



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

5:30 P.M.

Liberty Hall – 212 Broad Street

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 Wilkes, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of April 1, 2025.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Council unanimously approved the proposed agenda after voting to move Employee of the Month and Ordinance #2025-009 to the beginning, as motioned by Councilmember Elliott and seconded by Councilmember Wilkes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- Employee of Month –postpone until next month due to employee unable to attend.

Ordinance #2025-009 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, second by Councilmember Wilkes made a motion to table Ordinance #2025-009 regarding authorizing and confirming the implementation of combined utility system rates and charges for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025; and other matters related thereto. After discussion, the council unanimously agreed to table the ordinance indefinitely.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Superintendent Harrison Goodwin addressed the impact of growth on schools in the Camden area, reassuring the public that the Kershaw County School District currently has available seats and is equipped to handle incoming growth in the Camden area.



Andrew Whitaker of Knights Hill Road shared his ideas on the growth and success of Camden. He posed the question, “How growth is going to happen?” and further discussed his thoughts on development and ZDRL requirements.

Lynne Conto spoke, expressing gratitude for the adjustment to council meeting dates. She also acknowledged council’s efforts of forming the Equine Industry Task Force, the inclusion of school input, and the incorporation of public feedback in the development of the comprehensive plan. Additionally, she thanked council for tabling the utility rate increase. Regarding the comprehensive plan, she highlighted several key items for consideration.

Vickie Moody, President of Southgate Homeowners Association, expressed concerns regarding the residential zoning ordinance and the development of the comprehensive plan, specifically the land use section. On behalf of the Southgate HOA, she requested that the city prioritize the health of the pond and environmental considerations for any development on the north side of the lake or pond.

Consent Agenda

Council unanimously approved the following consent items:

- Certificate of Franchise Authority and Request for Information
- Quarterly Reports January – March 2025
- Appointment of Clarence A. Shuford to the Board of Zoning Appeals with term set to expire on August 31, 2027.
- Resolution #2025-013 approving the execution and delivery of that certain certificate of termination and waiver of notice of cancellation of Water Supply Agreement dated June 14, 2005 and other matters relating thereto.

Ordinance #2025-010 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance of the City of Camden, South Carolina amending Title XIII, Chapter 131 of the City’s Code of Ordinances to regulate the use of metal detectors on municipal property; and other matters related thereto.

Ordinance #2025-011 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Wilkes, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance approving the financing of sewer system improvements to the combined Public Utility System of the City of Camden, South Carolina, through the borrowing of not exceeding five million five hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$5,525,000), plus capitalized interest, if any, from the State Water Pollution control Revolving Fund, by agreement with the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, pursuant to Title 48, Chapter 5, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended; providing



for the agreement to make and to accept a loan, the execution and delivery of a loan agreement between the City of Camden, South Carolina and the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, the execution and delivery of a promissory Note from the City of Camden, South Carolina to the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority; and other matters relating thereto.

Staff/Council Topics

Mayor Sheheen highlighted two key priorities for the current council: managing utility rate increases and regulating growth in Camden. He expressed gratitude to staff for their efforts in allowing council to achieve the goal of avoiding utility rate increases. Additionally, Mayor Sheheen noted city council's decision to renew the moratorium ordinance as a part of the process to control growth and gather public input.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:05 pm.

Mayor Vincent Sheheen

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk