



City of Camden
South Carolina

CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, October 22, 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

City Manager Mel Pearson

City Clerk Brenda Davis

Chronicle-Independent Editor Martin Cahn

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 – City Manager Mel Pearson welcomed Council to the October 22, 2013 Camden City Council Work Session and introduced the new Executive Director for Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments-- G. Michael Mikota, Ph.D. After City Manager Mel Pearson read Mr. Mikota biography, Mr. Mikota shared information and brief comments on team work and regionalism.

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY – Pearson

Council was informed that on November 12, 2013 the City of Camden and Shred 360 will offer a Community Shred Day between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the parking lot to the left of City Hall. The City of Camden encourages participants to bring canned food products to donate to Food for the Soul.

FY 2014 SC PARD GRANT PROGRAM – Pearson

The City of Camden received a Parks and Recreation Development Grant (PARD Grant) through South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) in the amount of \$20,000 with a required match of \$5,000. The funds will be used to purchase a new play set for the City Arena Park.

For additional information, please refer to the memo dated October 17, 2013 **RE:** FY 2014 Parks and Recreation Development (PARD) Grant Program.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE – Davis

Deputy Director of Public Works, Sam Davis updated Council on the new Wastewater Treatment Plant project and its projected completion date. Council was informed that the project is going very well and the site completion date is slated for March 17, 2014. There was general discussion regarding this matter.



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TOURISM ORIENTED DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE (TODS) – Luther

Economic Development Director, Wade Luther presented Council with information regarding a Tourism Oriented Directional Signage Program (TODS Program). The TODS program is a new program geared at benefiting Rural Tourism, Agri-tourism in South Carolina. City of Camden staff initially identified the following venues to promote tourism in the County, outside the City limits: Boykin, SC, Old McCaskill’s Farm, South Carolina Equine Park, Carolina Motorsports Park and the Battle of Camden Site. After further investigation only two of the above sites met the programs qualifications; Old McCaskill’s Farm and Carolina Motorsports Park. The TODS Program comes at a cost of \$400 per unit with \$100 annual maintenance fee. Staff is recommending that accommodation tax funding be made available to cover the cost of signage, in the event applications are filed and approved for Old McCaskill’s Farm and Carolina Motorsports Park. Council voiced some concerns and agreed to have staff move forward with the project.

For additional information please refer to memo dated October 15, 2013 **RE:** Tourism Oriented Directional Signage (TODS) Program.

MAXWAY PROJECT UPDATE – Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson reported that the demolition of the former Maxway building located at 1001 Broad Street is complete. At this time, there is no designated plan for the site, however options for potential use will be considered in the near future. Staff will ask the local public for written comments about the future use of the site and also ask Council to appoint a committee to consider all ideas and proposals.

MAXWAY DEVELOPMENT – Luther and Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson and Economic Development Director Wade Luther presented Council with additional information regarding the future use of the Maxway property. Council was informed that City of Camden consultant, Arnett Muldrow recommends the Request for Proposal (RFP) process in pursuit of achieving the highest and best use for the site. With regards to Arnett Muldrow recommendation, staff will issue Request for Proposals to the development community soliciting proposals for the purchase and development of this site. Council voiced some concerns and then directed staff to move forward with the RFP process.

For additional information regarding the Maxway Property RFP refer to memo dated October 17, 2013 **RE:** Maxway Property RFP with Request for Proposals document attached.

UTILITY RATE COMPARISON - Pearson

Council was provided with information regarding utility rate comparisons.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson informed Council that the Farber lawsuit regarding the proposed sports complex has been ruled in favor of the City of Camden.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Long requested staff inform the public of “dead” tree removals. City Manager Mel Pearson informed Council that Urban Forester Liz Gilland is preparing a press release regarding tree removals.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:24 p.m. to discuss a real estate contractual matter.

WORK SESSION

Council unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Work Session at 5:52 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 5:53 p.m.

Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk