

**TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO**  
**Public Hearing on April 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

- 1.** A Public Hearing was held on April 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Campobello Fire Department Bay Area where the CDC Guidelines were followed by sanitizing all tables and chairs, spacing seating 6 feet apart, face masks made available and hand sanitizer. Council Members present were Jason Shamis, Don Cohenour, Reitha Stevenson and Alician Sprouse.
- 2.** This hearing was scheduled to allow the public to bring forth any concerns or questions they may have about the moratorium which, if approved by council, would not allow multi-family homes or mobiles homes to be brought into the town for at least a year.
- 3.** No one appeared at the hearing to speak in opposition or support of the moratorium.
- 4.** The meeting was adjourned on April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Town of Campobello Public Hearing minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 5th day of April, 2021.

**Campobello Town Council Meeting**  
**April 5, 2021**  
**Minutes**

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on April 5, 2021 in the Campobello Fire Department Bay Area where the CDC Guidelines were followed by sanitizing all tables and chairs, spacing seating 6 feet apart, face masks made available and hand sanitizer. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Philip Wilds at 7:02 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Jason Shamis, Don Cohenour, Reitha Stevenson and Alician Sprouse. Invocation was done by Jason Shamis, 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 March 1, 2021 minutes, which were seconded by Council Member Jason Shamis and carried unanimous.
4. Police Chief McNeill reported that the Campobello Police Department had a total of 66 calls for the month of March.
5. Prior to hearing from the Fire Department regarding calls for the month, Mayor Wilds brought attention to the ribbon and hat placed in a chair in honor of fallen Fire Chief, Ed McNeill and asked that everyone please pause for a brief moment of silence on behalf of Chief McNeill. Afterwards, Brandon McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 16 calls for the month of March. Council Member Stevenson inquired as to what the response time is for the Campobello Fire Department. Brandon McNeill responded that he would need to do some research in order to provide a more accurate answer, but that in 2020 the response time was 7 minutes. Council Member Stevenson also asked if there were a response time requirement by the County. Brandon McNeill responded in the negative.
6. **Old Business-**
  - Mayor Wilds asked council if they had reviewed the estimates from Pickens Roofing at a cost of \$19,203.00 and Eubanks Roofing at a cost of \$6,800.00. Council Member Shamis explained that the difference in price had to do with one quote was given for the complete removal of the existing roof, while the other provided for a liner to be placed over the existing roof, leveling of roof to remove bubbles and dips and welding of all seams. Council Member Cohenour mentioned that if we are looking to build a new Town Hall anytime soon, then it would be unwise to spend nearly \$20,000 on the roof unless we plan on keeping the building and therefore believes that Eubanks Roofing would be the better choice. Council Member Cohenour asked if there were any guarantees and Council Member Shamis responded that Eubanks Roofing offered at 10-year workmanship guarantee. Council Member Stevenson asked if that covered materials to which Council Member Shamis said that it only covered workmanship and no materials. Motion was made by Council member Shamis to move forward and hire Eubanks Roofing to repair the roof, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.

## 7. **New Business-**

- Mayor Wilds made Motion and all approved for Council to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. No action was taken. After the Executive Session, Council reconvened and Motion was made by Council member Shamis to approve the Fire Department's part-time Firefighter positions, which was seconded by Council member Sprouse and carried unanimous. Afterwards, Mayor Wilds presented the proposal of Brandon McNeill becoming the Fire Chief for Campobello. Motion was made by Council Member Stevenson that Brandon McNeill be hired as the new Fire Chief for the Campobello Fire Department, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimous. The decision was met with applause by Council and all who were in attendance at the meeting.
  
- Next on the agenda was the proposed amendment to the Business License Ordinance 8.501.3. Mayor Wilds went on to read aloud the amendment, which explains that the State is mandating all cities and towns within South Carolina adopt a certain uniformed standard for business licenses. The first step is to adopt the statewide time-frame in which business licenses are valid, which will be May 1<sup>st</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion was made by Council Member Cohenour to accept the first reading of Business License Ordinance 8.501.3, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
  
- An update on each departments budget was provided to the Mayor and Council. Mayor Wilds asked Police Chief McNeill to elaborate on the Police Department's budget. Chief McNeill confirmed that they were in good shape for the remainder of the budget year and did not know of any large expenditures in the future, other than hiring a part-time officer. Council Member Shamis inquired about the shape of the police cars. Chief McNeill said that the cars were in ok condition, with the oldest car being a 2009 model. The vehicles are their largest expense, but the officers take care of their cars and the maintenance required. He did report that they would like to phase out the Dodge cars and stay with Chevrolet, as the Dodge cars are in constant need of repair. Council Member Stevenson asked about updates to body cams and laptops. Chief McNeill said that body cams are updated every two years. As far as laptops, he hopes to add two new laptops each year and sell the old laptops that crashed due to the Windows 10 update. He recently purchased two laptops so that every police car will have ability to print on scene reports. Council Member Stevenson asked if the funds were in the budget for this purchase and Chief McNeill answered in the affirmative. He did go on to say that Ipads had to be purchased due to no in-person contact in any Court proceedings due to Covid, which has hurt our Court fine income. The Ipads were paid for with a grant obtained by the Fire Department for communication equipment.
  
- Chief Brandon McNeill reported that he had reviewed the budget and that the only large expenditure he would have in the future would be the two part-time firefighter positions. However, once the positions are filled, we would have coverage Monday – Saturday, which is currently covered by volunteers. Mayor Wilds asked that the Fire Department budget be added to May's Agenda so that the new Fire Chief would have a chance to review it more in-depth.

- Mayor Wilds brought up the next item which is the remaining annual leave of former Fire Chief Ed McNeill. He had a total of 240 hours, of which 90 hours was paid out according to the Town's employee procedures. 150 hours are remaining and it was discussed that the remainder be paid to Shirley McNeill, widow of Ed McNeill, for his many years of dedication and service to the Town of Campobello. Motion was made by Council Member Cohenour that the remaining unused annual leave be paid to Shirley McNeill, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse, and carried unanimous.

## **8. Other Business-**

- Council Member Jason Shamis updated everyone regarding the Planning & Zoning Committee. The Committee has met twice and Council Member Shamis feels that the Town needs the protection that must come from having good planning and zoning ordinances in place. Therefore, he will be reaching out to the Appalachian Council of Government (ACOG) to request help with the ordinances and what that cost may be. Also, he would like a representative from ACOG to speak at the next Planning and Zoning Committee meeting, but feels it is best to hold off having the meetings until this can be scheduled.
- Council member Shamis spoke on the Moratorium Ordinance and how it will halt the building or bringing of multi-family homes and mobile homes into the town until we can get our ordinances updated. A public hearing was held at 6:30p on April 5, 2021 to hear any opposition or agreement on the moratorium. No one appeared to speak. Council Member Shamis then proceeded with the second reading of the proposed Moratorium Ordinance 5.111. Motion was made by Council member Cohenour to accept the second and final reading of the Moratorium Ordinance 5.111, which was seconded by Council member Shamis and carried unanimous.
- Council Member Cohenour expressed his despair in being able to stay on top of the many potholes in and around town. It is overwhelming as our road conditions are bad and continue to deteriorate. Council Member Shamis mentioned that Spartanburg County Rep. Magnuson has been in contact with SCDOT and even rode with them around parts of the county that had the worst of road conditions. Soon after, SCDOT worked to repair a large section of Hwy. 292. Police Chief McNeill confirmed that a large portion Asheville Hwy. in Inman had also been repaired. Mayor Wilds said that this is a statewide problem as he has encountered potholes so bad that they turn off a car's cruise control when hit.
- Mayor Wilds asked for Town Clerk Hyder to have the issue of park signs added to May's Agenda. She responded that we have the signs, but have not had a chance to get them into place. Police Chad McNeill said he would get those put up in the park in the very near future.
- Council member Stevenson asked Council Member Sprouse for an update on the Family Fun Day scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> and if there was anything anyone could help with. Council Member Sprouse welcomes whatever help anyone can provide or feel led to do. She confirmed that by May 1<sup>st</sup> we will have 70 vendors that have signed up for the event. She plans to extend it down Cantrell Street if needed and will have plenty of trash cans in place. Food vendors will be grouped together down Wheeler Street at the District Office. She plans to start lining the street with vendors in front of the Mayor's house all the way to the end of Lude Johnson at the SCDOT station. There will be law enforcement present, in and out of uniform. Fire Chief McNeill will

have a fire truck at the beginning of the event. Town resident Jeanne Rist asked if any of the proceeds would be going to first responders such as Landrum does. Council Member Sprouse responded that this is an event for Campobello to meet and get acquainted with what it has to offer and that there is no charge for the vendors to have a booth at the event.

- Council member Stevenson asked Council Member Sprouse for an update on the drug/alcohol awareness/prevention/support group. Council Member Sprouse responded that May 27<sup>th</sup> would be the date of the first meeting and already has speakers lined up for June and July dates. She hopes to hold the meetings at Gosnell Park, weather permitting, or in the Fire Department's Bay Area or training room. She has been in contact with a representative from Alcoholics Anonymous, FAVOR and will have also have a law enforcement officer speak on the matter. The start time of the meetings would be somewhere between 6:30pm – 6:45pm. She wanted to keep the meeting within the city limits so as to make it convenient for all. She plans to prepare a letter to the surrounding local churches to ask if they would like to donate any study Bibles.
- Council member Stevenson asked for an update on the PARDS grant that Ed McNeill had been working on. Police Chief McNeill said that he had helped him with the grant and that he was going to finish it out. Mayor Wilds asked that an update be given at May's council meeting.
- Council member Stevenson suggested that the town use the third Saturday of each month to give town residents a chance to bring any brush, dirt, bush clippings or grass to the gully located on the Smith Street property owned by the town in an effort to fill in the hole. Mayor Wilds asked that this be added to May's agenda in order to give council time to research SC law as he believes there is a law forbidding the disposal of debris according to DHEC rules.
- Mayor Wilds asked if anyone in attendance had any issues that they wish to present. Town resident John Owenby asked if there would be banners placed in town to advertise the Family Fun Day Event. Council Member Sprouse answered in the affirmative and even confirmed that signs, just like the ones placed around town at Christmas, would be placed at each entrance of town. Mr. Owenby also asked if any kind of write up would be done and put in the local newspapers. Council Member Sprouse said that an article would be sent to the Landrum News Leader to be ran two weeks prior to the event.
- Town resident Aaron Ash did express concern over drainage issues that Old Asheville Hwy residents are experiencing. The problem has gone from minor to major and has even resulted in the lose of a contract on a house in the Cane Creek neighborhood. His fellow neighbor is losing his front yard to the point of a septic tank is becoming unearthed. Mayor Wilds asked that this issue be added to May's agenda.
- Town resident Jeanne Rist is concerned about the feral cat population and how they are living in holes in the wall on the back side of the Dutch Plate and Police Department. According to Clerk Hyder, many of the cats have been taken to the Landrum Veterinary hospital to be spayed/neutered, but the number of cats continues to multiply. Mayor Wilds asked that this issue be added to May's agenda.

**9. Adjourned- April 5, 2021 at 8:05 p.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.

Town of Campobello Council Meeting minutes recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 5th day of April, 2021.