



BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

City Hall, 206 Van Buren NE, Camden, AR 71701

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. INVOCATION - Rev. Wayne Johnson, Associate Pastor - New Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, 2417 Smackover Road, Camden, AR

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 14, 2023

F. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

H. MAYOR'S REPORT

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance No. 12-23**, an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 30-16 assessing a lien on certain property located at 2289 South Adams Avenue.

2. **Ordinance No. 13-23**, an ordinance rezoning property located at 2289 S. Adams Ave. from RS-2 (Single Family) to RM-2 (Multi Family District). (Second Reading)

3. **Ordinance No. 14-23**, an ordinance rezoning certain property located at 2412 Smackover Road from RS-2 (Single Family) to RM-2 (Multi Family District). (Second Reading)

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance No. 15-23**, An ordinance providing for the accounting of the public safety sales and use tax; and for other purposes.

2. **Resolution No. 71-23**, a resolution providing for and adopting for the City of Camden, Arkansas, an Annual Operating Budget for the twelve months beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024; Appropriating money for each and every item of expenditure therein provided for; and for other purposes.

3. **Resolution No. 72-23**, A resolution of the City Council, of the City of Camden, Arkansas, amending the 2023 annual operating budget and authorizing the Mayor to pay an end-of-year bonus to employees and elected officials.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Outside Fire Contract

L. ADJOURNMENT



BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM
City Hall, 206 Van Buren NE, Camden, AR 71701

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. INVOCATION - Minister Johnny Hobbie - Maul Road Church of Christ, 1425 Maul Road, Camden, Arkansas

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

PRESENT ON ROLL CALL

Alderman Lawrence Askew

Alderman Chris Aregood

Alderman Gerald Castleberry

Alderman L.E. Lindsey

Alderman William McCoy

Alderman Marvin Moore

Alderman Edward Winters

Alderman Ebony Gulley

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Alderman Aregood, Seconded by Alderman Lindsey.

Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Winters, Alderman Gulley

Voting Nay: Alderman Askew

Passed

2. October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve made by Alderman Winters, Seconded by Alderman Lindsey.

Alderman Lindsey made a motion to amend the minutes, changing the second on the executive meeting to Alderman Askew and item number 6, changing the title of Resolution 61-23 to read William Archer instead of Tim Jordan. Alderman Askew made the second.

Voting Yea: Alderman Askew, Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Winters, Alderman Gulley

Motion to approve as amended made by Alderman Lindsey, Seconded by Alderman Castleberry.

Voting Yea: Alderman Askew, Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Winters, Alderman Gulley

Passed

3. October 24, 2023 Special Called Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Alderman Castleberry, Seconded by Alderman Winters.

During discussion, Alderman Moore made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Alderman Askew.

Voting Yea: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley

Voting Nay: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters, Mayor Young had to vote to pass. The Council went into executive session at 7:16 p.m. and returned at 7:32 p.m., and stated that no action was taken. After more discussion, Alderman Aregood called for the vote to approve the minutes.

Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters

Voting Nay: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley, Mayor Young had to vote to pass.

4. October 26, 2023 Special Called Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Alderman Lindsey, Seconded by Alderman Winters.

Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters

Voting Nay: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley, Mayor Young had to vote to pass.

F. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Financials October 2023

Motion made by Alderman Lindsey, Seconded by Alderman Aregood.

Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters

Voting Nay: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley, Mayor Young had to vote to pass.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jim Golden, 1475 Woodland Drive, thanked the Council for their support of OPED. He said 2 restaurants are currently looking at Camden as a possible location and a short line railroad in the old International Paper has applied for an infrastructure grant.

Bishop Arnold, 518 Sharp, stated that there is a serious problem with young people and there needs to be a curfew. If there is a curfew, it needs to be better enforced.

Callie Hughey, 257 Madison, admonished the Mayor over the quality of seating in the Council Chambers, and the length of public notice for special meetings.

Sharon Akins, 345 Dallas, stated that her streetlight has been out since May and she would like it to be fixed. Also, when trees were knocked down by a storm, they were only cut up enough to clear the street and stacked to the side leaving only a trail to get down the street.

H. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Young announced the October Employee of the Month, Henry L. Davis, a driver from Sanitation Collections, and the November Employee of the Month, Dana Peterson, Public Relations with the Police Department. Mayor Young also announced that the Attorney General's office had called and Cortney Parker will be named Ouachita County's Officer of the Year.

Mayor Young reminded everyone that there will be a budget workshop on Tuesday, November 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Kyle Gatling, Jason Fletcher and James Green presented updates and improvements at the airport. Business is increasing, and fuel sales account for approximately 54% of the airport revenue.

I. OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Lindsey made a motion to reconsider Resolution No. 63-23 that was voted on in the Special Meeting on October 24, 2023. The motion died for lack of a second.

Alderman Lindsey made a motion to reconsider Resolution No. 64-23 that was voted on in the Special Meeting on October 24, 2023. The motion died for lack of a second.

J. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. **Ordinance No. 12-23**, an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 30-16 assessing a lien on certain property located at 2289 South Adams Avenue.

Alderman Castleberry introduced the ordinance and the City Clerk read the number and title.

Motion to suspend the rules made by Alderman Castleberry, Seconded by Alderman Winters.

Voting Yea: Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters

Voting Nay: Alderman Askew, Alderman Aregood, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley
Second reading will be at next month's meeting.

- 2. **Ordinance No. 13-23**, an ordinance rezoning certain property located at 2289 South Adams Avenue.
Alderman Castleberry introduced the Ordinance for the first reading and the City Clerk read the number and title.

- 3. **Ordinance No. 14-23**, an ordinance rezoning property located at 2412 Smackover Rd from, RS-2(Single Family) to RM-2(Multi Family District).
Alderman Askew introduced the Ordinance for the first reading and the City Clerk read the number and title.

- 4. **Resolution No. 67-23**, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for 2023 with Camden Downtown Network (Main Street Program).
Motion to approve made by Alderman Aregood, Seconded by Alderman Winters.
Voting Yea: Alderman Askew, Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Winters, Alderman Gulley
Voting Nay: Alderman Moore

- 5. **Resolution No. 68-23**, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Contract of Obligation with the Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality and to sign the contract of obligation.
Motion to approve made by Alderman Askew, Seconded by Alderman Lindsey. During discussion, a copy of the letter of obligation was requested. Assistant Mayor Horn went to make copies.
Alderman Lindsey made a motion to continue on to Resolution No. 69-23 during the wait. Alderman Askew seconded. Voting Yea: Alderman Askew, Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Winters, Alderman Gulley

- 6. **Resolution No. 69-23**, a resolution amending the Certification Pay qualifications for the Camden Fire Department.
Motion to approve made by Alderman Lindsey, Seconded by Alderman Aregood.
Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters
Voting Abstaining: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley. The Mayor had to vote to pass.

Returned to Resolution No. 68-23

Voting Yea: Alderman Aregood, Alderman Castleberry, Alderman Lindsey, Alderman Winters
Voting Abstaining: Alderman Askew, Alderman McCoy, Alderman Moore, Alderman Gulley.
Mayor Young had to vote to pass

K. OTHER BUSINESS

Alderman Moore stated that the lights on the basketball court in Ivra Clark Park still aren't working properly.

Alderman Lindsey asked about the Fire Protection Agreement that was included in the packet. It will be voted on at the next meeting.

Alderman Gulley requested a discussion of the Legislative Audit that was included in the packet. The answers to the findings and supplementals were also included in the packet. Mayor Young said she was planning for that to be the last item, but it could be discussed now. Discussion started with unauthorized withdrawals, went on to changes in Human Resources and the timekeeping system. Attorney Frey stated that the findings are the only items that must be discussed in the meeting, not the supplementals. Discussion continued with compensated absences.

Mayor Young reminded everyone of the budget meeting and asked everyone to sign a Christmas card. Bundles are being sent to our National Guard Unit who have been deployed and won't be home for Christmas.

Alderman Askew requested clarification on the lease agreement at Fairview Park. Attorney Frey stated that OCRC has a 30-year lease on the big field and a non-compete for baseball, ages 13 and up. He also said that the city still needs to request proposals from organizations to run the 12 and under program.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Askew, Seconded by Alderman Castleberry. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Mayor, Charlotte Young

City Clerk, Donna Stewart

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 30-16 ASSESSING A LIEN ON CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2289 South Adams ST.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT ORDINANCE NO. 30-16 PASSED AND APPROVED ON Sept 13, 2016, IS HEREBY REPEALED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND THE FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTED THEREFOR:

WHEREAS, the City declared the structure located at 2289 South Adams St. Camden, Arkansas, Parcel No. 855-00004-000R, to be a nuisance to the provisions of Section 6-61, et, seq., Resolution No. 41-06; and

WHEREAS, the owner of the property failed to remove the structure as required by law and the City performed the removal of the structure.

WHEREAS, notice has been given to the property owner that a hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to determine the status of the lien assessed to the property as required by law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1: The net costs performed on the removal of the structure located at 2289 South Adams St, Camden, Arkansas, being located on said property, has been determined at a hearing before the City Council of the City of Camden to be the sum of \$476.90.

SECTION 2: The property concerned herewith, located at 2289 South Adams, is in the name of Travis Bradford. Mr. Bradford is offering \$95.38 to satisfy the lien. The City hereby sets a lien in the amount of \$95.38 to the property concerned herewith.

SECTION 3: That a certified copy of this Ordinance shall be transmitted to the Tax Collector of Ouachita County Arkansas, with the direction to place the above cost of removal and penalty on the tax books for the property described herein as delinquent taxes and collect the same according to law, with the amount so collected, less 3% thereof to be retained by the Collector for their costs, to be paid directly to the municipality as provided by law.

SECTION 4: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED THAT this Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14 DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO.13-23

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN ARKANSAS, REZONING
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2289 S. ADAMS AVE FROM RS-2 (SINGLE FAMILY)
TO RM-2 (MULTI FAMILY DISTRICT).**

WHEREAS: The Planning Commission of the City of Camden met in regular session on October 17, 2023, and approved a request by Travis Bradford to rezone the property located at 2289 S. Adams Ave. from RS-2 to RM-2; and

WHEREAS: The rezoning request is in harmony with Camden’s land use plan;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN,
ARKANSAS, THAT:**

SECTION 1: Ordinance No. 1-90, Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden, Arkansas, enacted February 20, 1990, is hereby amended to rezone certain property located at 2289 S. Adams Ave. in the City of Camden as described below:

From RS-2 (Single Family) to RM-2 (Multi Family Residential District) being more particularly described as follows: N1/2 LOT 7 AND S1/2 LOT 8 HIGHWAY SUBDIVISION. Parcel #855-00004-000R.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO.13-23

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN ARKANSAS, REZONING
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2289 S. ADAMS AVE FROM RS-2 (SINGLE FAMILY)
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From RS-2 (Single Family) to RM-2 (Multi Family Residential District) being more particularly described as follows: N1/2 LOT 7 AND S1/2 LOT 8 HIGHWAY SUBDIVISION. Parcel #855-00004-000R.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO.14-23

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN ARKANSAS, REZONING
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2412 SMACKOVER FROM RS-2 (SINGLE FAMILY)
TO RM-2 (MULTI FAMILY DISTRICT).**

WHEREAS: The Planning Commission of the City of Camden met in regular session on October 17, 2023, and approved a request by Travis Bradford to rezone the property located at 2412 Smackover. from RS-2 to RM-2; and

WHEREAS: The rezoning request is in harmony with Camden’s land use plan;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN,
ARKANSAS, THAT:**

SECTION 1: Ordinance No. 1-90, Zoning Ordinance of the City of Camden, Arkansas, enacted February 20, 1990, is hereby amended to rezone certain property located at 2412 Smackover Rd. in the City of Camden as described below:

From RS-2 (Single Family) to RM-2 (Multi Family Residential District) being more particularly described as follows: PT W 4.55 A N 5.96 A SW1/4 SE1/4. Parcel #900-00090-000R.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 15-23

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACCOUNTING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY SALES AND USE TAX; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Ordinance Number 23-07 levied a three-fourths percent (3/4%) sales and use tax for public safety purposes within the City of Camden; and

WHEREAS, 42.5% of the revenues are currently being placed into line item 41304, “public safety fire sales tax” for the portion used to supplement fire department salaries; and

WHEREAS, 49.5% of the revenues are currently being placed into line item 41305, “public safety police sales tax” for the portion used to supplement police department salaries; and

WHEREAS, 8% of the revenues are currently being placed into line item 41306, “public safety capital outlay” for the portion used to supplement capital outlay purchases; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to specify additional accounting procedures for the public safety sales and use tax.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. There shall be created a new operating fund identified as “Operating Fund Number 13, Public Safety Tax”.

SECTION 2. All revenues received from the public safety sales tax shall be deposited into the newly created operating fund number 13.

SECTION 3. 42.5% of the funds in operating number 13 shall be transferred into the general operating fund, line item 41304, “public safety fire sales tax”, to supplement fire department salaries.

SECTION 4. 49.5% of the funds in operating number 13 shall be transferred into the general operating fund, line item 41305, “public safety police sales tax”, to supplement police department salaries.

SECTION 5. 8% of the funds in operating number 13 shall be transferred into the general operating funds, line item 41306, “public safety capital outlay”, to supplement the purchase of capital equipment.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 71-23

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND ADOPTING FOR THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, AN ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH AND EVERY ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Camden has made a comprehensive study and review of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the City Council that the schedules and exhibits of financial information prepared and reviewed revealing anticipated revenues and expenditures for all funds for the Fiscal Year 2024, including the various pay rate modifications, appear to be as accurate as possible for budgetary purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Resolution shall be known as the Budget Resolution for the City of Camden, Arkansas, for the twelve-month period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, reflecting estimated revenues and expenditures for all funds as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget Document, including the various pay rate modifications, for the City of Camden. Said Official Budget Document is hereby made an attachment to this Resolution and is incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

SECTION 2. This budget may be altered or revised by action of this governing body and unpledged funds may be subsequently appropriated to another purpose, except as prohibited by law.

SECTION 3. The Mayor or his duly authorized representative may approve for payment, out of funds appropriated by this budget or otherwise approved by the City Council for those purposes, or may disapprove any bills, debts, or liabilities asserted as claims against the City, up to a maximum amount allowed by Arkansas law and Ordinance 07-23 and the payment or disapproval of any bills, debts or liabilities exceeding that amount shall require the confirmation of this governing body.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____.

Mayor

City Clerk

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, AMENDING THE 2023
ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE
MAYOR TO PAY AN END-OF-YEAR BONUS TO
EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS.**

WHEREAS, line item 01-14159420 of the 2023 operating budget included \$300,000.00 for capital outlay (buildings/pool); and

WHEREAS, the construction of improvements for the buildings at the pool did not occur in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the budget by moving \$125,000.00 to reserves to pay for end of year bonuses; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas State Statute §14-42-120 allows for cities to pay its employees a monetary incentive at the discretion of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, the official governing body of the City of Camden, wishes to show its appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the employees and elected officials of the City; and

WHEREAS, all full-time employees and elected officials should receive a bonus of \$900.00, and all part-time employees should receive a bonus of \$450.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. The 2023 annual operating budget is hereby amended by decreasing line item 01-141-59420 by One-Hundred and Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00).

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to pay all full-time employees and elected officials a bonus of \$900.00 and all part-time employees a bonus of \$450.00.

SECTION 3. Payments will be prorated for recent hires, who will receive 100% if hired in the first quarter of 2023; 75% if hired in the second quarter of 2023; 50% if hired in the third quarter of 2023; and 25% if hired in the fourth quarter 2023.

SECTION 4. Full-time District Court employees that are paid half by the City and half by the County shall receive a bonus of \$450.00. Part-time District Court employees that are paid half by the City and half by the County shall receive a bonus of \$225.00.

SECTION 5. The bonus payments shall be subject to Medicare, Social Security, LOPFI and other mandatory withholdings.

PASS AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk