



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Work Session Minutes

December 2, 2024

1. The Work Session meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Shamis on December 2, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Aaron Ash, Reitha Stevenson, Alician Sprouse and Joe McDowell. Also in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill, Fire Chief Brandon McNeill and Town Admin Trey Eubanks.
2. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Council member Ash suggested that the Lions continue to use the field and keep the field in good condition, along with a local recreational association. This allows the field to be available for Town residents to use, tournaments to be scheduled and use for Town events. Council Member Stevenson said that there also needs to be an age limit on teams, so balls are not hit outside the park and potentially causing damage to property. The Prowl will be notified that the Town has decided to go another route. The Clerk will need to make sure all proper paperwork is completed and that each team provides insurance information.
 - Mayor Shamis proposes adding a vehicle usage section to the Employee Handbook. Town Administrator Eubanks came up with the section by contacting several different departments. He also mentioned that the Police and Fire Department each have their own vehicle use policy. Chief McNeill did mention that there needs to be a correction to the handbook regarding the SROs, as they should only receive 5 days of leave from the school district, along with any holidays, and should not accrue any additional leave time through the Town.
 - Intergovernmental Resolution 2024.01 summarizes that we will work together with the Town of Landrum and City of Inman.
3. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - The Town is seeking a termite bond. Ladybug Pest Solution was the last to submit a quote. The company would come once a year to check for termites and treat. If we do get termites, they pay out so much to exterminate them. Arrow Exterminator was the cheapest. Mayor Shamis mentioned that we need a moisture barrier under Town Hall.
 - Tree trimming quotes along with discussion of a bucket truck are tabled until January's meeting.
 - A Rails to Trails Committee is needed to keep everyone informed about the process and to help when issues arise. The storm did not help with the bridges that were already in need of repair. Council Member Sprouse asked about the Old Asheville Hwy bridge. Council Member Ash said that the bridge cannot be signed off on to be safe for even a pedestrian bridge at this point. Town Administrator Eubanks said that in his report to council includes an update from Laura Ringo which states that SC has received \$15 million from the State legislature, but are still short \$750,000 to meet the full cost of the trail for SC. NC is continuing to seek an additional \$4 million from their State legislatures. Police Chief McNeill said that the rumor is that the County will turn the trail over to each Town/City and we need to be prepared for what we may be responsible for, which is approximately 8 miles that is in the Campobello Fire

District. Town resident Katherine Williamson said she is on the Rails to Trails Committee and she read somewhere that in the first quarter of 2025, they will plan to remove the rails.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Council Member Sprouse questioned the Doubletree Hotel charge to the Visa. Police Chief McNeill said that was paid for so that our victims advocate could attend the week long annual SC Law Enforcement Victim Advocate Association meeting held in Myrtle Beach, SC.

5. ADJOURNED on December 2, 2024 at 6:59 p.m.

Town of Campobello Council Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder, on this 2nd day of December, 2024.



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Regular Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2024

1. The Council meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Shamis on December 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Aaron Ash, Reitha Stevenson, Alician Sprouse and Joe McDowell. Also, in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill, Fire Chief Brandon McNeill and Town Admin Trey Eubanks.
2. Council was introduced.
3. Mayor Shamis asked if Council had reviewed the November 4, 2024 work session minutes, November 4, 2024 council meeting minutes. Motion was made by Council Member McDowell to accept the November 4, 2024 work session minutes and November 4, 2024 council meeting minutes, as written, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and unanimously approved.
4. Mayor Shamis said we will have a big update on sewer. On December 11th, a meeting with all the legislators, both State and local, will be held at Old Mill Village. A plan will be presented and we will see who can help us get funding to get this done in three years. The meeting will not be open to the public, but a precise meeting to get the legislators on board. \$7 million is the amount that is needed. We will provide letters of recommendation from the school district. Our engineer will be present to speak on the feasibility study he provided. Town resident John Owenby came prepared to give a recommendation that we use the money given thus far or return it back to the State. Mayor Shamis assured everyone that we are not stopping with the plan for sewer. Town Administrator Eubanks said we plan to request more funds when the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority grant opens in April/May of next year, but we needed the financial feasibility study to do that. Council Member Stevenson asked if we were going to look at adding a natural gas line when we put in the sewer line. Mayor Shamis said that is not in the plan right now, but can be added for discussion.

Mayor Shamis presented a box of thank you letters that the Town received from the District One students for the work done by the Fire, Police and Town during Storm Helene.

In 2025, the Town will put in more work on the ballfield, sewer will continue to be sought after, a new municipal complex is a big discussion, as well as a grant for new sidewalks. Roads and bridges are a big need in Town. We are working with Rep. Magnuson to get funding.

5. Interim Town Administrator, Trey Eubanks, said there has been good discussion about participating in the SC Local Government Investment Pool and prior to Kim leaving, she was able to get the Town enrolled and we are now a part of LGIP. This is a safe way to get us some interest revenue. They do offer a quarterly newsletter if Council is interested. We also went ahead with getting fraud protection on our First Citizens accounts. Also, Trey will keep Council posted on any updates on the Rails to Trails. As for an update regarding reimbursement from FEMA regarding damage caused by Storm Helene, the Town is registered in the portal and awaiting instruction from FEMA as to the next steps. Trey mentioned the discussion of getting a feasibility study for a future

Municipal Complex. In October, we met with a firm that shared with us what that process would be. The next step would be for Council to begin looking for funding sources for this project. Mayor Shamis said he has been asked why we hired a Town Administrator. It goes along with continuity as all of Council have full-time jobs and need someone who can help bridge the gap between Council and each department.

Trey said he will be in the office on Friday, as he is meeting with a bond attorney to establish rates and the issuing of revenue bonds and learn more about those aspects of getting Campobello a sewer system.

Police Chief Chad McNeill reported the Police Department had a total of 85 calls for the month of November. Of those 5 were drug related with the drug involving marijuana. The SROs had 32 home visits. There were 75 traffic stops resulting in 40 tickets. Chief McNeill confirmed that the School District did approve two new SRO positions, one at Campobello-Gramling and the other at Landrum High. He is currently looking over applications taken in for the position. Council Member Ash asked if someone has been hired to replace one officer that is retiring after 28 years of service. Chief McNeill responded that he is also looking over applications for that position and setting up interviews. Mayor Shamis asked if any wrecks for the past month were at Hwy 11 and I-26 and Chief McNeill said yes but they were during the daytime. Council Member Sprouse asked if Council could obtain the names/addresses of any wellness checks done that month. Chief McNeill answered in the affirmative. Mayor Shamis asked if anyone in the Town needs heat. Chief McNeill said he is not sure if they need it now, but there was a family in need that has been taken care of by getting them in touch with someone who could provide the service. Council Member Stevenson asked about the toy drive. Chief McNeill said that it is going well and we are partnering with the school to help families. Mayor Shamis asked if Council had any further questions for the Police Department. No further questions were asked.

Fire Chief McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 30 calls for the month of November. Of those calls, 12 were inside the Town, 13 inside the fire district and 5 assisting other agencies. Fire Chief McNeill also mentioned receiving thank you cards from District One students, which are available for viewing. He also mentioned that the Public Safety Grant was received, as well as the UTVs although they are not fully equipped, but will have them on display when they are complete. They were used in the Christmas parade. Council Member Stevenson asked about the wrecks at Hwy 11 and interstate 26. Mayor Shamis did mention that the Town was not able to put up all the usual Christmas lighting throughout Town due to the lines being damaged during Storm Helene. Council Member Sprouse mentioned how great the Christmas parade turned out and Mayor Shamis added that the Police and Fire are responsible for getting that put together and that all he and Council do is show up to ride in the parade. He thanked them for their dedication. Mayor Shamis asked if the council had any further questions for the Fire Department. No further questions were asked.

6. Old Business-

- Council Member McDowell did not have any more to add to the sewer update that Mayor Shamis gave earlier. He said that Erik Horton did a great job on the feasibility study and the Town wants to continue to use Erik as a project manager since he has so much experience. Mr. Owenby asked if some of the funding for sewer would be selling municipal bonds. Town Administrator, Trey Eubanks, responded in the negative and said the Town would establish a sewer rate for Town residents who want to tie on to sewer. It is likely that one of the sources of funding will be a revenue bond which would be paid back. Mayor Shamis does not want to leave any funding source unturned so that all the work that has been done up to this point is not for nothing.

- Police Chief McNeill reported that Mr. Mock informed us that demolition of 105 N Main Street was to happen today, but Duke Energy had not cut the power off. Therefore, demolition will begin sometime this week. Town Administrator, Eubanks, said that Mr. Mock informed them that he has a septic and parking design that will allow for the number of shops and apartments he is wanting to do. Mayor Shamis asked about the house on Buena Vista. Chief McNeill said that no one is living there and that they are trying to find the person responsible for getting the property cleaned up.
- Police Chief McNeill reported the siding is being upgraded and repaired on the bathroom and pavilion. The ballfield will need to be leveled up, and teams need to know that will need to drag it after every use and that you need to start from the outside and move inward. The netting has been up since before Helene happened.
- Council Member Ash reported that neither the State nor County will sign off on opening the bridge on Old Asheville Hwy. even as a pedestrian bridge. We would need an independent engineering firm to look at the bridge at some point, but it is not a priority now.
- Grant update: Mayor Shamis said that all that has been used of the sewer funds is \$18,500.00 of the \$600,000. Police Chief McNeill said that only \$20,000 has been used out of the PARDS grant. Some of the Public Safety Grant funds have been used to update the two newer Tahoes for the two new SRO positions. Fire Chief McNeill said that he is still waiting for some extrication equipment to come in.
- Arrow Exterminators has been the cheapest quote for termite treatment. Motion was made by Council Member Ash to accept the lowest bid, which was from Arrow Exterminators, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously.

7. New Business-

- The addition of a vehicle usage policy and a correction to the SRO annual leave days has been proposed for the Employee Handbook. Motion was made by Council Member Sprouse to add the proposed vehicle use policy to the Employee Handbook, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously. Motion was made by Council Member Ash to remove the language “In addition to the above” from the portion dealing with SRO annual leave, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimously.
- Mayor Shamis read the Resolution Memorializing the Commitment to Intermunicipal Collaboration Between the Town of Campobello, City of Inman and City of Landrum (Resolution 2024.01). Motion was made by Council Member McDowell to adopt Resolution 2024.01 - Resolution Memorializing the Commitment to Intermunicipal Collaboration Between the Town of Campobello, City of Inman and City of Landrum, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimously.

8. Other Business

- Dawn Ford, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Committee, spoke on approval of building permits for 24 Lude Johnson Blvd. A December meeting may or may not happen as there are no action items on the agenda at this time. Member Rachel Wall will be coming off the committee and a recommendation for a replacement will be coming to Council in the coming month. Jeff with ACOG will help produce some procedures for us to use regarding members and the Committee. Katherine Williamson said that with the growth coming in, it is wise for the Committee to have

these procedures in place. Also, Dawn Ford hopes to get MPM Construction to speak at a future Council meeting as to what they plan to do with Emma Drive. The owners of two lots want to be able to build, but fire hydrants will need to be installed before permits can be issued. Vanderbilt Farms will receive a road sign as a request has been sent to the County.

- Town resident, John Owenby requested to speak but used that time to thank Council for allowing him to assist in the sewer project. Mayor Shamis said that only good things are to come.
 - Town resident, Leo Lopshire, requested to speak, but was not present at the meeting.
 - The New Town Hall Committee has nothing new to report.
9. Motion was made by Council member Sprouse to enter into Executive Session for discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a public body, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously. Council exited Executive Session with no action taken.
- Due to Police Chief Chad McNeill retiring, Motion was made by Council Member Ash to appoint Lt. Chris Miller as the acting Police Chief, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimously. Chad McNeill will continue to serve the Town as a volunteer.

10. Adjourned- December 2, 2024 at 9:08 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Sprouse made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously.

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

Town of Campobello Council Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder, on this 2nd day of December, 2024.