



## CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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Tuesday, May 23, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

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### PRESENT

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Mayor Pro Tem Joanna B. Craig

Councilmember Jeffrey R. Graham

Councilmember Stephen R. Smoak (absent)

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 Pro Tem Joanna B. Craig opened the council meeting with the invocation.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Hamilton, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of May 9, 2023. Councilmember Graham abstained from voting due to his absence at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION –

The Historic Landmarks Commission presented annual preservation awards to the following recipients: **Liz Gilland** – Community Impact Award; (a) **Stacy and Walter Long** (111 Union Street) Renovation of a Designated Historic Property, (b); **Blair and Keith Harris** (1901 Mill Street) - Renovation of a Designated Historic Property - **Celeste and Eric Toole**,(1917A Lyttleton Street) – New Construction within a Historic District; and **Kershaw County Historical Society and Historic Camden Foundation** – Stewardship Award.

### Consent Agenda-

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Hamilton, voted unanimously to approve Resolution #2023-004 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 1107 Broad Street, Camden, South Carolina. Councilmember Graham recused himself due to conflict of interest.

Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Hamilton, voted unanimously to approve a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Operation of Sunshine Taxi LLC to operate in the City of Camden.



### **Public Comment**

**John Burns**, spoke during the public comment period and gave praises to the organizers of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cleveland School Fire recognition service.

**Mary Brandenberger**, spoke regarding her concerns on an incident that involved her and a Camden Police Department Officer.

### **Ordinance #2023-013 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance approving an application for a Special Property Tax Assessment for a Historic Property; and other matters related thereto. (310 Hampton Park)

### **Ordinance #2023-014 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Hamilton, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance revising the regulations for operating a Taxi Service in the City of Camden.

### **Council/ Staff Topics**

FY 2024 Budget Discussion (Rorie)

City Manager Jonathan Rorie presented the FY 2024 Budget Presentation on the following: Proposed budget was presented and discussed in its entirety.

#### Utility Fund

- Raftellis Utility Rate Study and Recommendations
  - 20% Increase in Water and Sewer Rates
  - \$3.00 Water Meter increase to replace ~16,400 water meters
  - Utility Personnel Costs and benefits

#### General Fund

- **City Fee Schedule**
  - Facility Rental Schedules
  - Building Permit Fee Schedule
- Capital Improvement Plan and debt limits
- General Fund: Personnel Costs and benefits

For additional information, please refer to FY 2024 Budget Discussion PowerPoint dated May 23, 2023.

### **Ordinance #2023-015 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Council on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Boykin, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance amending and restating certain



provisions of the Title II, Chapter 39 of the City of Camden Code of Ordinances pertaining to exemptions; approving the engagement of an Insurance Consultant to advise city retirees on Insurance related matters; and other matters related thereto.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:02 pm.

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Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

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Brenda Davis, City Clerk