



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, August 22, 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.

Councilmember Stephen R. Smoak opened the council meeting with the invocation.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to approve the proposed agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of August 22, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to proclaim the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023 as Constitution Week and the week of September 18 through September 24, as National Diaper Need Awareness Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing the consumption of beer and wine at THE MAD (Music, Art, Drama, Dance) Music Trail. Council also unanimously approved the appointment of Mark Chickering and Mark Mohr to the Planning Commission with terms expiring August 31, 2027 and Jennifer Haunert, Karen Farmer, William C. R. Major, and Lisa Long to the Historic Landmarks Commission with terms to expire August 31, 2027.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ethel Jones of Bloomsbury Circle spoke regarding her concerns of Utility bill increases and requested an explanation of why her sewer and water bill was so high.



Public Hearing

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, voted unanimously to enter into a public hearing to receive public comments regarding a combined public hearing regarding an application to be submitted to the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Grants Administration for a Community Development Block Grant.

Sylvia Frierson, Santee Lynches Regional Council of Governments spoke regarding the joint efforts of the City of Camden and Kershaw County commitment to pursue CDBG Community Enrichment grant for \$500,000 for a low Hose Pumper Fire Truck for the City of Camden.

After hearing no further comments from the public and discussion; Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, voted unanimously to close the public hearing

Ordinance 2023-025 1st Reading

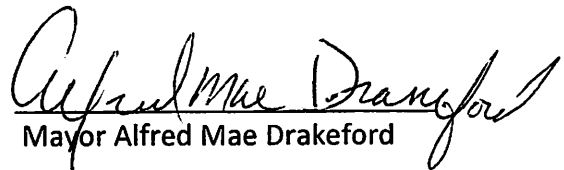
Council, on motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig, seconded by Councilmember Smoak, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance amending and restating certain provisions of Chapter 37.26 of the City of Camden's Code of Ordinances; and other matters related thereto – Retired Employee's Insurance Benefits.

Council/Staff Topics

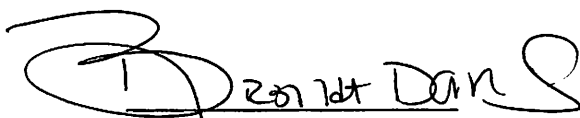
City Manager Jon Rorie gave an update on the activity on Rutledge and Fair Street / Nettles Building.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 5:55 pm.


Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:


Brenda Davis, City Clerk