



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday January 10, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford
Mayor Pro Tem Joanna B. Craig
Councilmember Jeffrey R. Graham
Councilmember Stephen R. Smoak
Councilmember Hamilton Boykin
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 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of December 13, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Council recognized John M. Burns for his 31+ years of service with Building Department as the Building Official and the Zoning Administrator.

Consent Agenda

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to approve the FY 2023 Budget Amendment 23-01 to purchase equipment for the Police Department.

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Graham, voted unanimously to approve selling of police vehicles to Carolina Motorsports Park.

Public Comment – No Public Comments

Public Hearing- Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Graham, voted unanimously to enter into a public hearing to receive public comments regarding the amendment to the city's annual budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, which proposed amendment establishes a program and appropriates funds for a senior rate credit.



After hearing no further comments and discussion, and a call for public comments; Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Graham, voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Ordinance #2022-025 2nd Reading Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance amending the budget for the City of Camden, South Carolina for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; Authorizing the Senior Rate Credit; and providing for other matters related thereto.

Public Hearing

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to enter into a public hearing to receive public comments regarding a second amendment to the city's annual budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023, which proposed amendment; (i) increased the city's electric energy charges, (ii) reduces the energy tiers from 4 to 2, and (iii) caps the fuel adjustment surcharge. After hearing comments from Finance Director Debra Courtney, Mayor Drakeford called for comments from the public.

Richard Lowery spoke regarding the proposed amendment and shared his concerns was against the increase.

Charlene Brooks spoke regarding the electric energy charges and suggested the city offer utility customers more options/extensions to pay their utility bill

After hearing no further comments and discussion; Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to close the public hearing

Ordinance #2023-001 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, followed by comments from City Manager Jon Rorie, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance further amending the Utility Fund Budget for the City of Camden, South Carolina for Fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; and other matters related thereto.

Ordinance #2023-002 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, followed by comments from Council, 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. (168 Wall Street – Units 101-104 shopping center)



Ordinance #2023-003 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, followed by comments from Council, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance authorizing the sale of certain real property located in the City of Camden pursuant to Auction Bid.

Ordinance #2023-004 1st Reading

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, followed by comments from Council, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance approving an application for a special property tax assessment for a historic property; and other matters related thereto. (1035 Broad Street)

Council/ Staff Topics - none

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:10 pm.

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk