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...
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.
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 Faber 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.
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.

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Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk