

Town Council Meeting
Work Session January 3, 2022
Minutes

1. The Campobello Town Council had a Work Session meeting which was held on January 2, 2022 in the Day Room at the Fire Department located at 50 Broad Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Alican Sprouse, Reitha Stevenson and Aaron Ash.
2. Also in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill.
3. **Old Business-**
 - Council was asked if there were any problems or questions about the council meeting minutes of December 16, 2021 and the work session minutes from December 16, 2021. No comment or questions were made.
 - Hiring a new CPA firm to handle the Town's future audits was discussed. The Town's current CPA, Elliott & Painter did say they gave the town a 30% discount on the last audit performed, bringing the total down to \$18,000. The Municipal Association recommended contacting McKinley, Cooper & Co., out of Greenville. Their fee for the work was \$10,500. Mayor Shamis would like to put this to a vote tonight.
 - Repairs to Old Asheville Hwy. have been brought to Josiah Magnuson's attention and he said that he could get us some money to help fix it. Chief McNeill has received 1 of the 3 quotes for the repairs. The current quote is for \$70,000 to pave a portion of Old Asheville Hwy and help with the water issues.
 - There is no update to be given on the road fee money that Spartanburg County is holding.
 - Mayor Shamis would like to vote in tonight's council meeting on moving forward with new entrance signs for the Town.
 - A lighting survey has been performed by most of council. It is said that Hwy 357 has some dark areas, as well as Cantrell St, Montgomery and Depot Street. A suggestion was given for council to consider voting for 15 new lights to be placed in town so long as we do not have to pay an installation fee.
 - Monthly events for the Town are being discussed. There is talk of a plan to have a monthly or quarterly 'trash pickup day' for the community to come together.
 - Grants are a huge help for the Town, especially Gosnell Park. It is beneficial when writing a grant to have the support of our house representative and senator.

4. New Business-

- Some residents and non-residents have complained about the condition of our sidewalks. It was brought up that there are some bad spots in front of First Baptist Church on Main, regarding overgrowth of trees. Some of our sidewalks are uneven. However, they are not in bad enough shape, according to the State, to need replacing.
- It was discussed that we need more programs to get our youth involved. It was proposed that we do the same as Inman does with its youth programs.

5. Other Business

- The Town of Campobello wishes to annex some property that is in the Landrum's Fire District. It has been made aware that Landrum is not ok with this and wishes for Campobello to cease all annexations regarding land in Landrum. Mayor Briggs contacted Mayor Shamis asking him not to do this. Landrum doesn't want growth, but doesn't want any neighboring towns to grow either. Chief Chad McNeill met with the builders interested in annexing their land into the Town of Campobello and they are wanting to build homes and a strip mall. Even though it is in Landrum's Fire District, the jurisdictional lines do not matter if a land owner wants to be 100% annexed into a city.

6. Adjourned January 3, 2022 at 6:59 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Ash made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Sprouse 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 3rd day of January, 2022.

Campobello Town Council Meeting

January 3, 2022

Minutes

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on January 3, 2022 in the Campobello Fire Department training room located at 50 Broad Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Aaron Ash, Alician Sprouse and Reitha Stevenson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
2. Mayor Shamis asked if council had reviewed the minutes of the prior meeting and asked for a Motion to accept them. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to accept the December 6, 2021 Council Meeting minutes and the December 16, 2021 work session minutes, which were seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimous.
3. Police Chief Chad McNeill reported that the Campobello Police Department had a total of 100 calls for the month of December. He mentioned that there were a couple of break-ins and that several were arrested. Mayor Shamis asked if they were in the act of breaking in and Chief McNeill said that two were. Council Member Sprouse asked where the break-ins occurred and Chief McNeill answered (2) on Pine Street Ext. and (1) on N. Main Street near the Dog House Restaurant. They also happened at night. Mayor Shamis asked about the wrecks and where they occurred. Chief McNeill said there were 9 total wrecks and that three were on I-26 involving tractor trailers in the daytime. None were on Hwy 11 bridge. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any questions for Police Chief McNeill. No further questions were asked. Mayor Shamis said he would touch on the lighting issue further into the meeting, but that this was a good reason why he wants to get more lighting for the town.
4. Fire Chief Brandon McNeill reported for Fire Chief Brandon McNeill that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 23 calls for the month of December. Mayor Shamis asked if he had any installs for smoke detectors over the month of December. Chief McNeill said he did have two on Blue Ridge Circle. One came from our Facebook post and one from a medical call wherein the guys do an assessment when on scene to see if there are smoke detectors in the home. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any questions for Fire Chief McNeill. No further questions were asked.
5. **Old Business-**
 - Mayor Shamis spoke of how our current CPA perform an audit for this on fiscal year ending 2020 and gave us a 30% discounted rate and it still cost about \$18,000. After receiving a recommendation from the SC Municipal Association, Mayor Shamis decided to check with another accounting firm to find out their cost to handle our audits. They quoted a fee of \$10,500. Since that is quite a savings, Mayor Shamis asked for a Motion to change CPAs and hire McKinley, Cooper & Co., to handle our future audits. Motion was made by council member Ash to switch CPA firms and hire McKinley, Cooper & Co., which was seconded by council member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
 - Mayor Shamis mentioned getting lighting for the entrance signs for the Town. One meter has already been installed and is up and running. Chief McNeill said that the other one just needs

to be bought and Duke Energy contacted to come and put it in. Hope to have that done by the end of next month.

- The pothole on Cantrell Street is awful and getting worse, as is repairs on Old Asheville hwy. Rep. Magnuson said he can help us get money to get Old Asheville Hwy fixed as of right now it is a one-way street because it is not wide enough to pass another vehicle. Also, this money would help in getting Cantrell repaved where the pothole is so bad. Town Resident R. Short asked to back up to the lighting issue and asked if we were getting a source of power being installed at the signs. Mayor Shamis responded in the affirmative. Mayor Shamis asked if there were any questions regarding the road issues. Council member Ash asked if the quotes include a way to keep the pothole from reoccurring. Chief McNeill answered that Cantrell would have to be cut out and repave it because it got water and ice in it last year causing it to crack, when it should have been fixed by the County to start with. The more people drive on in the more it will tear up. Town resident Peeler asked if the Town would save money if the town added a three-foot strip on the left side of Old Asheville hwy. going down to the second entrance and not repaving the entire road? Chief McNeill said to let everyone know, they went and looked at it and it is 20 foot next to the ballfield. The paving companies have recommended that 20 feet be extended all the way down to Roy Hall Way (the second entrance) and fall back off the rest of the way towards the bottom back to 16 foot. They are also going clean out the gullies and fix the shoulders. Mayor Shamis added that when the road was paved by the County that they didn't pave it to the right width that it originally was. Chief McNeill found that the road was originally 20 foot, but the County put dirt over some of the road and paved it to be only 16 foot. Town resident Peeler said that the second entrance is Cane Creek Way. Town resident B. Short asked if the place that is was going to become Vanderbilt Crossing was still in the process of getting ready to build. Mayor Shamis said that plans had changed and that the entire property was up for sale again. Town resident Peeler asked who monitors the road past Landrum High School because the road is awful. Chief McNeill said it would be the state and that we have reported it to them. Mayor Shamis said it is so frustrating to know that Spartanburg County charged people this road fee and that it can't be used to fix our roads. He feels as if the road fee money is a lost cause because he cannot get an answer from anyone with the County. Even legislators have said good luck in getting an answer. Spartanburg County has their own way of doing things. Mayor Shamis doesn't know what that means, but it certainly is not helping us.
- Mayor Shamis is very focused on the audit for 2021 and saving money to get it done because he wants to use the money saved on two new signs for the entrances of town. Let's make it where people know what town they've enter instead of some dark hole. He received a quote from Nichols of \$4,800 for both signs. It would be made out of composite wood, the same kind of sign outside of the Fire Dept. Town resident R. Short asked what their guarantee was regarding material and such. Mayor Shamis said he would check on that. Mr. Short also asked if that were the only quote he got and Mayor Shamis answered in the affirmative. Council Member Stevenson suggested that another quote be done. Mr. Short also said he had been in contact with a company in Greenville who did the original Cane Creek sign and he said the lady is sharp as a tack and is still in business. The letters for the sign are anodized aluminum and have lasted a long time. He will give Mayor Shamis the contact information for this company. The Cane Creek signs are still in really good shape. Mayor Shamis said that we have an idea of what the sign will hang on and doesn't want to hold up the process any longer and

would like to get approval to start on the part of the sign that the sign would hang on. Council member Stevenson asked how much that would cost. Mayor Shamis answered \$1,000. Town resident Owenby said that he would like to see the digital sign in front of Town Hall to work again and said it would help notify people of upcoming meetings and events. He mentioned the digital sign at Foothills Used Cars and Chief McNeill said he was out of town and didn't get to post about tonight's meeting on the digital sign. Motion was made by Council Member Stevenson to proceed with the building of the base for the signs with a budget of \$1,000, which was seconded by Council Member Ash, and carried unanimous.

- With regards to the lighting survey update, council went through the town and saw where some areas need some extra lighting. They came up with 2 on Cantrell, 2 on Old Asheville, 1 on corner of Depot and Montgomery and one at Fire Station #3 on Hwy 357. He proposed that we add at least 15 new lights with the exception that Duke Energy would not charge us an installation fee for each light. Town resident R. Short asked if the issue with the defective LEDs was solved and Mayor Shamis answered in the affirmative. Town resident Peeler asked if the police chief knew if the darkness at Hwy. 11 and I-26 contributes to the wrecks there? Chief McNeill said that what occurs is people in a smaller vehicle cannot see over the guardrail until they are right up on you. Of course, lights would not make it worse. R. Short said the California Ave. Bridge is very nice with its lighting. Mayor Shamis asked out of all the accidents we've had, what is the percentage of wrecks that happen on Hwy 11 bridge. Chief McNeill said he would have to research that to get an accurate percentage, but Fire Chief McNeill said it would probably be 12 to 13 percent of the wrecks they work. Town resident Peeler asked if a traffic light would not solve all of our problems with the Hwy 11 bridge and Chief McNeill said it would but according to the State, not enough people have been killed there for them to put up a light. Maybe if pressure is put on the right person, we might get a light. Motion was made by Council Member Sprouse to proceed with getting at least 15 new street lights put up so long as we don't have to pay an installation fee, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
- There were no updates on the condemned homes in Town, but Chief McNeill said our Codes Enforcement officer would be out and about. Mayor Shamis said we need to make an effort to get our town cleaned up and that the Town is willing to help. Plus, the Town needs to also take care of what we have as an example to everyone. All we ask is that people don't bury their head in the sand and hope that the mess will go away. We will help if people need help. Town resident J. Rist asked if the holes in the buildings would be taken care of too, because the cats are back and that she's seen 4 or more cats back. Town Clerk Hyder said that we only have two cats that we are responsible for because one has only one eye and the other is a black and white cat, both who have been spayed. Ms. Rist said that she has noticed groundhogs in the house next to her. Mayor Shamis said that the Town works with Paws, Prayers and Promises to help with our feral cat issue in the past.
- Council Member Sprouse spoke about a trash pickup day for the town and how it is always a good date. We can do weekends sometimes and weekdays. She asked the crowd what would work for them? Ms. Rist asked if that meant the town would pick up items for its residents and council member Sprouse answered that this would be for the community to get involved and help pick up trash. Mayor Shamis suggested that maybe we start a movie night in the park once we get it cleaned up. Town resident asked if there was a place to take stuff other than trash that is in Campobello. The recycling center does not have a place for trash such as

mattresses and tvs, but the County may have options for people to take such items. Town resident Owenby asked what the frequency would be for the trash pick up day and Council Member Sprouse said that quarterly would be great.

- At this time there is no update on the Hwy 11/Asheville Hwy median, but we do need to figure out something to make it look nice, whether that be painting it. It will remain on Old business so that we don't forget about it. Town resident Owenby asked if there was a chance to get an organization to take on the project like Spartanburg has pride spots. Mayor Shamis said that a couple of businesses contacted him when they were out there cleaning up the town prior to the Christmas parade to say that they would love to help and get involved.
- Chief McNeill said that he has just finished up a federal grant to get a \$25,000 grant for radios for the police department. The department should be good to go with the exception of a few car radios but they have a few years before those would need to be updated. We are not complaint with 2025 mandate. As far as the park, he will work with Council Member Stevenson to get a grant for fixing up our park. We need to get an idea of how we want to update our park, such as an extra set of bathrooms to help during events such as Family Fun Day. Mayor Shamis challenged everyone to look for grants and said that we shouldn't only rely on our police and fire chiefs to carry the load. Chief McNeill said there are all kinds of grants out there, but you have to have a plan, being 'shovel ready' to get funding. Mr. Owenby said it is probably too early to apply for a grant for sewer but we need to get a sewer service plan in place for when we are ready to apply for sewer grants. Mayor Shamis did reach out to ACOG regarding an engineer to help us get a sewer plan together. Mr. Owenby asked if we would ever get propane services here and Mayor Shamis said that we probably would wait and get that at the same time as sewer because of the expense and that way when they dig for lines for both it would be at the same time. Propane services would also want to know how many residents would sign up first to see if there is enough interest.

6. New Business-

- Mayor Shamis said that since he's been on council that he has heard how terrible our sidewalks are. He sees that they need to be cleaned up, but not that they need replacing.
- Council Member Ash mentioned that Inman has a youth council that is tied in with Chapman. We hope to get involved with Landrum High and piggy back off of what Inman is doing to get our youth involved in government. He mentioned that Council Member Sprouse has been tied in with youth for a long time. Mayor Shamis mentioned being interviewed by children at Campobello-Gramling and he was impressed by the questions they ask which were what does the Mayor make to what are we going to do about our park. Some of their biggest concerns were roads and our park.
- Mayor Shamis said that if you go onto Google maps and look at all the little rivers from NC and that they flow down to Campobello to the South Pacolet River. We need to get trees out of the river before they block the flow more and destroy our land. Chief McNeill mentioned that he had he and the Town Clerk spoke with the Floodwater Management division back in early December and she said that there is money out there and trying to help us get some of

that, but most of the money goes to places that are under a State of Emergency and we haven't had that in a long time. Also, our bridges are supposed to get inspected every two years.

7. Other Business-

- As for planning and zoning, Council Member Ash reported that we are still working with ACOG to get our codes up to date. We are looking at a May/June timeline to be finished.
- A first reading of Annexation Ordinance 5.823 was done by Mayor Shamis. This Annexation Ordinance would bring Ingleside Baptist Church and property of Tyger Oak, LLC and Terry Williams into the town limits. Mayor Shamis said that anything that can be brought into the town's limits is great. Chief McNeill said that due to future growth, these properties wanted to come into the city just so we can help them with any issues that may arise in the future. Motion was made by council member Ash to accept the first reading of Annexation Ordinance 5.823, which was seconded by council member Stevenson and carried unanimous. A second reading will need to be done 10 days after today. Therefore, Mayor Shamis asked if there was a motion to set up the special meeting to get this second reading done. Motion was made by council member Stevenson to set up a special council meeting for January 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimous.
- Town resident Rist asked if in regards to community events if they have ever considered a town yard sale event where it is held on one weekend. Mayor Shamis said that was a good idea and whatever event we have we want to be consistent. We will certainly put that on the agenda to discuss.
- Town resident Peeler asked if the traffic light for Exit 5 at Hwy 11 could be revisited. How many people have to die in order for them to get a light installed? Mayor Shamis said he would follow-up with Josiah regarding this.

8. Adjourned- January 3, 2022 at 8:25 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Sprouse made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Stevenson 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 3rd day of January, 2022.

**Town of Campobello
Special Council Meeting
January 13, 2022 @ 6:30p
Minutes**

1. The Campobello Town Council had a Special meeting which was held on January 13, 2022 in the Day Room at the Fire Department located at 50 Broad Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Alican Sprouse, Reitha Stevenson and Aaron Ash.
2. Also in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill and Fire Chief, Brandon McNeill.
3. **Old Business-**
 - Mayor Shamis proceeded with the second reading of Annexation Ordinance 5.823. He asked if anyone had any questions about the Ordinance and none were asked. Motion was then made by Council Member Stevenson to accept the second reading of Annexation Ordinance 5.823, which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimous.
4. **New Business-**
 - A first reading of Ordinance 2.224 – Remote Meeting Policy – was done by Mayor Shamis. It was asked if anyone had any questions. None were asked. Motion was then made by Council Member Ash to accept the second reading of Ordinance 2.224 – Remote Meeting Policy, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
5. **Other Business**
 - Police Chief McNeill spoke about the excessive amount of paper being used to produce agendas and minutes for the council meetings and provided a means to eliminate some of that. He proposed that laptops be purchased from Computer Source for council to be able to look at agendas, minutes and other necessary documents for the council meetings, instead of being provided a hard copy. The computers would cost around \$250 each and be supplied with memory and programs needed. Mayor Shamis commented that we have needed these for a while. Fire Chief McNeill asked if the laptops would have cameras that would be necessary for virtual meetings. Police Chief McNeill answered that he believes they did, but that he would make sure. Mayor Shamis stated that the agenda and minutes would be posted to the tv screen behind council for the public to view, but that we would still have a few hard copies for those wanting them. He also asked where the money to pay for computers would come from. Police Chief McNeill said the Hospitality account. Mayor Shamis then asked council if they were prepared to vote on this matter or would they like to add it to February’s agenda for further discussion. Council Member Stevenson said that she would like it added to February’s agenda.
 - Council Member Stevenson asked Police Chief McNeill for an update on any grants for Gosnell Park. Chief McNeill said that they have found a grant but that it won’t be available until later in the year.

Also, there is a grant through Mary Black that he will be getting more information for February's council meeting.

- Council Member Sprouse said that she would like to add to February's agenda the topic of the We Believe In You and We Support You \$1,000 scholarships that she does each year. Town Resident Peeler asked what those were about and Council Member Sprouse went on to explain that they are scholarships for those who are first in their family to go to college and for those who are wanting to return back to school to better themselves.
- Council Member Stevenson mentioned that the Spartanburg County Council meeting had been postponed for this month.
- Fire Chief McNeill made mention that the Campobello Fire and Police Departments feel as if they are prepared for the winter weather coming to the Upstate and that they are ready to help in anyway. Mayor Shamis expressed his desire to help anyone that needs warmth or food during the storm. Fire Chief McNeill said that the Fire department has plenty of showers for anyone in need of them who may be without water or power.
- Town resident Peeler asked for an update on a fence being put around Duke Energy's Substation. Mayor Shamis said that he did not have an update for that. However, Duke is working to get 13 new lights installed around the Town.
- Mayor Shamis mentioned that he has submitted all required documents and answers to Spartanburg County regarding the paving/repairing of Old Asheville Hwy. He was told that the County was having their meeting this Thursday, but he has not heard from anyone at this time. He believes that it will be spring or early summer before we see action taken. Mayor Shamis commended House Representative Josiah Magnuson for his involvement in the process and getting the town \$30,000 to go towards this project.

6. Adjourned January 13, 2022 at 6:48 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Sprouse 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 13th day of January, 2022.