



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Work Session Minutes

August 8, 2024

1. The Work Session meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis on August 8, 2024, at 6:45 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Joe McDowell, Aaron Ash and Alician Sprouse. Also in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

- Fire Chief McNeill asked Council to consider additional Christmas decoration/lighting to be funded through the Hospitality account. The company used last year is having a sale that ends August 18th. The sale offers 20% off the price and free shipping. The company is located in Nashville, TN and shipping alone is \$800. The request would be to purchase 8 items at a cost of around \$8,000.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- In reviewing the 2024-2025 budgets, Council Members Ash and Stevenson have concerns that only \$3,000 is set aside for road repair.

Council Member Stevenson asked how a 5% raise came about and said that we can't compare ourselves to other towns. She has done some research on Google and the most given now is 3.2%. Fire Chief McNeill said the 5% was discussed in a prior meeting. Police Chief McNeill said that we took an average of what was being given among law enforcement, which was 10%, and cut that in half. Clerk Hyder said she was asked to get numbers from other towns, which she did through Landrum and Inman. Council Member Stevenson made a proposal to cut raises by 1%, making it 4%, and moving that money to the road repair line item.

Council Member Stevenson asked about placing a heater in the park bathroom to keep the pipes from freezing during the winter months. Police Chief McNeill said that could be covered under the PARDS grant as addendums were made to the scope of work for the grant and can be funded through those funds.

Council Member Stevenson asked if our Victim Advocate was still contracted through the City of Inman. Police Chief McNeill said they are not contracting through Inman and Sheli Moravcik, a Campobello Reserve Officer, was interested in the position and was sent to training for it in April. She took over the position effective July 1, 2024.

Police Chief McNeill was asked to provide the length and width of Smith Street, which is 925 feet long and 8 feet wide. Council Member Ash said that every road in Town has been neglected with overgrown grass, signs down, potholes, etc. Council Member McDowell will be reaching out to find out how much we have in our CTC funds. Council Member Ash mentioned that Council needs to get with the Chiefs and find out what to do about maintaining these roads.

Rector Street is another road that needs repair as it is unsure a fire truck could go down the road. Town Administrator, Trey Eubanks, will work with Police Chief McNeill in identifying the worse roads and help in making a request for the C-funds with the State. Mayor Shamis said that we need to have confidence in the amount of money put aside for road repair, that it would be enough to handle the cost. Trey said that a lot of towns and cities get an engineering firm involved to look at the roads. He will work on what the cost would be to get them involved and report back to Council.

Council Member Stevenson asked about a line item for the spraying of mosquitoes. Clerk Hyder said those funds come out of Hospitality.

Council Member Ash asked how much money we have left over from the American Rescue Plans and Clerk Hyder answered that we have \$22,000. Ash proposes that those funds be moved to the road repair line item.

Council Member McDowell said that we need to look at cleaning up the island at the intersection of Hwy 11 and 176. Mayor Shamis asked Trey to look at funds for a beautification project for Main street.

- The Mayor and Council reviewed the Addendum to Add Council Member Coverage through PEBA and are not interested in insurance coverage through PEBA at this time.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

- None

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:02 p.m., the Work Session was adjourned. Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder, on this 8th day of August, 2024.



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting

August 8, 2024

1. The Council meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Shamis on August 8, 2024 at 7:02 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Joe McDowell and Alician Sprouse. Council Member Ash was absent. Also in attendance was Police Chief Chad McNeill and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill.
2. Council was introduced.
3. Mayor Shamis asked if Council had reviewed the July 1, 2024 work session minutes, July 1, 2024 council meeting minutes and July 18, 2024 Special Meeting minutes and July 18, 2024 Work Session minutes. Council Member Stevenson made a motion to accept the July 1, 2024 work session minutes, July 1, 2024 council meeting minutes and July 18, 2024 Special Meeting minutes and July 18, 2024 Work Session minutes as written, which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimously.
4. Mayor Shamis introduced John Kimbrell from OneSpartanburg. This is the new name for the Chamber of Commerce. Hope Howard from OneSpartanburg was also present. They focus on economic development and work closely with County Council. They do a lot of work on tourism for our area. They will bring a kiosk to be placed in Campobello which will offer information for new and existing businesses, as well as notify the residents of Campobello of the resources offered to help those wanting to return to school for a degree. Town resident, John Owenby asked how they get funding and Mr. Kimbrell responded through private investments.

Mayor Shamis reminded everyone of the Community presentation meeting about the Rails To Trails project which will be held August 13th 6:00p at Gramling Methodist Church. Also, he requested that everyone hold their questions until the end of the meeting. In the future, if residents have something specific to talk to Council about, he asks that a Request to Speak form be completed and submitted to Town Hall.

5. Interim Town Administrator, Trey Eubanks, introduced himself and gave a brief background on his career. He went on to talk about the proposed budgets and how the Chiefs and Clerk have done a great job. He did hope to be able to look over the 2023 audit, but that has not been completed even though Clerk Hyder provided documentation back in November of 2022. He will continue to reach out to them though the auditor has not answered his question regarding a completion date. Trey did ask for Council to consider setting a date for the second reading of the budget for sometime in mid-September. He then asked if Council had any questions regarding the budgets, but Council had none. Trey continued on with his next topic about a group (Conscientia Group, LLC) that provides a solution for those who have reached retirement status, but want to continue serving the Town afterwards. Trey then asked Fire Chief McNeill to come forward to share more information about the company. Fire Chief McNeill called references who currently use or have used Conscientia Group, LLC for their employees. Tim Frank, CEO of FirstCo Security, said that company was outstanding, and Adam was great to work with. Also, Gerald Novil, spoke of how pleased they were with Adam and his company. Integrity and dedication were words used to describe the company. The municipality of Aiken also uses this company, but they could only

confirm that they contract with them to staff their Department of Energy, but have no issues with the referrals that are sent by Conscientia Group, LLC. Council had no questions for Fire Chief McNeill or the Town Administrator.

Police Chief Chad McNeill reported the Police Department had a total of 91 calls for the month of July. Of those calls, there were 33 traffic stops resulting in 25 tickets with 3 of those being drug related charges dealing marijuana. Also, the SROs had 5 home visits and 45 resident checks. Chief McNeill mentioned patrolling has increased along Hwy 11, as Council Member Stevenson had requested. The Department also helped in the apprehending of an church bus arsonist from Pauline. Also, National Night Out was a huge success with 500-600 school supplies given out. The Fire Department cooked around 1000 hot dogs. He thanked everyone who helped, especially Lt. Miller for organizing the event. The Police Department received a donation from a generous individual for the purpose of purchasing 8 duty vests. Also, a grant received from the Department of Public Safety will allow the Police Department to purchase two newer Tahoes from the State to replace the oldest in the fleet. Council Member Stevenson asked how many gift cards were given out at National Night Out and who were the individuals. Lt. Miller responded that 47 cards were given away and the sponsors for the event totaled 64. Council Member Stevenson also asked if the department had the school traffic covered since Monday was the first day of school. Chief McNeill answered in the affirmative. She also asked what has been done about golf carts and Chief McNeill said in his opinion, the Town could require a decal like the County, which would allow them to ride on State and County roads that have a posted speed limit of 35 mph and 3 miles from their residence. Mayor Shamis asked Council member Sprouse if a FAVOR meeting had been scheduled and she said she was still working on that, but is hoping to have it the second or third Thursday in September. Mayor Shamis also asked how much the Department of Public Safety grant was for and Police Chief McNeill said \$50,000. He also asked how many miles were on the older Tahoes. Chief McNeill responded with 150,000 and 165,000. 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 28 calls for the month of July. 9 of those calls were in Town limits, 13 in the fire service area and 6 were assisting other agencies. 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 will be meeting with Erik Horton soon. However, he is working with an engineering firm and may have found an alternate route that would only require two pump stations. He is also looking into what upgrades would be needed to run the system through Landrum.
- Officer Godfrey continues to receive updates from Mr. Mock regarding his work to accomplish getting the white house torn down. Mayor Shamis asked about his progress with getting a roof on the two-story brick building. Police Chief McNeill said that Mr. Mock wants to get demolition done on the white house and some of the inside of the brick building at the same time.
- Mayor Shamis asked Police Chief McNeill to please get the netting in place at the ballfield. Town resident Jami Meng said that her husband can help with the netting. Police Chief McNeill said there were amendments made to the PARDe grant to allow us to paint some of the fencing, replace some fencing, renovate the bathrooms, upgrade the seating at the ballfield and pavilion renovations. The grant is for \$100,000 with us matching \$25,000 which was our playground equipment. Council Member Stevenson asked if we had received all the picnic tables. Chief

McNeill responded in the affirmative and said they were useful at the National Night Out event. Council Member Sprouse thanked Council for getting the parked sprayed.

- Council Member Stevenson said she would be taking care of getting the Town sign on Hwy 11 painted as soon as weather permits.
- Council Member Stevenson asked that the time capsule item be rolled into the new Town Hall plans.
- Council Member Ash is waiting for the Old Asheville Hwy bridge to be inspected. He reached out to Rep. Magnuson as our waterways are not clear and we need assistance. If a pedestrian bridge were to be allowed, he planned to dedicate that to former fallen Fire Chief Ed McNeill. However, the extent of the damage to the bridge will likely cause it not to be reopened, but require it to be replaced. If that's the case, then he will come up with another idea for a dedication.
- Council allowed Town resident Rusty Rhinehart to speak as requested, on the Town taking over the 8 or 9 street lights inside of the Cane Creek subdivision. Mr. Rhinehart confirmed that all lights are in working order. Council member Ash recused himself from voting since he lives in the subdivision. Council Member McDowell made a motion for the Town to take on the lights in the Cane Creek Subdivision, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously.
- Council member Ash will get quotes on the repair of Smith Street.
- None of Council elected to receive insurance coverage from PEBA.

7. New Business-

- Inman resident, Lacey Bradley and Town resident, Jami Meng spoke about a fun run fundraiser they would like to have in the Town at or around the Family Fun Day. They are with the Lions baseball/softball team, which is a non-profit, Christ centered sports organization. The purpose of the fundraiser would be to help parents with the costs associated with travel ball. A 1k and 5k run is proposed and a portion of any money raised would be given to the Town for helping with the event. Mayor Shamis looked to Council Member Sprouse to help with this event since this would be around the time of the Family Fun Day event. She will start looking for the best routes for runners/walkers.
- Council Member Stevenson made a motion to allow half of the amount requested for the purchase of additional Christmas decorations, to be paid out of the Hospitality account, which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimously.

8. Other Business

- Chairperson, Dawn Ford, gave an update of the Planning and Zoning Committee. They are needing three new candidates as there is a vacant seat and two current members are due to roll off at the end of the year. The nominees presented to Council are as follows: Jed Aho, Peggy Burt, Eric Larson and Phyllis Skuba. Also, the time of the meetings are changing from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. which will begin with their August 13th meeting. Council Member Sprouse asked if at least two of the nominees for the Committee could be Town residents. Mrs. Ford agreed. Two of the nominees,

Peggy Burt and Eric Larson, were present and gave a brief summary of their background and how they could help by serving on the Committee.

Mayor Shamis asked how many homes are being built on Emma Drive. There have been quite a few and they do have one that is coming to the meeting in August to present plans. Police Chief McNeill said that Emma Drive is a road that will need attention in the future.

- Mayor Shamis asked if anyone had any questions before Council entered into executive session. Town resident Owenby said that he would save his questions for the next Council meeting, but gave a handout to Council with the questions he will be asking.

Town resident, Peggy Burt wanted to info Council that the person who bought the land at the corner of Old Asheville Hwy and Asheville Hwy., has put a chain across the bridge. Police Chief McNeill said that the Town put a gate and chain across the bridge as a safety precaution since the bridge is in such bad shape.

- At 8:21 p.m., Council Member Alician Sprouse made a motion to enter into executive session regarding personnel matters, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously. At 8:30 p.m., Council exited the executive session with no action taken. Mayor Shamis said that Council went over the recommendations of Planning and Zoning. Motion was made by Council Member Sprouse to appoint Lance Kaminer to serve on Planning and Zoning, filling the vacant seat, which was seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimously. Thereafter, Council Member Ash made a motion for Peggy Burt and Eric Larson to begin training to prepare for when they are appointed to the Committee later on, which was seconded by Council Member Sprouse and carried unanimously.
- Council scheduled a Special budget meeting for the second reading of the 2024-2025 Budgets to be held. Council agreed to set the meeting for September 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.
- Plans for a new town hall will resume when the new budgets have been passed.

9. Adjourned- August 8, 2024 at 8:35 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Sprouse 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 8th day of August, 2024.