

Town Council Meeting – Work Session
March 7, 2022
Minutes

1. The Campobello Town Council had a Work Session meeting which was held on March 7, 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 6:33 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Alician Sprouse, Reitha Stevenson and Aaron Ash.
2. Also in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill.
3. **Old Business-**
 - Trash day was a success; over 90 bags of trash picked up throughout Town.
4. **New Business-**
 - None
5. **Other Business**
 - None
6. **Adjourned March 7, 2022 at 6:59 p.m.**

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 7th day of March, 2022.

Campobello Town Council Meeting

March 7, 2022

Minutes

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on March 7, 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. Council Members present were 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 Ash made a motion to accept the February 7, 2022 work session minutes, February 7, 2022 Council Meeting minutes and February 22, 2022 Public Hearing minutes which were seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
3. Mayor Shamis commented that he was very proud of the Campobello Fire and Police Department and while they have taken a beating in the past few months, they are resilient.
4. Police Chief Chad McNeill reported that the Campobello Police Department had a total of 118 calls for the month of February. Mayor Shamis asked if any of the 4 auto accidents happened at Hwy 11 near I-26. Chief McNeill responded that one did take place there, but the rest were at the intersection of Hwy. 11 and Hwy. 176. Mayor Shamis asked if the police department had to back up any other towns and Chief McNeill said yes that they backed up Inman a few times. Council Member Sprouse asked if there were any break-ins and Chief McNeill said yes, that they happened at the storage buildings on Hwy. 11; two subjects were charged. He went on to mention that having a camera system helps police with surprising the perpetrators as many are still at the scene of the crime since residents can be alerted without the perpetrator knowing. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any further questions for Police Chief McNeill. No further questions were asked.
5. Fire Chief Brandon McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 12 calls for the month of February. Mayor Shamis asked if the Fire Department backs up any other fire districts. Chief McNeill mentioned the mutual aid agreement with every surrounding fire district. We share resources. If we did not, we could not afford the insurance. Mutual aid helps our ISO rating which is what the insurance company uses to rate our manpower and equipment. Our grade right now is a 3 and the best you can have is a 1. For a long time, the City of Charleston was the only 1 in the State, but due to mutual aid this has helped other fire districts with their rating. Council member Ash asked if the fire department does any fire training. Chief McNeill said they actually provided training to 700 students last year. This year they will provide fire extinguisher training for the teachers at various schools. Town resident Wade Peeler asked how many fire stations Campobello has. Chief McNeill said that we have three, one at Walnut Hill Road, Hwy 357 and the main station on Broad Street. Council member Stevenson asked how often does the ISO review our rating? Chief McNeill said every three to five years. Council Member Stevenson asked if they gave any recommendations and Chief McNeill answered that the only thing that could help us is updating/replacing equipment and trucks. Our oldest truck is a 2002, which will be harder to get parts for as it gets older. Our major focus is manpower and phasing out volunteers and get paid staff to cover. We average 6 ½ people per call. This includes volunteers. We do not have any paid full-time employees. All are part-time and most work for the police department as well. Town resident Peeler asked what percentage does the fire department get to cover the area. Chief McNeill answered that while he couldn't give an exact

percentage that last year's budget was around \$316,000 and \$48,600 of that comes from the Town. Our assessed value with the County actually went up \$20,000 this year. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any further questions for Fire Chief McNeill. No further questions were asked.

6. Executive Session

At 8:12 p.m. Mayor Shamis asked council if they could enter into executive session. Council Member Ash made a Motion to enter into executive session regarding legal issues, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson, and carried unanimous. At the conclusion of the executive session, it was announced that no action was taken.

7. Old Business-

- Council member Ash summarized his meeting with the PROWL ball team and how they want to help with the expense of replacing/updating the ballfield lights by doing fundraisers and such.
- The Old Asheville Hwy project is currently taking bids until March 17th. The pothole on Cantrell Street will get fixed towards the beginning of summer.
- Mayor Shamis has not heard anymore from Spartanburg County about the Road Fee funds. We have not been given a date of when we will receive those funds to the municipalities.
- Mayor Shamis met with the person making the sign and she has them in and is getting them painted. We are also waiting on the electrician to get lights installed at the entrance sign on Asheville Hwy so that all will be ready to go when we get the sign. We are looking to move the other sign on Hwy 11 closer to I-26 where the town limits start. We are waiting to hear from the Gramling family as far as permission to put the sign on a piece of land on Hwy 11 closer to Interstate 26.
- All agreements have been signed for the 13 new lights throughout Town. The lights should be done within the next two weeks.
- Chief McNeill has not been able to get a meeting together with the County about the process of condemning abandoned homes, specifically the one on Smith Street. He hopes to get this set up by end of this month or next.
- Council Member Sprouse said that in a little over 8 weeks we will have our Family Fun Day event, which will have over 70 vendors. She would like to block off Lanford Street up to Lude Johnson Blvd. She would like to put a car or tractor show on the corner of Hwy. 176 and Lanford St. Jason Shamis commended everyone on the successful Trash pickup day, picking up around 90 bags of litter. 25-30 people came out Saturday, some of those coming from Hub City Martial Arts. A couple of BETA club students from Landrum High School also came out to help.
- Mayor Shamis said that the median at Hwy 11/Asheville Hwy has been tabled for now due to many other projects going on and we do not know what plans the State has for the intersection.
- Chief McNeill gave an update on grants. He is in the process of getting an engineer to draw up plans for what we want to do with the park. We also need to revisit the park agreement with the School

District to see if it can be extended, as we would want to implement our plan in phases over a few years.

- Council member Ash spoke on plans to get a Youth Council started and has reached out to principal Darby at Campobello-Gramling School, who was excited and willing to get involved. This would give students a way to get active in government.
- Mayor Shamis is still working with SCDOT to find out what they will help with and what we will have to do to repair places in the rock wall. His concern is that the rock wall will give way, causing the sidewalks to crumble as well.
- Town resident, John Owenby, gave an update on what he has found out about sewer for Campobello. He started off with a spreadsheet he made to calculate the number of gallons per day that we would have to send to be treated. This is an important number if we plan to have sewer service and we would need that number when sitting down with another town to ask them to consider taking on the treatment of our sewer water. He has also met with Lee Inman, who is over the sewer system for City of Inman and James Tapp who is on the planning committee for Inman. They are planning now for the numerous developments coming to Inman. They have \$13.9 million appropriated to expand their sewer system which tells us that we are decades behind in getting sewer. Each house can use 300 gallons a day. Multiple that by the number of houses and it will give you a good figure on how much sewer we will use. We can get a group together to go out and count houses, even the ones that are not going to tap on to sewer, so that you have a plan of how much waste water will be accumulated. We also need to know how many commercial businesses we have as they are allowed 100 gallons a day, 3 gallons per employee. When we have a complete number of gallons, then we can go to the neighboring towns to find out if they would be interested in treating our waste water. Town resident, Wade Peeler, asked how do you plan for the future? Mr. Owenby said that first of all the spreadsheet needed to be completed. He also plans to continue meeting with Inman in the future to find out what they are doing. Lee Inman is very good at his job and not only has Inman under his wing, but also Chesnee. He said he would be glad to come to one of our meetings and talk about sewer. Mayor Shamis added that things are getting more expensive and we are trying to make sure that we can create a town where we can spread those expenses across the town and not just on the backs of the residents. Sewer takes time, but we've got to do it. Town resident, Skuba asked who bears the expense of this. Mayor Shamis said that grants would have to be looked into. Mr. Owenby said you have to have a plan in order to get funding. Town resident, W. Peeler, said that Landrum sold their sewer and water to Spartanburg Water and they do not have a treatment system. We already have sewer in our town as it runs in front of Landrum High School.

8. New Business-

- Police Chief McNeill petitioned council to allow him to purchase two new Tahoes for the police department to replace the oldest Tahoes in the fleet. At this time, there is a shortage of new vehicles and if we wait, we could miss out. Mayor Shamis asked for a Motion to allow the Police Department to pay off two vehicles and purchase two new Tahoes. Council Member Ash made a motion to allow the Police Department to pay off two vehicles and purchase two new Tahoes, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimous.
- Fire Chief McNeill petitioned council to allow him to purchase one new Tahoe for the Fire department to replace their existing command/medical/run around vehicle. It is in the budget to be able to do so.

Mayor Shamis asked for a Motion to allow the Fire Department to purchase one new Tahoe. Council Member Ash made a motion to allow the Fire Department to purchase one new Tahoe, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimous.

- Mayor Shamis met with Duke Energy representative, Linda Hammond, regarding our service agreement with Duke Energy which is set to be renewed every 10 years. He would like council to consider increasing the percentage or keeping it the same. This item will be added to April's agenda for discussion and possible vote.
- A first reading of Ordinance 8.501.4 – Amending the Business License Ordinance was summarized and read. This is to amend the rate schedule (A) and class schedule (B). Mayor Shamis asked for a Motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 8.501.4 – Amending the Business License Ordinance. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 8.501.4 – Amending the Business License Ordinance, which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimous.
- The issue of storage and emails was brought up by Mayor Shamis. We need our documents in a central location where they can be accessed easily. He spoke of Google Drive and how easy it is to maneuver. As for our emails, we need a more secure email than Gmail, which will make us more compliant with SLED. It will also allow us to cut off an email of an exiting employee so they will no longer have access to Town information. Our auditor also would prefer to be sent documents via upload to their website instead of physical documents. We have three quotes, one of which is from Pivotal IT who already handles our support. Their quote is for \$2,700 for 14 emails and 1TB of storage. Wix also provided a quote of \$2,696.40/yr with 5TB of storage. Google Drive would be \$1,172.52 for 14 emails and 1TB of storage. Mayor Shamis will have more updated quotes at the next council meeting but would like for council to think about going with one of these options.

9. Other Business-

- There is no update at this time from the Planning and Zoning Committee.
- Mr. Owenby suggested that we get an updated map of the Town and put it on the wall in the Fire Department's Training room which would be helpful when discussing items such as sewer and growth. Police Chad McNeill said that when we get an updated version of the map, we can carry it down to Inman who can help in getting it printed.
- Town resident R. Short asked if SCDOT were going to fix all of the potholes on Hwy. 11 as he is tired of dodging them. Mayor Shamis said that they have gotten worse since the snow storm.
- Town resident Mrs. Skuba said that she would like a left-hand turning arrow for the light at the intersection at Hwy 11 and 176. She comes up Hwy. 176 and has to turn left onto Hwy 11. Mayor Shamis said that SCDOT was looking into that but possibly had plans to put in a round-a-bout there. Town resident Peeler asked if SCDOT had a planning committee. Mayor Shamis answered in the affirmative. This is the reason why Mayor Shamis tabled the median issues at Hwy. 11 and 176 due to not knowing what SCDOT is going to do with the intersection and we don't want to waste time and money when they may be changing everything.

- Town resident Mrs. Skuba asked if we had ordinances for the new development coming. Mayor Shamis said that we have ordinance but it depends on where the property is annexed, whether it be in the Town or in the County.
- Town resident, Mrs. Skuba asked how we could get environmental control on homes that have abandoned cars on their property and spoke of the property up on the hill behind Big Glenn's. Mayor Shamis said that there is but that property is in the County. Chief Chad McNeill said that he has had a lot of people talk about how our town limits jump from property here and there, but states that they will close in at some point when all of the farm land around us sells. Growth is coming our way it's just a matter of when it will be. Town resident Peeler said that every town grows, it's just how you grow it.

10. Adjourned- March 7, 2022 at 9:18 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.

Town of Campobello Council Meeting minutes recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 7th day of March, 2022.