

Campobello Town Council Meeting

July 6, 2021

Minutes

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on July 6, 2021 in the Campobello Fire Department training room located at 50 Broad Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Philip Wilds at 6:59 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Don Cohenour, Jason Shamis, Reitha Stevenson and Alician Sprouse. Invocation was done by Mayor Philip Wilds, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Introduction of the Council Members took place immediately following the invocation.
3. Council Member Don Cohenour made a motion to accept the June 7, 2021 council meeting minutes, which were seconded by Council Member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.
4. Chief Chad McNeill reported that the Campobello Police Department had a total of 78 calls for the month of June. Mayor Wilds asked if anyone had any questions for the Chief. Council Member Cohenour mentioned that the stop sign at the Dog House restaurant was flattened. Chief McNeill stated that he was aware of it and of two other signs on Hwy 11 and Compton Bridge that were down. Those have been reported to the SCDOT, but that the holiday may have slowed them down. Also, Chief McNeill reported that the animal complaints received were that of bears and for residents to be aware that they are among us. Town resident Robert Short mentioned that Cane Creek suffered a power outage last week and didn't know if the Police department was aware when that happens. Chief McNeill responded that he did due to burglar alarms go off when the power goes off. He did state that if the power it off for any length of time, that the Fire Department and Police Department work together to get help to those who may be on oxygen and other types of emergency situations. Council Member Stevenson asked about the map that was mentioned by the Mayor in the previous council meeting. Chief McNeill stated that he had prepared the map pinpointing where the most calls were coming from, but that he did not have it with him. He confirmed that 75% of calls come from the Welcome Center off of I-26 and at the gas stations at Hwy 11 and I-26. He also confirmed that the call volume has increased and wasn't sure if that could be related to the Covid restrictions being lifted, allowing people to get out and about more. Mayor Wilds stated that he would like a few months' worth of maps pinpointing the calls and if need be, maybe an old patrol car could be placed at the gas stations in an effort to deter mischief.
5. Fire Chief McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 10 calls for the month of June. Mayor Wilds asked if anyone had any questions for the Fire Chief. None were asked.
6. Before moving on to old business, Mayor Wilds took a moment to remind everyone that questions about the items on the agenda would be asked to council first and then to the public. Also, anytime someone wanted to speak before council, a request could be made by completing a form at Town Hall. The form must be completed one week prior to the council meeting. It is his intent for meetings to run smoothly and to achieve that, there must be order and we simply can't allow everyone to speak out of turn. Further, in an effort to give the most correct and true answer, council needs time to investigate the question asked , which is why it is important to complete the form to speak before council.

7. Old Business-

- Mayor Wilds asked if council had come up with a date and time for their first work session to review and discuss the 2021-2022 budgets. Council and the Mayor all agreed that Saturday, July 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. worked with everyone schedule.
- A second reading of Ordinance 10.205- Health & Sanitation-Same. Notice to Remedy or Remove Condition, was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Jason Shamis and carried unanimous.
- A second reading of Ordinance 10.206-Health & Sanitation-Same. How Given and Ordinance was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Jason Shamis and carried unanimous
- A second reading of Ordinance 10.403 – Health & Sanitation – Notice to Remove was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Jason Shamis and carried unanimous

Mayor Wilds assured everyone that the changes in these Ordinances were not to hurt the community, but to help. These changes allow our Codes Enforcement Officer to be able to give notice to residents and business owners who have neglected their property, which only hurts the town.

8. New Business-

- Fire Chief Brandon McNeill asked council for permission to change the landscape of the entrance signs in Town. He would like to remove the shrubs and bushes and basically make it just grass so that it is easier to maintain. In the future, they would like to look into some type of lighting and possibly new signs. The signs have been the same for 15 years. Council member Cohenour mentioned that when the bushes get out of control, you cannot see the sign. Also that they are hard to maintain and attract yellow jackets nest. Chief McNeill stated that the project would start in the next several months when the temperature goes down. Mayor Wilds said that any change would be good. Council Member Shamis said that he would like to discuss options for the sign entrances at the next work session. Mayor Wilds asked for a motion to allow changes to be made to the town's entrance signs and landscape. Motion was made by Council Member Jason Shamis, which was seconded by council member Alician Sprouse and carried unanimous.
- Council Member Shamis brought up the need to review the Town's fee schedule and how the town needs to look at adding a grading fee and possibly increasing the other fees. Mayor Wilds asked that we find out what the surrounding towns have set as their fee schedule. Chief Chad McNeill said that they have already been working on gathering a list. Council Member Shamis asked that this be added to the work session agenda for the July 10, 2021 meeting.

- Clerk Hyder spoke regarding the need to open a new bank account for funds the town will receive through the Government. This plan was passed by Congress as the law known as the American Rescue Plan. This is a \$1.9 trillion relief bill that provides a total of \$65.1 billion is the nation's effort to help municipal governments recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding must be used in accordance with their guidelines, such helping maintain vital governmental services, infrastructure and replacing public-sector revenue losses. The Town of Campobello should start receiving its portion by the end of this year, therefore, a bank account for this money should be opened and a separate budget should be prepared for this money. Mayor Wilds asked if there was a motion to allow Clerk Hyder to open a bank account specifically for the American Rescue Plan funds. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour, which was seconded by council member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.

- Council Member Sprouse stated that there were two possibilities of 'Blessing Boxes' to be put up in town. This would be of no cost to the Town and the first one would be placed at the park. Hope Ministries would supply the box with food. Mayor Wilds asked who would monitor the box to make sure people didn't put old or opened food in it and that they didn't leave clothing or other items at the box. Also, would there be guidelines for people to read about what can and cannot be placed in the box. Council member Sprouse said that she would monitor it. Council Member Shamis said that a "food only" sign could be taped to the inside of the plexiglass door. Town Resident Beth Short asked how would be know if someone from outside of town took from it and could town residents make donations. Council Member Sprouse said that she would leave it up to people to do the right thing and that if they could live with it, then so could she. She also stated that she would be glad to take donations from anyone. Mayor Wilds asked for a motion to allow a Blessing Box to be placed in the park. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour, which was seconded by council member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.

- Council Member Sprouse spoke on Bethel Baptist Church wanting to use the park once a month to provide a hot meal and clothing to those in need. They would only need the park from 1p-2p. Also, if they use the park, would they be charged a fee for it. Mayor Wilds asked that this be put on the work session agenda for further discussion regarding charging a fee. Mayor Wilds asked if there was a motion to allow Bethel Baptist to use the park once a month. Motion was made by council member Don Cohenour, which was seconded by council member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous. Town Resident John Owenby commented that he has been placing a table in his yard full of veggies from his garden. These are free for anyone in the neighborhood and he will continue to do so until his garden stops producing. Many thanks were given to Mr. Owenby by council and the public.

- Council Member Sprouse requested that the park be sprayed for mosquitoes from April to October, as they were terrible at the last Recovery Campobello meeting. Mayor Wilds asked that this item be placed on the agenda for the next work session meeting.

- Council Member Sprouse mentioned that she had a few vendors wanting to set up a truck/trailer in town to sell merchandise and she wondered if there was any place for them to do so. They would purchase a business license. Police Chief McNeill mentioned that Patrick with the Dutch Plate was leasing the gravel lot on the corner of Caldwell and Hwy 176 and that he may be interested in allowing them to set up there.

- Council Member Sprouse thanked council and the town for allowing her to award scholarships to two very deserving ladies. First, she presented Gracianna Caulder with the “We Believe In You” \$1,000 scholarship with the hope that she will bloom into the artist she has always dreamed of. She will be pursuing a degree in Art at Converse College. Morgan Ford was awarded the “We Support You” \$1,000 scholarship to help towards obtaining her Bachelor’s Degree in Dental Hygiene at East Tennessee University.

9. Other Business-

- Council member Shamis had no updates from the Planning and Zoning Committee. To date, he has not received a return all from ACOG with a quote on how much it would cost to help update the planning and zoning ordinances. Town Resident Jeanne Rist asked what the purpose of Planning and Zoning Committee. Council Member Shamis said that the last time a plan was done for the town was in 2000 and it was not set up for any long-term planning. It needs to be updated as Campobello will only continue to grow. If we do not set things in place now, it would cause trouble in the future. Zoning ordinances are designed to help both residential and commercial.
- The Mayor asked if anyone had any new business for August and the following was brought to his attention:

Council Member Cohenour told of several LED lights in town that have turned blue, which is an indicator that they are going bad. Police Chief McNeill said that Duke Energy had been contacted about replacing them.

Town resident Owenby said that he would like to know an update on helping Past Prime Partners with their investment and in their securing the white house beside it. Mayor Wilds indicated that they knew what they were getting before they purchased the building and that the town had no sewer, so that would be up to them to research what they can do with their investment. Had it not been for COVID-19, he would have condemned the building last year. However, Mayor Wilds asked Mr. Owenby if he would be the liason between the Mayor’s office and Past Prime Partners in regards to sewer system. Mr. Owenby said he gladly accepted and is willing to participate and help in any way he can using his many years of experience in environmental waste water.

10. Adjourned- July 6, 2021 at 7:49 p.m.

With no further business presented, Mayor Wilds made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Alician Sprouse and carried unanimous.

Let it be known, there are times it may be necessary for the Council Members to enter an executive meeting.

Town of Campobello Council Meeting minutes recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 6th day of July, 2021.

Town Council Meeting – Work Session
July 10, 2021
Minutes

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on July 10, 2021 in the Campobello Fire Department Training Room. The meeting was called to order by Council Member Jason Shamis at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Council Members, Don Cohenour, Reitha Stevenson, Alican Sprouse and Jason Shamis.

2. Also in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill.

3. **New Business-**
 - A review of the 2021-2022 budgets were done and revisions/additions were proposed in the following areas:
 - Clerk’s hourly rate
 - Raises for Police Dept.
 - Mulch for Gosnell Park
 - Fuel for Police Department
 - Roads and Bridges
 - Discussion of using Mosquito Joes to treat the Park.
 - Discussion of sidewalks and having to contact the SCDOT for repair.
 - Discussion of property for new Town Hall/Police Department
 - Another work session date will be discussed at the next Town Council Meeting in August

4. **Adjourned July 10, 2021 at 10:45 a.m.**

With no further business presented, Council Member Don Cohenour made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.

Let it be known, there are times it may be necessary for the Council Members to enter an executive meeting directly following adjournment of business meeting.

Town of Campobello Council Meeting minutes recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 10th day of July, 2021.