CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 22, 2015  6:30 P.M.  Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT
Mayor Anthony P. Scully
Mayor Pro Tem Jeffrey R. Graham
Councilmember Alfred Mae Drakeford
Councilmember Laurel M. Parks
Councilmember Deborah Hudson Davis

City Clerk Brenda Davis
City Manager Mel Pearson
Finance Director Debra Courtney (absent)
Chronicle-Independent Jim Tatum
and interested citizens

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION
Mayor Pro Tem Jeffrey Graham gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Anthony P. Scully called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Drakeford, voted unanimously to adopt the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2015. Councilmember Parks abstained from voting due to being absent at the September 8, 2015, meeting.

PROCLAMATION
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to proclaim October 4-10, 2015, as Fire Prevention Week. Chief John Bowers and Assistant Chief Eddie Gardner were in attendance to receive the proclamation.

PROCLAMATION
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to proclaim October 2015, as Community Planning Month. City Planner Shawn Putnam and Bill Ligon, Chair of the Planning Commission were in attendance to receive the proclamation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Joe DeLoach and Kevin Johnson
Joe DeLoach and Kevin Jackson were in attendance to present council data and information regarding the 2015 Junior and Adult Tennis Tournament. The 2015 Junior and Adult Tennis Tournament was a success and were named the best tennis tournament in South Carolina for 2015 by the U.S. Tennis Association. After Mr. DeLoach and Mr. Jackson presentation, funds were requested in the amount of $3,000 to cover the 2016 Junior and Adult tennis tournaments expenses.
SPECIAL PRESENTATION
Tara Heil, Executive Director of Muscular Dystrophy Association gave a report on the recent annual Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) “fill the boot” campaign. Camden Fire Department along with the Lugoff Fire Rescue Squad jointly raised more than $31,000 for MDA. Camden Fire Department along with Lugoff Fire Department was also recognized for their participation and support to Muscular Dystrophy Association.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
The Camden Fire Department was honored as 2014 Life Safety Achievement Award recipient by the National Association of State Fire Marshals and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. Deputy Chief Phil Elliott reported that the Camden Fire Department was one of ninety-six Fire Departments nationwide to receive the 2014 Life Safety Achievement award.

PUBLIC FORUM
No Public Comments.

ORDINANCE #2015-022 1st Reading
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, followed by comments from City Planner Shawn Putnam, voted unanimously to accept the first reading of an ordinance amending certain provisions of article VII of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden pertaining to sign regulations; and other matters related thereto.

After discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Graham made a motion, seconded by Mayor Scully to amend Section 157.106 – Signs on private property - to continue with allowing the use of Sidewalk Signs in the GBD and CBD zoning district, requiring permit approval.

After further discussion, Council on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, seconded by Councilmember Parks, voted unanimously to accept the first reading of an ordinance amending certain provisions of article VII of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden pertaining to sign regulations; and other matters related thereto, as newly amended.

ORDINANCE #2015-023 1st Reading
Council, on motion by Councilmember Drakeford, seconded by Councilmember Parks, followed by comments from City Planner Shawn Putnam, voted unanimously to accept the first reading of an ordinance amending certain provisions of article III of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden pertaining to permitted and conditionally permitted uses in the various Zoning Districts of the City; and other matters related thereto.
FAÇADE GRANT
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, followed by comments from Council voted unanimously to approve the Façade Grants Application in the amount $3,903.90 with a city match of $1,546.95 for 1043 Broad Street (front) – Sam Kendall’s.

FAÇADE GRANT
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve the Façade Grants Application in the amount $3,716.60 with a city match of $1,800.00 for 1043 Broad Street (rear) – Sam Kendall’s.

FAÇADE GRANT
Council, on motion by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve the Façade Grants Application in the amount $6,350.00 with a city match of $3,175.00 for 1035 Broad Street (rear) – Hifalutin Restaurant.

OTHER BUSINESS
Councilmember Drakeford invited council and staff to Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments 1st Summit meeting to be held on November 2nd, 2015 from 12-4 p.m.

Councilmember Parks
The city of Camden will host two community forums funded by the Humanities Council SC, a state program of the National Endowment of the Humanities on October 8, 2015 and October 15, 2015 to be held at the Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Center – 607 Broad Street from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Councilmember Parks invited the public to attend. For additional information on topics to be discussed please refer to flyer “Connect Camden: A Civic Dialogue”.

Mayor Pro Tem Graham
Mayor Pro Tem Graham suggested Council and Staff begin working with Kershaw County on ideas for park improvements within the city and County, specifically to rebuild trails at Kendall park, improving the tennis courts at Scott park and looking at ways to connect all parks.

ADDITIONAL
City Manager Mel Person updated Council on the Rhame Arena project and noted several areas that will be completed at a later date; however, Rhame Arena will be ready for use for the 20th annual Camden Fire Department Fire Fest to be held on September 26, 2015.
ADJOURN
There being no further business, Council on motion by Councilmember Drakeford, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to adjourn the Council meeting at 6:50 p.m.

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Anthony P. Scully, Mayor

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk