



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

4:00 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
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 27, 2015, Camden City Council Work Session.

2015 HOMETOWN LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY (February 4, 2015) Mel Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson informed Council of the 2015 Hometown Legislative Action Day on February 4, 2015, which gives municipal officials the chance to meet in Columbia with members of the South Carolina General Assembly.

PUBLIC NOTICE – ANNUAL WATER TREATMENT MAINTENANCE

PROCEDURE- Mel Pearson

City Council was briefed on information regarding the “Notice to City of Camden Water Customers.” The City of Camden will perform an annual system maintenance cleaning procedure to purify and clean the water distribution system.

FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016 BUDGET TIMETABLE – Mel Pearson

City Manager Mel Pearson presented Council with a review of the 2015/2016 Budget Development schedule as follow:

- Initial budget review with Department Heads and initial revenue forecast by Finance Director will be held during the week of February 16 - February 27, 2015.
- Budget reviews with City Manager will be held during the week of March 2-March 13, 2015.
- Staff will present budget to City Council at a Special Meeting on March 18, 2015.
- Budget Work Session will be held on April 1, 2015 from 3 – 5 p.m., if necessary.
- Public Hearing will be held on April 14, 2015 – City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.



- First Reading Approval of FY 2015/2016 Budget- May 12, 2015- City Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- Final Reading Approval of FY 2015/2016 Budget- May 26, 2015 – City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

REVISED ZONING ORDINANCE – Shawn Putnam

City Planner Shawn Putnam presented a lengthy presentation to Council regarding the proposed changes to the City of Camden Zoning Ordinance. Major changes to the Zoning Ordinance included revisions in areas such as Zoning Districts Regulations, Sign Regulations, Parking and Loading Regulations, Landscaping, Buffers, Open Space and Tree Protection, General Provision Regulations and Administration and Enforcement.

Highlights of some of the proposed changes are as follow:

- Changed the names of some zoning districts to better reflect the character of the district.
- Revised requirements for animals to prohibit roosters.
- Added requirements that signs shall not obscure building elements.
- Deleted requirement relating to political signs on private property.
- Revised section on temporary uses to allow for the sale of cooked or uncooked food in GBD and CMU districts.
- Exempted parking for single family residences from requirements.
- Administration and Enforcement: Includes responsibilities for city planner, urban forester, city manager and city council in ordinance.
- Landscaping, Buffers, Open Space and Tree Protection; Enforcement of this section done primarily by Urban Forester instead of Zoning Administrator.
- Adds requirement that lots for new single family residential units contain a minimum of 4 trees (similar to current 157-090(C)(4)).
- Establishes the City of Camden Tree Fund. The ordinance allows the Urban Forester to allow a developer to pay a fee into the fund in the event there are extraordinary circumstances that prevent complying with the landscaping, tree conservation or buffer requirements.
- Etc.

Please refer to document “Summary of Zoning Ordinance Changes” to review the entire list of revised sections of the Zoning Ordinance.



OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tem Graham suggested City of Camden keep in contact the Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding City of Camden storm drain issues/problems.

Mayor Pro Tem Graham expressed concern that the City of Camden should be aware that Legislative is proposing to pass the responsibility of local control on roads back to municipalities. Council and Staff will discuss this issue during the Strategic Planning meeting.

Anthony P. Scully, Mayor

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk