



City of Camden
South Carolina

CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Mayor Pro-Tem Laurel M. Parks

Councilmember Walter M. Long, Jr.

Councilmember Alfred Mae Drakeford

Councilmember X. Willard Polk

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 January 14, 2014 Camden City Council Work Session.

2014 SC STATE ETHICS COMMISSION STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS (SEI) REPORT – Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson informed Council that their Statement of Economic Interests Reports must be filed within five (5) days of the new March 30, 2014 deadline date. The reports must be filed electronically on the South Carolina State Ethics Commission website.

FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015 BUDGET TIMETABLE - Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson presented Council with a review of the 2014/2015 Budget Development schedule as follow:

- Initial budget review with Department Heads and initial revenue forecast will be held during the week of February 17- March 1, 2014.
- Budget reviews with City Manager will be held during the week of March 3-March 14, 2014.
- Staff will present budget to City Council at a Special Meeting on March 19, 2014.
- Budget Work Session will be held on April 2, 2014 from 3 – 5 p.m., if necessary.
- Public Hearing will be held on April 8, 2014 – City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- First Reading Approval of FY 2014/2015 Budget- May 13, 2014- City Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- Final Reading Approval of FY 2014/2015 Budget- May 27, 2014 – City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.



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MODIFICATION OF DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUND AGREEMENT WITH THE SC REVOLVING FUND - Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson informed Council that a portion 2004 Series Bond Ordinance will be eligible for refinancing on March 31, 2014. The City of Camden could save an estimated savings of \$1,240,466 with a lower interest rate by refinancing the current bond balance of \$9,830,000. After refinancing, the remaining principal balance on the 2004 Series Bond will be \$835,000. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

For additional information please refer to memo dated January 9, 2014 **RE:** Refunding a portion of the 2004 Bond.

CITY OF CAMDEN, SC COMBINED PUBLIC UTILITY SYSTEM REFUNDING REVENUE BOND SERIES 2014 – Pearson

The City of Camden along with Lawrence E. Flynn, Pope Zeigler LLC is currently in the process of amending the City’s outstanding loan from the South Carolina Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund. According to the SRF Authority, municipalities with at least an “A” bond rating will not be required to maintain a debt service reserve fund equal to one half the annual debts for the loan. As a result of the SC Revolving Fund decision to change their policies, the City of Camden sent a letter to the SRF requesting reimbursement of the amount in the reserve fund of \$1.098 million dollars. City Manager Mel Pearson explained that the money would return to the city’s bond accounts to be utilized in future debt service projects. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

For additional information please refer to memo dated December 19, 2013 **RE:** City of Camden, SC Combined Public Utility System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2014 – Modification of Debt Service Reserve Fund Agreement with the SC Revolving Fund.

FIVE-YEAR UPDATE OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Pearson/Putnam

City Planner Shawn Putnam informed Council about the five year review of the City of Camden Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Putnam explained that the purpose of the five-year review of the City’s Comprehensive Plan is to evaluate the Plan to determine any changes that may have occurred since its adoption in 2007, review the goals and strategies and update to reflect those that have been accomplished or may no longer be relevant, and consider any updates or changes that should be made to ensure that the Plan continues to be a relevant and viable source of information for the future growth of the City. The Comprehensive Plan will be updated according to the following required schedule: **February 11, 2014** - City Council will hold a public hearing, **February 25, 2014** – 1st reading of ordinance to adopt plan, **March 11, 2014**- 2nd reading of ordinance to adopt plan. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

For additional information, please refer to memo dated January 8, 2014 **RE:** Comprehensive Plan Update.



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CABELA’S KING KAT TOURNAMENT – Luther

The City of Camden will be sponsoring the 2014 Cabela’s King Kat Tournament Eastern Championship. The event will be held at Lake Wateree from October 2-4, 2014. The sponsorship amount is \$17,500. Economic Development Director Wade Luther presented Council with information on the King Kat Trail previous accomplishments and the direct/indirect community economic impact of the Cabela’s King Kat Championship. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

For additional information please refer to memo dated January 7, 2014 **RE:** 2014 Cabela’s King Kat Tournament Eastern Championship.

2013 TOP WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECTS AWARD – Davis

The City of Camden’s Waste-Water Treatment Plant was named as one of the top expansion projects for 2013 in the Water & Wastes Digest Magazine (WWD). Deputy Director Sam Davis reported that WWD made the choice based on Camden being the first site in the world to incorporate a new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system.

For additional information refer to the Water & Wastes Digest 2014 Reference Guide p. 25

SAFER GRANT (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) – Bowers

Chief John Bowers informed Council that the City of Camden received a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant in the amount of \$212,886 provided through the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grant will pay for three additional firefighters for a two-year period with no city match required. Staff is looking at some alternatives such as raising fire service fees charged to non-city of Camden residents in the Camden Fire Department’s protection zone to fund the position after the two-year SAFER grant ends. There was general discussion from Council regarding this matter.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Scully reported that on March 8, 2014 the Fine Arts Center will be hosting the first annual Wateree Outdoor Life Festival from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The City of Camden is asked to present a key to the City during this event.

Councilmember Parks requested information on the status of the proposal for the Maxway property. Economic Development Director reported that the City received four (4) written proposals as of the proposal deadline date of January 10, 2014.

Councilmember Long requested consideration of a demolition grant line item and a sign demolition line item for the 2014/2015 budget. Council will review this consideration during the budget review.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council on motion by Councilmember Polk, seconded by Councilmember Parks voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:35 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

WORK SESSION

Council unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Work Session at 5:50 p.m. No action was taken during Executive Session.

FIRE SAFETY TRAILER DEMONSTRATION

The City of Camden along with the Camden Fire Department (CFD) received an Assistance Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$59,000 through FEMA. The CFD used the funds to purchase a fire safety demonstration trailer. Council adjourned its work session and joined the Camden Fire Department at Station 1 for a demonstration/tour of the computer operated safety demonstration trailer.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council on motion by Councilmember Drakeford, seconded by Councilmember Parks, voted unanimously to adjourn the Work Session at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Anthony P. Scully

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk