the pending legal matter concerning water plant repairs is still in discovery phase and Council was made aware of proposed settlement terms offered to the city concerning the Farber litigation

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Scully asked city staff to look into reinstating the ability for citizens to comment on the city's website or on Facebook. Staff will research the idea and provide recommendations at a future work session.

Councilmember Drakeford asked that a member of staff or Council, represent the city of Camden - at future Central Midlands Council of Governments meetings. Upon discussion of this matter, a member of staff will represent the city at the Central Midlands Council of Governments meetings.



City of Camden
South Carolina

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Polk, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk