



# TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

## Council Meeting – Work Session Minutes

### January 2, 2024

1. The Work Session of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis on January 2, 2024 at 6:50 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson and Joe McDowell. Also in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill. Council Member Aaron Ash and Alician Sprouse were absent.
2. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - none
3. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - Council Member McDowell reiterated the need for signage on Asheville Hwy regarding children at play. This would be in an effort to slow people down for safety reasons. Watch for Children would be better wording for the signage. Two signs would be needed for both directions of traffic.
  - Council Member Sprouse was not present to speak about the FAVOR meetings.
4. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
  - Town resident J. Owenby spoke on the December minutes where he asked what the plans were for waste water treatment with the new Town Hall that will be built. He stated that it would be a shame to have a nice new Town Hall and not have the proper drainage because the current septic system could not handle it. Mayor Shamis said that Council Member McDowell has a meeting with an engineer on Tuesday and will bring this question up at that meeting. As for the new Town Hall, council is still trying to decide what they want to build back and the size.
5. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:59 p.m., the Work Session was adjourned by Mayor Shamis. Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.



# TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

## Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting

### January 2, 2024

1. The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis on January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Joe McDowell, Alician Sprouse (Via Facetime) and Aaron Ash (via Facetime). Also in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
2. Council was introduced.
3. Mayor Shamis asked if Council had reviewed the December 4, 2023 work session minutes and December 4, 2023 council meeting minutes. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to accept the December 4, 2023 work session minutes and the December 4, 2023 council meeting minutes as written, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously.
4. Mayor Shamis commented that the Town had a heck of a 2023 and are starting 2024 out with a bang, beginning with Town Hall and the Police Department having moved to 406 N. Main St., and the demolition of the old Town Hall set to begin soon.
5. Police Chief Chad McNeill reported the Police Department had a total of 65 calls for the month of December. Of those called, Chief McNeill stated that he had received 5 complaints of harassment on Mr. Dave Stoltzfus calling/talking to various Town residents and business owners about the Town and its Council. He is simply not happy with the offer that was made by the Town in regards to the sale of his properties. On another note, Chief McNeill asked for a credit card for Lt. Miller. The limit would be like the others at \$5,000. Council Member Stevenson asked if we need to set up accounts at different places to avoid this. Chief McNeill gave an example that if we set up an account with Good Year tire, then we are obligated to use them. The Police Department likes to shop around for the best deal on tires, whether that be Good Year, Dill's Tire or Nix Tire. Mayor Shamis went back to the harassment issue and asked what can be done about it. Chief McNeill said that Mr. Stoltzfus can be warned and then if it continues, he can be charged. Mayor Shamis understands that Mr. Stoltzfus can say whatever he wants, but to harass people is a different issue. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any further questions for the Police Department. No further questions were asked.
6. Fire Chief McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 32 calls for the month of December, which was one of their busier months. Their yearly total is more than 70 calls and knows that will only increase with people moving to the area. Fire Chief McNeill stated that they just sent a firefighter through school, Dylan Ballew, who will work with Campobello as a volunteer, as he took a fulltime job with Pelham Batesville FD. Mayor Shamis asked if council had any further questions for the Fire Department. No further questions were asked.
7. **Old Business-**

- Police Chief McNeill reported on behalf of Code Enforcement. Officer Godfrey will be meeting with Mr. Mock who owns 75% of 203 N Main Street, regarding his getting it cleaned up. Mr. Mock is still searching for the remaining owners of the property in order to purchase their interest.
- Mayor Shamis reported that we do not have any PARD money yet as far as Gosnell Park. Chief McNeill spoke on the tree trimming requested by the School District Office. They wanted more of the trees cut back before any bad weather. The three bids given were:

Motlow Creek                 \$4,800.00

Brown Tree Service         \$4,600.00

Shockley Tree Service     \$5,000.00

Chief McNeill said that he received a call that the County is now telling any rec ball teams that we have to allow them to play for free at our park since we are using PARD money which is given by the Spartanburg County. Of course, the Lions team takes precedence overall, but we were told we would be hearing from more teams from Landrum and Inman due to other fields around the County are full. Mayor Shamis asked for this to be added to February's agenda as his concern is the District Office may not be happy with how much the field is being used. As for the tree trimming, Chief McNeill said the job details are to trim the tree right behind home plate, along with several other large trees and for the low-lying limbs to be trimmed back at the ballfield closest to Lanford St. They also want trees trimmed at the Park. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to accept the lowest bid which is Brown's Tree Service, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously. The funds will come out of the hospitality account. Mayor Shamis asked if Wheeler Street had been relined and parking put into place by the District Office and Chief McNeill said they are taking care of it. They hope it will add up to 25 parking spaces. Council Member Stevenson was concerned that when there was a school board meeting, that having ball practice/games would overcrowd the lot not leaving enough room for those attending the Board meeting. Chief McNeill said we will mark off the second Monday of the month and that no one can use the field due to the District Office needing all available parking spaces for its meeting.

- As for the 'Watch for Children' signage, Motion was made by Council Member McDowell to purchase two signs that say Watch for Children to be erected near 411 N. Main Street, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously. Council Member Sprouse stated that we also need signs at Gosnell Park that say 'Park parking only, no personal parking'. Council was also in agreement with this.
- Council's discussion on ballfield rules and regulations will be tabled until February.
- In regards to a sewer update, Council Member McDowell has been in contact with Summit Engineering, WK Dickson and Alliance Consulting. He has meetings scheduled with Summit this week and with WK Dickson on Tuesday at 2:30p. Alliance Consulting has no availability in the near future. We are in the early stages and trying to get an idea of cost. Also, he did respond to the State appropriation regarding paperwork they needed for the \$600,000 grant. Town resident, J. Owenby stated that one of the best things to happen to the Town of Campobello last year was getting Senator Corbin involved to get us money for sewer. However, his concern is do we have a certain time to use the money or it goes back to the State? Council member McDowell has reached out to the State and was told that the money was allocated for us only. Mr. Owenby stated that he sent the same notes that were give to Mayor Shamis to Senator Corbin and Senator Corbin acted on them.

- The Town sign on Hwy 11 is up, meter installed and power is on. The only thing that remains to be done is the painting of the poles which Mayor Shamis said he would do. Mayor Shamis said he has the paint in his garage and he is waiting for the Christmas light displays to be removed before he begins to paint.
- Council Member Sprouse spoke that a FAVOR (Faces and Voices of Recovery) meeting, Hope and Healing tour, has been scheduled for January 23, 2023 at 6p to be held in the Fire Department's training room. This will educate the public on the FAVOR group. A flyer will be distributed to the City of Inman and City of Landrum. The flyer will also be posted to our town's Facebook.
- Baker Brothers donated the use of an inflatable movie screen, as long as we do not charge for an event when it is being used. The Town plans to have its first Movie Night in the Park beginning April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. No more than three food vendors will be needed. Fire Chief McNeill suggested that we could do a poll on Facebook to see what movie the public wants to see. This item will be added to February's agenda for council to come up with more dates to have more movie nights.

## **8. New Business-**

- Mayor Shamis stated that he needed to be taken off of the checking accounts as a signer and that Council Member Sprouse should be added. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to add Council Member Alician Sprouse as a signer to all bank accounts and to remove Mayor Jason Shamis as a signer on all bank accounts, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously.
- Clerk Hyder gave a brief summary on the FYE 2022 draft audit report by saying that the only thing the auditors bring up each year is that due to limited staffing there is no segregation of duties which means no one person has access to all phases of a transaction. They also note that this can't be helped and that Council should remain involved in the financial affairs, which they already do. Fire Chief McNeill asked if we could ask the auditor to come and explain their findings because there is a lot of information that is not understood. Mayor Shamis will contact them to see if they can come to February's meeting and asked for Clerk Hyder to add this to February's agenda.
- Council Member Sprouse had the business owner at 51 S. Main St., ask her about the possibility of a crosswalk and sidewalk to gain access from the post office to his shop, as he mails out a lot of car parts and accessories on a daily basis. Police Chief McNeill mentioned that he is looking into that and has applied for a grant to replace our sidewalks from the SC DOT shed to the Dog House on both sides of the road and replace the rock walls with solid concrete walls so there is less need for repair. He has a meeting with someone from DOT in January.

## **9. Other Business-**

- No one was present from the Planning and Zoning Committee to provide an update. However, they did not meet in November and December, as there was no new or old business to address. Council Member Sprouse asked if they would be invited to the sewer meeting on Tuesday. Mayor Shamis said that he would like to at least have Chairman Rick Sweeney present. Their next meeting is set for Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Owenby asked why there was no representative from the Planning and Zoning Committee present. Mayor Shamis said he would speak with them about that.

- There were no new updates from the Town Hall Building Committee other than Duke Energy, Windstream and ICWD have been contacted to remove their connection to the old Town Hall and Police Department so demolition can start.
- The subject of the need for a credit card was discussed and motion was made by Council Member Sprouse for Lt. Chris Miller of the Police Department to be issued a credit card from First Citizens with a \$5,000 credit limit, which was seconded by Council member Stevenson and carried unanimously.
- Council Member Stevenson asked if a work session would be scheduled for January to discuss the need for an additional park bathroom, fixing steps, adding handrails and any other additional items needed for the park. Mayor Shamis asked for this to be added to February's agenda to discuss scheduling a work session. He wants to make sure we still want to accept this PARD grant.
- Town resident L. Lopshire commended the Town on the Christmas lights throughout Town. Mayor Shamis asked the Town employees to think of what else we need for next year to add to the lights. Fire Chief McNeill said he will be coming before Council in the near future to ask for at least \$10,000 to put towards the purchase of more Christmas lighting. We have talked with businesses and churches about getting involved to add lighting on their property. Clerk Hyder mentioned that we plan to have the Christmas Lighting contest each year in hopes of getting the community involved to brighten up Campobello.

**10. Adjourned- January 2, 2024 at 7:53 p.m.**

With no further business presented, Council Member Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member McDowell 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 Meeting minutes recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.