



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Work Session Minutes

June 8, 2026

The Work Session meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Aaron Ash on June 8, 2026, at 6:45 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Lance Kaminer and Joe McDowell. Also, in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill, and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill. Council Member Alician Sprouse and Lt. Chris Miller were absent.

1. NEW BUSINESS

National Night Out

- A request was made asking for Council to consider approving \$300 from the hospitality budget, consistent with last year's contribution.
- Funds will be used to purchase gift cards from local businesses to distribute as prizes to children and families attending the event.
- Remaining supply needs include:
 - Hand sanitizer
 - One-inch binders
 - Tissues
- National Night Out is scheduled for **July 28th**, from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**
- The event will be held on Lude Johnson Blvd., with some activities at Gosnell Park and the ballfield.
- The Fire Department will provide hot dogs and refreshments as in previous years.

Campobello 250 Celebration

- Planning for the celebration is largely complete.
- Broken Angels will provide food service through their food truck.
- Council discussed ensuring all activities conclude by **10:00 p.m.** in accordance with the park ordinance.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Rock Wall Repair Update

- Asphalt paving projects have been completed, allowing focus to shift to the rock wall repairs.
- Debris has been removed from along the walls.
- Proposed repairs include:
 - Installation of rebar or wire mesh reinforcement.
 - Concrete repairs to damaged sections.
 - Evaluation of drainage improvements to reduce water pressure behind the walls.
- Discussion included possible use of synthetic drainage materials and installation of a French drain system.
- Long-term plans may include incorporating wall repairs and drainage improvements into a future sidewalk grant project. A local individual with experience in similar projects may be asked to

review the walls and provide recommendations. Council members discussed the age and historical significance of the rock walls, noting they may be over 60 years old and possibly much older.

3. OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

4. ADJOURNED on June 8, 2026 at 6:59 p.m.

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

Town of Campobello Council Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder, on this 8th day of June, 2026.



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Regular Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2026

The Council meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Aaron Ash on June 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Lance Kaminer and Joe McDowell. Also, in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill, and Fire Chief Brandon McNeill. Council Member Alician Sprouse and Lt. Chris Miller were absent.

1. The Invocation was done by Ryan Howard of Oak Grove Baptist Church. Afterwards, the Pledge of Allegiance said followed by the introduction of Council.
2. Mayor Ash asked if Council had reviewed the May 11, 2026 work session minutes and May 11, 2026 council meeting minutes. Motion was made by Council Member McDowell accept the May 11, 2026 work session minutes and May 11, 2026 council meeting minutes, as written, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and unanimously approved.

4. **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Ash thanked council members, town employees, and volunteers for their continued support and dedication. He expressed appreciation for the cooperation received as the Town works through an ambitious agenda focused on community improvements and progress.

Mayor Ash also noted the ongoing SCDOT paving project and encouraged residents to use caution while traveling through construction areas. He stated that while the work may cause temporary inconveniences, the improvements will greatly benefit the community in the long term.

5. **POLICE DEPT:**

Police Chief Chad McNeill presented the monthly Police Department report:

- 5 traffic collisions with no injuries
- 4 traffic collisions with injuries
- 25 home visits conducted by School Resource Officers to conclude the school year
- 98 traffic stops resulting in 26 citations
- 5 drug-related charges
- 3 animal complaint calls, all of which were resolved

Police Chief McNeill also reported that Officer Medley has resigned from law enforcement and will no longer be employed with the department.

Regarding school security, the individual previously responsible for weapons detection duties will be replaced through a hiring process managed by the school district. Once selected, the individual will be sent for training and certification as a Class III officer, allowing them to carry a firearm and perform security-related duties associated with weapons detection. The position is expected to be filled prior to the start of the upcoming school year.

Wi-Fi at Gosnell Park

Council requested an update on the public Wi-Fi project at Gosnell Park.

Police Chief McNeill reported that the Wi-Fi system has been installed and is operational. The system was installed by Lieutenant Miller following receipt of equipment from T-Mobile.

Public Works and Grounds Maintenance Update

Council inquired about the installation of reservation signage at the park. Staff confirmed that the signage was installed in April and is currently in place.

Police Chief McNeill provided an update on work completed by Public Works employee, Bucky, since his hiring. Accomplishments include:

- Regular mowing and maintenance of town-owned properties.
- Spraying and maintenance of roadside banks and rights-of-way.
- Removal of litter and debris throughout town.
- Continued upkeep of the ballfield and Gosnell Park.
- Ongoing maintenance projects identified by staff and Town leadership.

Council members complimented the condition of the ball fields and other public areas, noting significant improvements in appearance and maintenance.

Trash Can Pads and Accessibility Improvements

Council discussed the planned concrete work at the ballfield, including installation of concrete pads for trash receptacles.

Staff reported that the contractor remains scheduled to begin work in June and has already completed measurements and site assessments. Planned improvements include:

- Installation of concrete pads for trash cans.
- Reconstruction of existing steps near the seating area to improve accessibility and safety.
- Modification of step heights and spacing to meet more appropriate standards.

Staff noted that work may be scheduled around the Town's upcoming 250th Celebration to avoid disrupting event activities. Council expressed a desire to have at least the trash can pads completed before National Night Out if possible.

Wildlife Activity

Council discussed recent wildlife sightings within town limits.

Police Chief McNeill reported no significant bear-related incidents, although residents have reported sightings of a bear traveling through portions of town, including areas near Main Street and Cane Creek. Reports indicate the animal has occasionally disturbed trash containers. Additional reports of bear cub sightings were also noted near the school district office area.

Council members also discussed ongoing issues with groundhogs causing property damage in residential areas.

Police Activity Follow-Up

In response to a council question regarding recent drug-related arrests, Police Chief McNeill confirmed that the five drug charges reported during the month were all marijuana-related offenses.

Mayor Ash asked if the council had any further questions for the Police Department. No further questions were asked.

FIRE DEPT:

Fire Chief Brandon McNeill presented the Fire Department report for the month of May.

The Fire Department responded to a total of **40 calls for service**, including:

- 7 motor vehicle accidents
- 1 fire alarm activation
- 12 medical calls
- 5 burn complaints
- 2 brush or grass fires
- 3 structure fires
- 2 incidents involving trees down on power lines or roadways
- 3 vehicle fires

Call distribution for the month was as follows:

- 14 calls within the Town of Campobello
- 19 calls within the department's fire service area
- 7 mutual aid responses assisting neighboring agencies

Fire Chief McNeill reported that the department has completed purchases using funding received through the **V-SAFE Grant**, totaling approximately **\$14,700**. Grant funds were used to purchase:

- New Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)
- New pagers for department personnel

All equipment has been purchased and paid for.

The department has also submitted an application for an **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)**. The grant application period remains open until June 22nd, and the department is hopeful the application will be successful.

Council members inquired about current brush fire conditions and whether recent rainfall had reduced fire activity within the area. Fire Chief McNeill reported that recent rainfall has significantly improved conditions and helped reduce the risk of brush and grass fires. However, he noted that the upcoming summer months are traditionally the department's busiest period and that fire activity could increase as temperatures rise.

Council also discussed the approaching July 4th holiday and the potential for increased fire-related incidents associated with fireworks use. Chief McNeill acknowledged that fireworks season typically presents additional challenges for fire personnel and expressed hope that favorable weather conditions would help minimize incidents.

Mayor Ash asked if the council had any further questions for the Fire Department. No further questions were asked.

Planning & Zoning Report

Planning & Zoning Chairman, Dawn Ford, reported that there was little activity during the reporting period.

The most recent Planning and Zoning meeting was canceled due to a lack of agenda items. A meeting is currently scheduled for the following Tuesday at 12:30 p.m.; however, if no agenda items are submitted, that meeting may also be canceled.

Chairman Ford reported attending a meeting with representatives of Old Mill Village regarding a potential annexation request. Initial discussions were positive, and Old Mill Village has expressed interest in pursuing annexation into the Town of Campobello.

Additional updates regarding the annexation process are expected to be provided at future meetings as discussions progress.

Mayor Ash asked if the council had any further questions for Planning & Zoning. No further questions were asked.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Sewer Project Update

Mayor Ash and Council Member Joe McDowell provided updates regarding ongoing sewer infrastructure planning efforts.

Council received an update regarding ongoing efforts to evaluate sewer service options for the Town of Campobello.

Representatives reported a productive meeting with Covalen to discuss potential sewer solutions. During the meeting, additional expertise was provided by one of the company's owners, who presented an alternative option that may offer a more cost-effective approach than previously considered.

Town officials indicated that additional research and analysis are needed before presenting a formal recommendation. However, initial discussions have been encouraging, and multiple viable options are currently under consideration.

To assist Council with evaluating the alternatives, Covalen representatives are expected to attend the next council meeting to present information, answer questions, and discuss the various options available to the Town.

In addition, Town officials plan to meet with representatives from Spartanburg School District One, including Jason McGraw, to discuss how the school district may be able to support or participate in one of the proposed alternatives.

Council discussed the importance of moving from the evaluation phase toward a decision-making process. Officials noted that extensive analysis has been conducted due to the size and

cost of the project, but the Town is now approaching a point where key decisions will need to be made.

Current goals include:

- Hosting a presentation from Covalen at the next council meeting.
- Continuing discussions with the school district and other stakeholders.
- Continuing conversations with the City of Inman and Spartanburg Water regarding potential partnerships and service options.
- Conducting a public hearing on sewer service options as early as August, with the possibility of additional public hearings if needed.

Council members expressed optimism regarding the progress being made and the availability of several workable options for providing future sewer service to the Town.

Code Enforcement Update

Police Chief Chad McNeill reported conducting approximately four to five code enforcement visits during the month. Issues addressed included:

- Animal-related complaints
- Property maintenance concerns
- Overgrown grass and vegetation on several properties

Staff indicated that additional property owners will be contacted regarding grass and maintenance violations. Residents were encouraged to report concerns so they can be investigated and addressed promptly.

Gosnell Park & Grant Project Update

Police Chief Chad McNeill reported that park maintenance and improvement projects continue to progress as planned. Remaining items include:

- Rock wall repairs
- Reconstruction of steps near the grandstand area
- Installation of concrete pads and related improvements

Town officials expressed a desire to complete the work within the next few weeks. However, if construction cannot be completed before the Town's upcoming events, including the Campobello 250 Celebration and National Night Out, the project may be postponed until August to avoid disruptions and safety concerns.

Grants and Project Updates

Staff reported that the Gosnell Park grant remains active and is currently the Town's only open grant project. The grant is scheduled to close in August, although an extension may be requested if necessary. Officials remain optimistic that the project can be completed within the required timeframe.

Council also received an update regarding the Town's America 250 Celebration grant application. The Town was awarded **\$3,500** through the grant program. Grant funds will be used

to purchase banners and promotional materials for the Town's America 250 Celebration. Officials noted that the banners are being designed for long-term use so they may be utilized for future community events and celebrations. The banners are expected to be delivered within the coming weeks.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-2 - *Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)*

Council considered the second reading of Ordinance No. 2026-2, *An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Campobello Zoning Ordinance Section 3-9.3, R-A Residential Agricultural Conditional Uses; Section 3-10.3, R-1 Single Family Residential Conditional Uses; and Section 2-2 Definitions to include Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)*.

Council was given the opportunity to ask questions regarding the proposed ordinance. No questions or comments were presented. A motion was made by Council Member Stevenson to approve Ordinance No. 2026.2 as written and read, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and carried unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Campobello America 250 Celebration Update

Council received an update regarding plans for the Town's America 250 Celebration scheduled for **July 3, 2026**.

Officials reported that preparations are progressing well and that the event will serve as one of the Town's largest Independence Day celebrations in recent years. Community interest has been strong, with numerous residents and organizations expressing excitement about the event.

Planned activities currently include:

- Live music from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.
- Bicycle and golf cart parade
- Children's activities and games
- Kiddie train rides
- Food vendors
- Cornhole and other recreational games
- Cake walk and additional family-friendly activities

The celebration is scheduled to take place from approximately **6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**, with organizers hoping to conclude activities and begin cleanup by 9:30 p.m.

Council discussed the importance of promoting the event through the Town's text messaging system and other communication channels to maximize public awareness and attendance.

Staff reported that most event preparations will occur on the day of the event, with cleanup expected to require significant volunteer participation. Mayor Ash indicated that assistance from Council, staff, volunteers, and community members will be essential to ensure a successful event.

Council expressed enthusiasm for the celebration and the opportunity to commemorate America's 250th anniversary while bringing the community together for a family-oriented event.

National Night Out 2026

Council received an update regarding preparations for the upcoming National Night Out event.

Staff reported that planning efforts are progressing well and requested the Town's annual contribution of \$300 from the hospitality budget. The funds will be used to purchase gift cards and prizes from local businesses to be distributed to participating children and families during the event.

A motion was made by Council Member Stevenson to approve \$300 from the hospitality budget for National Night Out, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and approved unanimously.

Gosnell Park Mulch and Beautification Improvements

Council discussed the need for additional landscaping and playground improvements at Gosnell Park.

Staff recommended the purchase of rubber mulch and related materials to improve the appearance and durability of landscaped areas throughout the park. Officials noted that rubber mulch would provide a longer-lasting solution and reduce future maintenance needs.

A motion was made by Council Member Kaminer to authorize up to \$1,000 for the purchase of mulch and related materials for park maintenance and beautification, which was seconded by Council Member McDowell and approved unanimously.

Proposed ATV and Utility Vehicle Ordinance

Police Chief McNeill informed Council of recently enacted state legislation affecting the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and utility vehicles on public roadways.

The new law, which is expected to take effect in November, will permit certain ATVs and similar vehicles to operate on roadways provided they meet specific requirements, including:

- Turn signals
- Seat belts
- Liability insurance
- Appropriate registration or identification
- Minimum operator age requirements

In anticipation of the law taking effect, Council discussed the possibility of adopting a local permitting and registration system for golf carts, ATVs, and similar vehicles operating within town limits. The proposed ordinance would likely require operators to obtain a Town-issued decal or permit, allowing the Town to maintain records of vehicles operating within municipal boundaries and assist law enforcement with identification when necessary. Staff will prepare a draft ordinance for Council review and discussion at July's meeting.

Discussion of Business Promotion Signage

Council discussed opportunities to further support local businesses through enhanced community wayfinding and promotional signage.

The discussion focused on identifying ways the Town can reinvest in the local business community by increasing visibility and encouraging additional customer traffic to Campobello businesses. Officials noted that as the Town continues investing in infrastructure improvements, including road paving, beautification projects, and public amenities, there may be opportunities to better direct visitors and travelers into the downtown area and business districts.

Potential concepts discussed included:

- Directional signage at key entry points into town
- Wayfinding signs highlighting local businesses and destinations
- Promotional signage designed to increase awareness of shopping, dining, and service opportunities within Campobello
- Strategies to encourage travelers from nearby highways and major roadways to visit local businesses

Examples of businesses mentioned during the discussion included local restaurants, retail establishments, coffee shops, and specialty businesses throughout the community.

No formal action was taken. Council members were encouraged to develop ideas and potential recommendations for discussion at future workshops and council meetings. The goal is to identify practical and effective methods to support local economic development and promote Campobello businesses.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Budget Meeting

Council worked with staff to schedule the first budget meeting for preparation of the 2026-2027 budget which will be held July 16, 2026 at 6p.

9. Adjourned- June 8, 2026 at 7:42 p.m.

With no further business presented, Council Member Kaminer 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 8th day of June, 2026