



## CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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Tuesday, March 3, 2026

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers - City Hall

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### **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 (**absent**)  
Director of Communications Dawn-Marie Johnson  
Attorney Lawrence Flynn  
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 Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 17, 2026.

### **APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Councilmember Wilkes, voted unanimously to approve the March 3, 2026, proposed agenda.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION- None**

- March Employee of the Month – Sgt. Grant Furry
- Council proclaimed the month of March 2026 as Women’s History Month. Those in attendance to receive the proclamation were members of WIN (Women in the NAACP)

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS- None**

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

Director of Planning and Development, Shawn Putnam, presented an update on the building code enforcement, certifications, and the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) process. Putnam explained that building code enforcement involves two primary components: plan review and inspections.

He further reported that a third-party firm currently manages building code enforcement, and that the city is training two code enforcement officers to bring the building code program back in house.



Putnam also noted that the city has adopted International Property Maintenance Code. The typical enforcement process involves identifying violations of IPMC, contacting property owners, requesting compliance, and sending formal violation letters, then issuing citations, if necessary.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – No public comments received regarding the proposed amendment to the city’s annual budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, which proposed amendment appropriates funding to acquire that certain property identified as tax map number C285-09-00-053 – 311 East DeKalb Street.

### **DISCUSSION OF CITY HISTORIC MARKER PROGRAM**

Council discussed the proposed installation of historical plaques for residential and commercial buildings. Council tasked staff with compiling a budget outlining the anticipated cost associated with the plaques.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Council approved the following consent items:

**Resolution #2026-006** – recognizing that the prevention of accidental losses affecting employees, property, and the public will enhance the operating efficiency of city government.

### **Boards and Commission**

#### **Planning Commission**

Reappointment of Westley G. Parks and Connie Rouse to the Planning Commission with term set to expire on August 31, 2029.

Appointment of Randy Wilgis to the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term – with term set to expire on August 31, 2030.

#### **Historic Landmarks Commission**

Confirmation and ratification of member numbers and existing terms pursuant to Section 158.012 of the Code of Ordinance (Odd-numbers expire in odd years, even-numbers expire in even years)

- #1: Jennifer Haurert (expiring August 31, 2029)
- #2: William C. “Rusty” Major (expiring August 31, 2026)
- #3: Karen Farmer (expiring August 31, 2027)
- #4: Lisa Frost Long (expiring August 31, 2028)
- #5: John C. Boykin (expiring August 31, 2027)

**Note: ORDINANCE #2026-004 1<sup>st</sup> Reading carried over**

### **ORDINANCE #2026-005 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance authorizing the City of Camden, South Carolina acting through its City Manager to purchase that certain real property identified as tax map number: C285-09-00-053; amending the fiscal year 2025-26 budget to appropriate funds as necessary to acquire such property; and other matters relating thereto.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, SECTION 30-4-80, THE TIME, DATE, AND LOCATION OF THE MEETING WAS POSTED AND ALSO THE CHRONICLE INDEPENDENT NOTIFIED.



### **ORDINANCE #2026-006 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Council on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Davis, made a motion to approve the following amendment to ordinance 2026-006: Amendment 1: Change section 72.03(a) to read as follow: The golf cart is equipped with operational headlights, taillights, and turn indicators, maintained in property working condition. Council on motion, by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin made a motion to approve the following amendment to ordinance 2026-006. Amendment 2: Change the fine in Section 72.04 from \$100 to \$250.

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance to establish regulation for the operation of Golf Carts within City of Camden, South Carolina, pursuant to section 56-2-90 (c ) of the code of laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended; to amend title VII, Chapter 72 of the City of Camden Code of Ordinances in connection therewith; and other matters related thereto, as amended.

### **COUNCIL/STAFF TOPICS**

The following events and items were noted during council/staff topics:

City Manager Matt DeWitt noted the following:

- Irish Fest will be held March 6-7, 2026
- Annual Carolina Cup and Cup Fest will be held March 27-28, 2026
- Carolina Buy program cooperative purchasing program, which allows municipalities to receive rebates on certain purchases. Camden received its first rebate payment of approximately \$13,000, which the city plans to reinvest into community events and initiatives.

Mayor Pro Tem Boykin noted the importance of maintaining key gateway corridors into the city and tasked staff with evaluating potential budget allocations for litter cleanup.

Councilmember Elliott requested that staff circulate an official Boards and Commission list and assign a staff liaison to each committee. Elliott also suggested scheduling a budget work session soon to review last year's goals and discuss the upcoming 2027 budget.

Mayor Sheheen shared that the South Carolina Director of Tourism, Wayne Parrish recently visited Camden. During the visit, he toured several local attractions and emphasized the importance of promoting Camden's historical assets and tourism opportunities.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 6:10 pm to discuss the following:

- Discussion on possible expansion of city utility services.



**REGULAR SESSION**

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Davis, unanimously agreed to re-enter regular session at 6:20 pm. No action taken.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:07 pm in honor of William Fletche "Billy" Nettles III.

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Mayor Vincent Sheheen

Attest:

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City Clerk Brenda Davis