



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, July 26, 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
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

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford opened the council meeting with the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Craig, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to adopt the Camden City Council Meeting minutes of July 14, 2022.

PUBLIC FORUM

Michael Alexander, resident of Campbell Street, spoke regarding his concerns of the recent electric rate increase and safety at Boykin Park. Mr. Alexander spoke against the recent increase. Mr. Alexander also voiced and restated his concerns of Boykin Park ask that something be done soon to resolve the issues at the park.

Martin McBride, resident of Springdale Drive, spoke regarding his concerns of the recent rate increases. Mrs. McBride spoke against the increase and talked about ideas and strategies of purchasing utility contracts.

Julie Barnes, resident of Greene Street, spoke regarding her concerns of the recent increases. Mrs. Barnes spoke against the electric rate increase, expressed that the ten percent suspension wasn't enough, and requested better transparency.

Richard Lowry, resident of Woodgate Road, spoke regarding his concerns of the recent increases. Mr. Lowry also spoke against the electric rate increase and believes there should have been better transparency.

RESOLUTION #2022-023

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, seconded by Councilmember Davis, followed by City Manager recap of PowerPoint presentation from July 21, 2022 Work Session and comments from council, voted unanimously to approve a resolution to



temporarily suspend the implementation of the 2022 Electric Utility System Rate Adjustment; and other matters related thereto.

BOARDS AND COMMISSION

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously for the re-appointment of Bruce Little to the Municipal Election Commission with term set to expire on April 30, 2028.

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously for the appointment of Sarah “Sallie” C. Harrell to the Municipal Election Commission with term set to expire on April 30, 2028.

HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously for the appointment of John C. Boykin, III to the Historic Landmarks Commission with term set to expire on August 31, 2027.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:37 pm to discuss legal advice concerning pending litigation.

REGULAR SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Graham, unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Session at 4:54 pm. No Action Taken.

COUNCIL/STAFF TOPICS

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 4:55 pm.

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk