

Campobello Town Council Meeting

June 7, 2021

Minutes

- 1.** The meeting of the Campobello Town Council was held on June 7, 2021 in the Campobello Fire Department training room located at 50 Broad Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Philip Wilds at 6:58 p.m. Members present were Council Members, Don Cohenour, Reitha Stevenson and (via FaceTime) Alician Sprouse. Invocation was done by Mayor Philip Wilds, 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 May 3, 2021 council meeting minutes, which were seconded by Council Member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.
- 4.** Introduction of House Representative Josiah Magnuson was done by Mayor Wilds who mentioned that he would be speaking on several topics tonight.
- 5.** Cpl. Michael Cooper reported that the Campobello Police Department had a total of 106 calls for the month of May. Mayor Wilds asked that Cpl. Cooper inform Police Chief McNeill that he would like a map to pinpoint where the 106 calls are coming from, whether they are sporadic or concentrated in one area of Town.
- 6.** Fire Chief McNeill reported that the Campobello Fire Department had a total of 30 calls for the month of May. Mayor Wilds asked if anyone had any questions for the Fire Chief. None were asked.

7. Old Business-

- Mayor Wilds asked council if they had reviewed the Town of Campobello's Employee Handbook provided to them last month. Each council member answered in the affirmative. Mayor Wilds asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Employee Handbook. None were asked. Council Member Don Cohenour made a motion to accept the Employee Handbook as is, which were seconded by Council Member Reitha Stevenson and carried unanimous.

8. New Business-

- Fire Chief Brandon McNeill began with recognition of Jennifer Tomlin for her swift action in alerting emergency officials of a pool house fire that started in the Wicklow community in the early morning hours of May 8, 2021. Her quick response gave the Fire Department an even faster response time and Fire Chief McNeill commended her for looking out for her fellow neighbors. A plaque was given to Ms. Tomlin to show appreciation for all that she did. Many complements were given by residents of the fire departments that showed up for the call that night. Council Member Reitha Stevenson asked if anyone knew the cause of the fire, but the cause was not determined.

- Mayor Wilds introduced House Representative, Josiah Magnuson, who gave an update on three specific road issues.
 - 1) The intersection of Hwy 176 & Hwy. 357 does not line up with Depot Street, causing dangerous conditions. SCDOT states that this is on their schedule and we should begin to see progress by the end of 2021.
 - 2) The bridge at Hwy 11 over Interstate 26 will be a long-term project and while it is not on SCDOT's schedule, they are looking into the matter to find out if a traffic light or round-a-bout would be the best solution. They are aware that many accidents happen on this bridge.
 - 3) The traffic light at Hwy 176 & Hwy 11 needs a turning arrow for those crossing over Hwy 176 to Hwy 11. It is noticed that vehicles in the opposite turning lane prohibit a clear view of oncoming traffic and he feels a turn signal would be beneficial.

Rep. Magnuson went on to say that many roads are being paved, such as Hwy 292 and Hwy 14. Also, a round-a-bout is being considered for the Five Forks area.

- Rep. Magnuson spoke of his support for the Campobello Fire Department and told of his effort in getting a bill passed that would allow cancer treatment to be covered under State insurance, since a firefighter's job presents many hazardous situations, including inhaling smoke, etc. He went on to say that the House is working to make firefighter training reimbursable to the Fire Department paying for the training, should a firefighter leave that Fire Department and go to work for another. V-SAFE grants are also in the works for all Fire Departments and if Campobello has not received their grant money yet, Rep. Magnuson said it would be forthcoming very soon.
- Rep. Magnuson presented the Campobello Fire Department and McNeill Family with a resolution from the State House to show honor and respect for former fallen Fire Chief William "Ed" McNeill and his dedicated service to the Campobello Fire Department. The State flag that was flown at half-staff was also presented. Fire Chief Brandon McNeill humbly accepted both the resolution and flag and thanked Rep. Magnuson on behalf of his family and the Fire Department family.
- Mayor Wilds opened the floor to Mr. Brothers of Past Prime Partners so that they could give an update on what is going on with the old mercantile building at the corner of Hwy. 176 and 357. Mr. Brothers went on to say that they have officially filed all paperwork with the Federal and State government in hopes of getting the building recognized on a historic level. They have heard from the State in that they need more information and they will get that to them promptly. They hope to have a final answer by the end of the summer. Also, any other assistance that the Town could provide as far as getting in touch with the owners of 203 N. Main Street would be beneficial. Clerk Hyder did provide a phone number of a relative for the owners, but Mr. Brothers said he hasn't received a return call from the call he placed to the number. Clerk Hyder informed Mr. Brothers that she would continue her search in getting more information on the owners.

- Clerk Hyder gave an update on the amount received in donations to the Ed McNeill Memorial Christmas Fund. To date, a total of \$3,895.00. Town resident Lance Kaminer asked how the fund came to be. Clerk Hyder informed him that Ed McNeill was our Fire Chief who passed away suddenly and in lieu of flowers, donations could be made to this fund. Town resident Nylene Wilds went on to say the Campobello Christmas Parade was one of Ed's favorite events of the year. Clerk Hyder also mentioned that Chief McNeill would dress up as santa. Therefore, any donations made to the memorial fund will go to help with the expense of the Christmas parade.
- Fire Chief McNeill informed council of his intent to finish what former Fire Chief Ed McNeill started, and that is to update the security system at the fire department, as it has not been done in 20 years. By not having it updated, past employees still have access. With the new system going in, he will be able to cancel access to anyone who leaves the fire department. The new system will come with key fobs and cameras. Also, a lock will go on the just inside Town Hall which will allow the Town Clerk to grant or deny access to the rest of the building.
- Cpl. Cooper spoke on Ordinance 10.205- Health & Sanitation-Same. Notice to Remedy or Remove Condition, which states that notice must be given by the Town Clerk. He petitioned council to have it changed so that an officer can be the authority to give notice. Same for Ordinance 10.206-Health & Sanitation-Same. How Given and Ordinance and 10.403 – Health & Sanitation – Notice to Remove, which are both repetitive of Ordinance 10.205, which is why they need to be removed.

A first reading of the Town's Ordinance 10.205 – Health & Sanitation-Same. Notice to Remedy or Remove Condition was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Reitha Stevenson to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Don Cohenour and carried unanimous.

A first reading of the Town's Ordinance 10.206-Health & Sanitation-Same. How Given and Ordinance was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Reitha Stevenson to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Don Cohenour and carried unanimous.

A first reading of the Town's Ordinance 10.403 – Health & Sanitation – Notice to Remove was done by Mayor Wilds. Motion was made by council member Reitha Stevenson to accept the first reading of the amendment, which was seconded by council member Don Cohenour and carried unanimous.

Town resident John Owenby asked of an example of what type of conditions would be dealt with by the Code Enforcement officer. Mayor Wilds responded that issues like open holes in commercial buildings and homes throughout town that have been left to fall apart are a hazard and unsightly to the community. The Codes Enforcement officer will act on both residential and commercial. Council Member Reitha Stevenson asked Cpl. Cooper would a resident have 10 or 14 days to get the problem repaired or cleaned. Cpl. Cooper said it would be 10 days. Any amount of time over the 10 days would ultimately be up to the officer's discretion and what kind of progress was being shown to remedy the matter.

9. Other Business-

- Mayor Wilds asked if anyone had any issues or topics they would like added to July's agenda. He mentioned that he would like for council to be ready to set a work session for the 2021-2022 Budgets and did ask Clerk Hyder to make sure this is on July's agenda. Other suggestions for the upcoming agenda are as follows:

Council Member Cohenour asked that the Police Chief provide him with cans of orange paint so that he could continue marking the potholes throughout town. Fire Chief McNeill answered that they have the paint and will get it to him ASAP.

Council Member Stevenson mentioned that she had a water leak on her street and that she has called Spartanburg Water several times and they say it is not a bad enough leak to fix. Fire Chief McNeill responded that it would Inman-Campobello Water that would need to be called, not Spartanburg Water. He has already spoken with them and confirms that in their opinion, it is not bad enough for them to fix.

Town resident Owenby asked for an update on the sewer situation and wanted to hear how Past Prime Partners plan to handle it. Mayor Wilds responded that Mr. Brothers just gave an update to everyone and said that it was too early for them to give an update on anything at this time. Mr. Owenby also asked about the feral cat issue, to which Clerk Hyder responded that 8 cats had been trapped, neutered and homes found for most of them, with the exception of one cat who had to have an eye removed. It was brought back to the police department as it would be more familiar with its surroundings and more likely to survive.

Town residents Roy and Virginia Lane responded of their dislike of the sidewalks throughout town and that the rock needs to be fixed. Council Member Cohenour said that the bushes and trees are the responsibility of the homeowners and that he agrees that there are some spots that are so bad that you have to bend down or go around to pass through on the sidewalk. Fire Chief McNeill did say that several places are bad and that he had spoken with Police Chief McNeill and the contact he made which resulted in some places getting patched. The Lanes both said that the sidewalks have been bad since 1964.

Rep. Magnuson did express his appreciation to the Mayor and Council for the trash service that was reinstated in 2020.

10. Adjourned- June 7, 2021 at 7:39 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Reitha Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, second by Council Member Don Cohenour 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 June, 2021.