PRESENT
Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford
Mayor Pro Tem Joanna B. Craig
Councilmember Jeffrey R. Graham
Councilmember Stephen R. Smoak
Councilmember Deborah H. Davis
City Clerk Brenda Davis

City Manager Mel Pearson
Assistant City Manager Caitlin Young
Finance Director Debra Courtney (absent)
Chronicle-Independent Martin Cahn and interested citizens

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION
Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to adopt the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2018.

PUBLIC FORUM
No Public Comments.

PRESENTATION
Melvin Wallace of Auxilium CDC, presented a brief presentation on his 501 (c) (3) profit organization. The program works with businesses in South Carolina’s rural counties to provide resources and programs to sustain business and improve employment opportunities. The program also collaborates with local governments and community development partners to support rural economic growth. Mr. Wallace would like to partner with the city to assist small businesses in the area in becoming more successful.

For additional information, on the programs offered please visit website at www.auxiliumcdc.org.

PRESENTATION
Executive Director of SLRCOG, Chris McKinney presented the Camden City Council with a plaque awarded through the National Association of Development Organizations which recognized Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments in partnership with the Cities of Sumter and Camden, SC the 2018 Aliceann Wohlbruck Innovation Award for Project: “Beating Blight: Sumter and Camden’s Neighborhood Initiative Program”.
PRESENTATION
Suzi Sale brief presentation included an update on the Boykin Spaniel Invasion project. A new tour program that will launch at the end of February to promote/support Boykin Spaniel Society.

The Boykin Spaniel Invasion project will consist of placing 10 statuettes of a Boykin Spaniel around town. In conjunction with the Boykin Spaniel Society and the city’s tourism department, the statuettes will be placed around town with clues to their location to be written in ‘puppy dog first person.’

ORDINANCE #2019-001 1st Reading
Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, followed by comments from City Planner Shawn Putnam and discussion from Council, voted unanimously to approve first reading of an ordinance adopting the City of Camden 2028 Comprehensive Plan for the City of Camden, South Carolina; and other matters related thereto. One change made to the Comprehensive Plan prior to councils approval: Removal of reference to the road diet due to the matter of funding.

OTHER BUSINESS
No other business from Council.

ADJOURN
There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

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City Clerk Brenda Davis