CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, November 10, 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 Jim Tantum
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
Mayor Anthony P. Scully welcomed Council to the November 10, 2015, Camden City Council Work Session.

NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK PROCLAMATION
Council proclaimed November 15-21, 2015, as National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week and encouraged all citizens to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens, and private/public nonprofit service entities.

WORLD AIDS DAY PROCLAMATION
Council proclaimed December 1, 2015, as World AIDS Day in the city of Camden, and encouraged all citizens to learn more about HIV and AIDS and to work together to raise awareness of the threat, treatment and prevention of AIDS. Members of the Sandhills Medical Foundation, Inc. were in attendance to receive the proclamation.

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH PROCLAMATION
Council proclaimed November 2015, as National Adoption month in the city of Camden, and urge all citizens to join in a national effort to raise awareness about the importance of adoption.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM – Lawrence Flynn
An ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND ESTABLISHING AN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM was reopen for discussion. This ordinance was previously discussed at city Council’s October 27, 2015, regular meeting and is being amended accordingly.

The adoption of the 2007-2017 City of Camden Comprehensive Plan, has established as a matter of policy that economic development is essential to the long-range success of the City and the City should cultivate a business friendly climate, promote industry and integrate its historical character into future growth plans. In order to implement growth, revitalization and redevelopment within the Incentive Area, it is essential that the City provide Incentives that will encourage private investment in the Incentive Area. As a result of the open items left during previous discussion of the Economic Development Incentive Program, City Council deliberated on the following: What areas would benefit as an Incentive Area, Authorized Incentives and Eligibility Criteria – and what the minimum investment should be according to the size of the incentive area. Several amendments to the “ordinance for discussion” were suggested and a rewritten ordinance will be presented for council’s consideration at City Council’s upcoming regular council meeting on November 24, 2015.

For additional information on the above “Ordinance for discussion”, please refer to Work Session packet dated November 10, 2015.

Lawrence Flynn, City Attorney, presented the item to City Council.

WAYFINDING PROJECT – Suzie Sale and Caitlin Corbett
City Council received information regarding the signage location, installation of signage and the remaining cost for fabrication and installation of signage throughout the City. Phase II of the various type sign designs submitted by the Project Team were reviewed by City Council. City Council voiced some concerns and directed staff to move forward with funding the Wayfinding Project.

For additional information on information on the quantity, unit price, and install price of the sign types please refer to memo dated 11/5/15 - RE: Wayfinding Project Discussion.

Suzi Sale and Caitlin Corbett, presented the item to City Council.

OTHER BUSINESS
Mayor Pro Tem Graham requested staff prepare reports on the cost to rehab the tennis courts on York Street and provide this information during the 2016/2017 budget process.

Councilmember Drakeford requested staff to include in the 2016/2017 budget process - an activity on the Town Green during the month of June as Council consider proclaiming the month of June 2016, as small cities month.
ADDITIONAL
City Manager Mel Pearson updated Council on the upcoming projects for the Department of Public Works. The projects involve working on moving water and electric lines out of backyards and getting them on the streets. Sub-plans were finalized and the Engineers are expected to review final plans within the next couple of weeks. In the process of finalizing plans for these projects, staff request input from Council on widen East Hampton Street by 2ft. As part of the paving process for this project, East Hampton Street would be widen by 2ft with no interruption to the trees and little to no interruption to residential properties. Council voiced some concerns regarding possible resident complaints then directed staff to move forward with the project.

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Anthony P. Scully, Mayor

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk