



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Vincent Sheheen
Mayor Pro Tem Hamilton Boykin
Councilmember Delia J. Davis
Councilmember Phil Elliott
Councilmember William Wilkes
City Clerk Brenda Davis

City Manager Matt DeWitt
Assistant City Manager Caitlin Young
Attorney Lawrence Flynn (absent)
Chronicle-Independent Martin Cahn
and interested citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vincent Sheheen called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Phil Elliott opened the council meeting with the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of March 18, 2025.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Wilkes, voted unanimously to approve proposed agenda for April 1, 2025 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Council along with staff recognized the following:

- Camden Earns 2024 Tree City USA Recognition from Arbor Day Foundation – 37th Year.
- A Proclamation proclaiming April 2025 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Laurie Parks and Mary Long from Foster Care Review Board Kershaw County, as well members from DSS were in attendance to receive the proclamation.
- A Proclamation proclaiming April 14 to April 21, 2025 as Two Lights for Tomorrow Nationwide Initiative. Rickie Good was in attendance to receive the proclamation.
- A Proclamation proclaiming April 22, 2025 as Earth Day. The Kershaw County Democratic Women - Ms. Laurie Robinson, President, Ms. Beth Collins, Vice President, Ms. Eve Carlin, Member, Ms. Ann Davis, (member) were in attendance to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments.



CONSENT AGENDA

Council unanimously approved the following consent items: Mayor Vincent Sheheen, abstained from voting on Resolution #2025-011 and #2025-012 due to conflict of interest.

- **Resolution #2025-008** authorizing consumption of beer and wine at 24 Hours of Lemons Block Party.
- **Resolution #2025-009** approving transfer of property as a gift from Santee-Lynches Regional Development Corporation. (406 Rutledge Street)
- **Resolution #2025-010** authorizing the City of Camden to adopt an assessment and appeals policy for the administration of the City's Business License Program; and other matters thereto.
- **Resolution #2025-011** to provide certification as provided by the South Carolina Abandoned Building Revitalization Act of 2013 (S.C. Code Section 12-67-109 ET SEQ.) for the building at 1045 Broad Street, Camden, South Carolina 29020.
- **Resolution #2025-012** to provide certification as provided by the South Carolina Abandoned Building Revitalization Act of 2013 (S.C. Code Section 12-67-109 ET SEQ.) for the building at 1047 Broad Street, Camden, South Carolina 29020.

ORDINANCE #2025-007 2nd Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Councilmember Wilkes, voted unanimously to make changes to 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. (Consideration of approved amendment to the zoning ordinance related to requirements for temporary signs). Changes: change setback requirements from 10 feet to 3 feet. After discussion, council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Wilkes, voted unanimously to approve ordinance #2025-007 with amended changes that were proposed during the first reading of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE #2025-008 2nd Reading

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve ordinance #2025-008 to annex four parcels on Old River Road and assign a zoning classification thereto; and other matters related thereto. (1095 Old River Road, 1095A Old River Road, 1099 Old River Road and 1101 Old River Road).

Staff/Council Topics

Discussion of consultant proposed utility rate increases for Council's consideration in the formation of the Fiscal Year 25/26 Budget. City Manager Matt Dewitt announced that the City's Utility Rate Consultants proposed a 6% electric rate increase, 8% water rate increase, and 9% sewer increase as part of the FY26 budget preparation. Council will consider the proposed rate at its April 22nd meeting. Mayor along with council emphasized its preference



for no rate increases in FY26, given the significant increases implemented in recent years. Staff was directed to explore options that would eliminate the need for rate increases.

Meeting Date/Location Change. The regular scheduled City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 15 has been rescheduled to April 22, 2025 and will take place at Liberty Hall – 212 Broad Street.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting in honor and memory of Mary Elizabeth Mullikin at 6:28 pm.

Mayor Vincent Sheheen

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk