



CAMDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers-City Hall

PRESENT

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

City Manager Matt DeWitt
Assistant City Manager Caitlin Young
Attorney Lawrence Flynn (absent)
Chronicle-Independent Martin Cahn
and interested citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Joanna B. Craig called the Camden City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

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

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Council, on motion by Councilmember Boykin, seconded by Councilmember Graham, voted unanimously to approve the proposed agenda as presented for November 12, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded by Councilmember Boykin, voted unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes of November 12, 2024. Councilmember Graham abstained from voting due to his absence at the at the November 12, 2024 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Council recognized Captain Howard McCoy for his 25 years of service at the Camden Fire Department.

Camden Police Department were in attendance to reveal their new police uniforms.

CONSENT AGENDA –

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Boykin, voted unanimously to approve the following consent items:

- Reappoint Michael O. Edgings to the Parks and Trees Commission with term set to expire on May 31, 2028
- Resolution #2024-016 authorizing consumption and beer and wine at Silver Leaf Cigar Street Festival



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Danny Supplee spoke regarding his concerns on the ordinance as it relates to camping on property open to the public. Mr. Supplee seek clarification on section 2b and the penalties and ask is the ordinance a solution or not being it doesn't seem welcoming to everybody.

Whitney M. Dechant spoke regarding her concerns of the camping ordinance and question what will happen to homeless people when the ordinance is passed and how will decisions on the enforcement of the ordinance be carried out.

Lynne Canto spoke regarding the Camping Ordinance and suggest educating the public on homelessness as it relates to mental health services and resources for the homeless. Mrs. Canto also talked about and suggested changing city council meeting days/times so the meetings would not conflict with County Council meetings.

ORDINANCE #2024-020 2nd Reading

Council on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Boykin, followed by comments from council, voted unanimously to approve an ordinance amending the code of ordinance of the City of Camden, South Carolina as it relates to camping on property open to the public; and other matters relating thereto.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Smoak, seconded Councilmember Boykin, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 6:05 pm to receive legal advice, related to pending litigation as it relates to the department of planning, zoning, and development.

REGULAR SESSION

Council, on motion by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Boykin, unanimously agreed to re-enter Regular Session at 6:41 pm. No Action Taken.

Council/Staff Topics

Announcement of Councilmember Jeffrey Graham last meeting attendance.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:45 pm.

Mayor Alfred Mae Drakeford

Attest:

Brenda Davis, City Clerk