



## CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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Tuesday, March 22, 2022

12:00 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

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### PRESENT

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

Interim City Manager Tom Couch  
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 Stephen R. Smoak 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 March 8, 2022. Councilmember Smoak abstained from voting due to his absence from the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### PUBLIC FORUM

Vaishali Maisuria 1011 W DeKalb Street spoke regarding her concerns of the property located at 1011 W. DeKalb Street. Mrs. Maisuria stated that she declines the letter sent to her in regards to zoning changes that relate to hotels and motels. She was in disagreement with the changes voiced her concerns of her business being possibly closed within next two years.

### PROCLAMATION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Davis, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to proclaim the month of APRIL 2022 as Military Child Month. Sara Jane Arnett along with her two sons Levi and James Arnett were in attendance to receive the proclamation.

#### **Levi Arnett age 10 spoke these kind words:**

“Good Afternoon Mayor Drakeford and City Councilmembers, My name is Levi Garland Arnett and I’ve been a military kid all my life. I was born in Virginia, lived in Texas, Michigan and South Carolina and I’m about to move overseas to Germany because my dad is a Solider.

Camden has been the best town we’ve ever lived in because everybody is so nice. Thank you for always supporting military kids and families. We appreciate you!



## **RETIREMENT RECOGNITION**

Council recognized Deputy Chief Phil Elliott, Fire Marshall with the City of Camden Fire Department upon his retirement by presenting him with a Certificate of Recognition and an engraved watch. Phil Elliott is retiring from the Camden Fire Department, with over 38 years of service.

## **PRESENTATION**

Buck Wilson, Midland Region Health Director along with the presence his colleges presented the Smoke Fee Palmetto Certification Recognition Award to the City of Camden and applauded the city for being the first in the midlands region in protecting the health of citizens.

## **ORDINANCE #2022-004 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance to amend certain provisions of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Camden, South Carolina, to authorize meetings to be held by telephonic or other electronic means, to make conforming changes to other provision of the city's Code of Ordinances, and matters related thereto.

## **ORDINANCE #2022-005 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, followed by comments from City Planner Shawn Putnam and a presentation by Attorney Scott Bergthold, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance re-zoning the properties located at 301-315 East DeKalb Street (Tax Map Numbers C285-09-00-049, C285-09-00-053, C285-09-00-048), 1002 Lyttleton Street (Tax Map Number C285-09-00-052), 305 Roscoe Ave (Tax Map Number C285-09-00-099), and 1011-1017 Fair Street (Tax Map Numbers C285-09-00-054, C285-09-00-051, C285-09-00-050) from Central Business District to General Business District. (Reference material: Presentation, and information made to Planning Commission; see thumb drive filed with minutes)

## **ORDINANCE #2022-006 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, followed by comments from City Planner Shawn Putnam and a presentation by Attorney Scott Bergthold, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance to amending the text of certain articles of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden; and other matters related thereto. (Amending Section 157.029, the Zoning District Table of Permitted Uses and amending section 157.193)

## **RESOLUTION #2002-009**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Craig, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve a resolution encouraging Equal Opportunity Housing and proclaiming April 2022 as Fair Housing Month.



**RESOLUTION #2002-010**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing consumption of beer and wine at Patrick Davis Concert.

**RESOLUTION #2002-011**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Davis, voted unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing consumption of beer and wine at Downtown Camden Free Concert Series.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:37 pm to discuss contractual matters related to economic development; negotiation incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property. *Discussion of potential real estate transactions negotiations involving city owned property.*

**REGULAR SESSION**

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Craig, unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Session at 5:02 pm.

**ACTION RELATING TO THE DISCUSSION OF CONTRACTUAL MATTERS RELATED TO REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.**

No Action Taken

**OTHER BUSINESS**

No other Business from Council.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 5:03 pm.

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Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

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City Clerk Brenda Davis