



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

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

City Manager Jonathan Rorie
Assistant City Manager Caitlin Young
Finance Director Debra Courtney (absent)
Attorney Lawrence Flynn (absent)
Chronicle-Independent Gee Whetsel
and interested citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Joanna B. Craig opened the council meeting with invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to adopt the Camden City Council Meeting minutes of June 14, 2022. Mayor Pro Tem Jeffrey R. Graham abstained from voting due to his absence at the June 14, 2022 meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Peter Scrivener, resident of Kendall Street, spoke regarding his concerns of Kendall Lake Park. Mr. Scrivener presented a petition signed by members of the Kendall-Wateree Club and property owners in the Mill Village to respectfully request the City of Camden give consideration to improving the security of Kendall Lake Park.

Karen Eckford, resident of Sarsfield Avenue spoke in regards to Bloomsbury Inn recognition. Mrs. Eckford thanked Katherine and Bruce Brown for their impact that they made on the city. Noting that the Browns always gave 100 percent to whatever they were involved in; from organizations, to hospitality, to any other endeavor.

Rob Brown, resident of Pinegrove Plantation, also spoke and thanked the Browns for their contributions to the city. Noting that the Browns were the main reason his family ended up moving to Camden and opening up Pinegrove Plantation.

RECOGNITION – Bloomsbury Inn

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford along with City Council presented Katherine & Bruce Brown with a plaque in appreciation of 17 years of service and dedication to the City of Camden and all who visited the Bloomsbury Inn.



PUBLIC HEARING – Budget for FY 2022-2023

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to enter into a public hearing to receive public comments regarding Prestage Farms sewer force main construction plans and route.

Ray Peterson, Deputy Director of Public Works made comments in regards to the brief aspects of the project.

After hearing no further comments and discussion, and a call for public comments; Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

ORDINANCE #2022-016 2nd Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance authorizing certain Economic Development Incentives; Approving the execution and delivery of an Inducement Agreement; and other matters relating thereto. Laxmi Ma Hotel, Inc. is considering the development of a project at 419 Sumter Highway, Camden, South Carolina (C299-00-00-297)

ORDINANCE #2022-017 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Craig, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance authorizing an application for a Special Property Assessment for a historic property; and other matters related thereto. (Property located at 1029 Broad Street)

ORDINANCE #2022-018 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance assigning a Final Zoning Classification to property located at 399 Black River Road.

RESOLUTION #2022-022

Council, on motion by Councilmember Craig, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve a resolution to provide certification as provided by the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act of 2013 (S.C. Code Section 12-67-109 Et. Seq.) for the building at 1029 Broad Street, Camden, South Carolina.

APPROVAL OF LEADER’S LEGACY RECOGNITION

Council, on motion by councilmember Davis, seconded by councilmember Craig, voted unanimously for the approval of Leader’s Legacy Recognition for the following individual: Marry Abbott



EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:30 pm to discuss contractual matters related to economic development; negotiation incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property.

REGULAR SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Craig, unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Session at 5:16 pm.

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WERE TAKEN:

- Council authorizes staff to negotiate to transfer up to 5 lots to Habitat for Humanity to convert into Habitat housing within 3 years of transfer date.
- Council authorizes staff to list for auction 4 lots on GovDeals to dispose of surplus real estate.
- Council directs staff to issue at a future date a RFP for development of the old Camden Elementary property.

COUNCIL/STAFF TOPICS

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 5:20 pm.

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk