



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Work Session Minutes

August 10, 2026

The Work Session meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Aaron Ash on August 10, 2026, at 6:45 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Alician Sprouse, Lance Kaminer and Joe McDowell. Also, in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill, Lt. Chris Miller, Fire Chief Brandon McNeill and Trey Eubanks. Council Member, Reitha Stevenson was absent.

1. NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Town Events — Christmas Parade

Council discussed preparations for the upcoming Christmas Parade and the status of the Town's Christmas lights.

Staff reported that the Christmas lights are expected to be installed by Christmas. Most of the electrical lines have been run; however, several issues have delayed completion. Duke Energy has been addressing an issue near the McDowell's residence, and additional tree trimming is needed near the church because limbs are interfering with telephone and power lines.

Approximately eight poles remain to be connected for power. Once the necessary tree trimming and utility work are completed, staff will continue installing the remaining electrical boxes and Christmas lighting.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Promotion of Town Businesses and Community Organizations

Council discussed plans to hold another business expo following the success of the Town's first business expo several months ago. The purpose will be to bring local businesses together to discuss ways the Town can promote and support them.

Council also discussed including local churches in the upcoming meeting to explore ways the Town and churches can work together and establish a roadmap for community activities and support.

One potential upcoming event discussed was a Town-sponsored Trunk or Treat, possibly to be held at the park. The event would provide an opportunity for the Town, businesses, and churches to work together. Safety planning and coordination with the churches were also discussed.

Gosnell Park Renovations Update

Staff reported that the park renovations are approximately 95% complete. Remaining work includes cleanup and leveling, which has been delayed somewhat by weather conditions.

Staff expects the remaining work to be completed by the end of the month. The Town is working toward closing out the grant by the 30th, and most of the required work and documentation is ready for reimbursement.

Sidewalks

Council discussed two sidewalk-related projects. The first is the installation of a section of sidewalk in front of Hyper Motorsports near the post office, including a crosswalk. Council noted that this section has been missing for an extended period and creates a safety concern for pedestrians crossing the roadway.

Staff reported that quotes have been obtained, with one additional quote pending. The anticipated cost was discussed as being in the approximate \$3,000 range. The project will need to be shortened by approximately three feet because the water department is relocating a fire hydrant from the upper side to the lower side of the telephone pole.

Council discussed potentially using County CTC funds for the project and coordinating with Rep. Josiah Magnuson regarding available funding.

The second sidewalk issue involves a damaged section along Highway 11 that was damaged by a road crew. Staff reported that the road crew had previously indicated the repairs were on its list. Council agreed that the Town should continue following up to ensure the repairs are completed.

Pacolet River Cleanup

Council discussed the condition of the Pacolet River and recent efforts to obtain assistance with cleanup.

Staff reported that photographs of the river were sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for review. The condition of the river was described as significantly worse than it was at the same time last year, with numerous trees down on power lines and substantial debris throughout the area.

Staff is awaiting feedback from the Army Corps of Engineers and will continue monitoring the situation. Council also discussed the possible connection between the river conditions and stormwater issues experienced during periods of heavy rainfall.

Traffic Study — Highway 357/Highway 176

Council discussed a traffic study involving the intersection of Highways 357 and 176 and the Town's continued effort to obtain a traffic signal near the old building across from the post office, allowing traffic to cross Asheville Highway.

Staff noted that the Town had previously believed the project was moving forward several years ago, but the signal was ultimately not installed. Staff reported that there is now movement on the matter and expressed optimism that, following a favorable traffic study, the project could move forward by the end of the year.

Council discussed the importance of supporting the traffic study and obtaining the necessary traffic counts and data.

Emergency Shelter Agreement — Campobello First Baptist Church

Council discussed a proposed emergency shelter agreement with **Campobello First Baptist Church**.

Staff reported that a meeting was held with the church in July and that the church has graciously agreed to allow the Town to use its gymnasium as an emergency shelter when needed. Staff noted that the facility has been used by the Town on at least two occasions, and possibly three, for emergency situations.

The proposed agreement is intended to clarify the responsibilities and liabilities of both the Town and the church, as well as the services and facilities the church will provide.

The Town Attorney has reviewed the proposed agreement and provided comments and suggested changes. Staff indicated that some of the attorney's recommendations may be more extensive than necessary and that the agreement will be discussed further.

Staff plans to provide a finalized draft to Council members during the week, meet with representatives of Campobello First Baptist Church to review the agreement, and bring the agreement back to Council for consideration and a vote at the next Council meeting.

3. OTHER BUSINESS:

Transition from Google Workspace to Microsoft 365

Council discussed transitioning the Town's email, file storage, and office productivity systems from Google Workspace to Microsoft 365.

Staff explained that Microsoft 365 is expected to be more user-friendly for Town staff and is preferred by the Town's IT support. The transition is also expected to provide improved security and, after the initial migration costs, a lower ongoing cost than the Town's current Google services.

The initial setup and migration cost was discussed at approximately **\$5,800**. The Town would be able to divide this expense between two budget years, with one portion billed during the current budget year and the remaining portion billed after October.

Staff explained that Microsoft 365 offers different licensing levels. Basic email service would cost approximately **\$5.25 per user per month**, while users requiring the full Microsoft Office suite, including Word and Excel, would cost approximately **\$24 per user per month**. Department heads and other staff requiring the full Office suite would receive the appropriate licenses, while other users could utilize email-only licenses.

Council discussed the security benefits of moving to Microsoft 365 and its security level and user-friendly environment. It was also discussed the cost of remaining with Google. Moving to Google Enterprise was estimated to increase the Town's current monthly cost from approximately **\$270 to more than \$500 per month**, making the Microsoft 365 transition financially favorable over time.

Council asked whether the transition would create issues for Town-issued Chromebooks. Staff indicated that Chromebooks could continue to be used through a web browser in much the same manner as the current Google system. Also discussed were the Town's website and its links to ordinances and other documents. Staff indicated that the documents are maintained as PDF files and that no significant issues with the website are anticipated as a result of the transition.

Preparation for the 2026–2027 Budget

Staff reported that considerable work had been completed to prepare the budget and that the Town is ahead of schedule compared with prior years. Council noted that the first reading of the budget could be considered at the meeting, postponed if necessary, or amended after the first reading, provided the final budget is completed by October 1st.

Council expressed appreciation to all that worked on preparing the budget and providing Council with additional time to review and consider the proposed budget.

4. ADJOURNED on August 10, 2026 at 6:55 p.m.

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

Town of Campobello Council Minutes were recorded by Town Clerk, Kim Hyder, on this 10th day of August, 2026.



TOWN OF CAMPOBELLO

Council Meeting – Regular Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2026

The Council meeting of the Campobello Town Council was called to order by Mayor Aaron Ash on August 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. located at 50 Broad St., Campobello, SC. Council Members present were Reitha Stevenson, Alician Sprouse, Lance Kaminer and Joe McDowell. Also, in attendance was Police Chief, Chad McNeill, Lt. Chris Miller, Fire Chief Brandon McNeill and Trey Eubanks.

The Invocation was done by Pastor Caleb Bruce of New Hope Baptist Church. Afterwards, the Pledge of Allegiance said followed by the introduction of Council.

Mayor Ash asked if Council had reviewed the July 13, 2026 work session minutes, July 13, 2026 council meeting minutes and July 16, 2026 Budget Work Session minutes. Motion was made by Council Member Kaminer accept the July 13, 2026 work session minutes, July 13, 2026 council meeting minutes and July 16, 2026 Budget Work Session minutes, as written, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and unanimously approved.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Ash shared remarks regarding the challenges facing residents and communities and expressed appreciation for the Town of Campobello and its residents. He acknowledged that residents are facing increasing costs and other frustrations and noted that, despite Campobello being a small community, the Town is not insulated from broader challenges. He emphasized the strength of Campobello's close-knit community and the Town's ability to respond directly to residents' concerns. He noted that residents can communicate directly with Town leadership and public safety officials to address issues such as damaged flags, stormwater problems, and other community concerns. He shared a recent interaction with a couple who had moved to the area from Charlotte. He noted that they spoke positively about Campobello's sense of community, the people, and the welcoming nature of the Town. Mayor Ash concluded by expressing his gratitude for the Town of Campobello, its residents, Town staff, and public safety personnel, stating that Campobello is a special town with special people, particularly during a difficult time.

Department Reports

Police Department Report

The Department responded to 112 calls during the month. Highlights included:

- 5 motor vehicle accidents in the community
- 2 accidents involving injuries
- 4 animal-related calls
- 4 area checks
- 68 traffic stops
- 15 speeding citations
- 10 citations for no insurance
- 11 citations for no driver's license
- 15 warnings
- No drug-related charges

Police Chief McNeill also provided an update regarding school safety personnel following the start of the new school year. All School Resource Officers (SROs) and weapons-detection personnel have been hired and are now assigned to the schools.

The Department announced the hiring of Greg Satterfield as the SRO for Campobello-Gramling School, serving students from K-4 through eighth grade. Mr. Satterfield brings approximately 25 years of experience, including service with Spartanburg County, the City of Duncan, and the Prisma Health system. Police Chief McNeill reported that Mr. Satterfield has already established a positive relationship with students and staff. The Mayor and Council expressed appreciation for the thorough hiring process and for selecting an experienced candidate for the position.

Mayor Ash shared that Mr. Satterfield had recently been observed interacting with students on the football field, emphasizing the importance of SROs building positive relationships with students while maintaining their role in school safety.

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

Fire Department Report

The Department responded to **34 total calls**, consisting of:

- 6 motor vehicle accidents
- 10 medical calls
- 4 burn complaints
- 4 brush or grass fires
- 2 downed power lines
- 1 landing-zone setup
- 2 structure fires
- 2 trees down
- 1 vehicle fire

Of the 34 calls:

- **12** were within the Town of Campobello
- **17** were within the Fire Department's service area
- **5** were assisting other agencies

Fire Chief McNeill provided an update on the Department's pending SCBA grant, stating that grant announcements are expected toward the end of the month. The Department remains hopeful that its application will be awarded.

Council also asked whether the Department had responded to any electric vehicle fires within Campobello. The Fire Chief reported that the Department has not experienced an electric vehicle fire in Campobello to date, although personnel have received training and are prepared to respond should one occur.

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

Planning and Zoning Report

Planning and Zoning Chairman, Dawn Ford, reported that the previous meeting included one plat approval involving property located at 18945 Asheville Highway and 142 John High Road. The property was divided into three lots. Two existing homes are located on the property, with the remaining corner lot available for potential sale and future development.

A building permit request for 140 Lanford Street was also discussed. The initial proposal did not meet the required setbacks for an accessory dwelling. Planning and Zoning staff subsequently met with the property owner and reviewed the proposed placement.

The property owner was advised that accessory dwellings must be located toward the rear of the property and maintain a five-foot setback from the side property lines. The owner submitted a revised proposal prior to the Council meeting. The revised plan moves two sheds farther toward the rear of the property and places the proposed carport behind the front line of the existing residence, allowing it to be considered a side structure.

The revised proposal is expected to be placed on the Planning and Zoning agenda for the following Tuesday, with staff indicating no anticipated issues with the revised plan.

Staff also reported that Mr. Owenby requested to be placed on an upcoming agenda. The specific nature of his request has not yet been determined. Staff will meet with Mr. Owenby to clarify whether he is seeking a building permit, rezoning, or another matter so that the appropriate documentation can be prepared before the meeting.

No additional Planning and Zoning matters were reported.

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

6. OLD BUSINESS

Sewer Project Update

Council Member McDowell reported that he, the Mayor and the Town's engineer/consultant, Erik Horton, held a productive meeting regarding the sewer project and are working toward a resolution. The current goal is to have a plan developed by the end of the year.

Council discussed the various sewer options currently under consideration, including:

- A pressurized sewer system
- A gravity sewer system
- A package treatment plant
- Potential connections through the City of Inman
- Potential connections through the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District

Representatives of Covalen have continued to provide information and guidance regarding the pressurized sewer option, as well as the package plant option. Staff reported having additional discussions with Covalen representatives and noted that the company has been helpful in evaluating the available alternatives.

Staff has provided Council with a detailed update outlining the various options under consideration. The purpose of the review is to narrow the alternatives and ensure that the Town is able to present the public with complete and transparent information, including estimated costs and the advantages and disadvantages of each option.

Staff reported that additional discussions are needed with the City of Inman to determine whether it has sufficient capacity to accept the Town's sewer. Recent development in Inman has raised questions regarding available capacity.

Spartanburg remains a potential option; however, there are still matters that need to be resolved before that alternative can be fully evaluated.

Council discussed the importance of obtaining accurate cost information and having qualified subject-matter experts available to answer questions when the options are presented to the public.

Public Sewer Meeting

Mayor Ash proposed holding a public meeting regarding the sewer project on September 29, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting will be to present the community with the sewer options being considered, associated costs and other relevant information. Representatives and subject-matter experts will be available to answer questions and provide additional information.

Council emphasized that the sewer decision should involve the community and that residents should have an opportunity to review the information, ask questions, and provide feedback before a final direction is selected. The September 29th public meeting was identified as the next major step in the Town's sewer planning process.

Code Enforcement

Police Chief McNeill reported that several code enforcement violations had recently been addressed. The violations primarily involved property maintenance issues where accumulated yard materials had begun to encroach on neighboring properties. Staff reported that the property owners were cooperative and that the violations have been resolved.

Gosnell Park and Grant Update

Police Chief McNeill reported that the park project is approximately 95% complete. Remaining work is expected to be completed shortly, and the project is anticipated to be removed from the Council's business agenda following the next month's meeting.

He also reported that the grant will be closed out once the remaining bills have been paid or processed. Town staff have been in communication with the grant administrators, and a final inspection is anticipated sometime in September.

Staff reported that the Town is working with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) regarding potential grant opportunities for sidewalk improvements.

The Town is also exploring grant opportunities through the Municipal Association and other sources. Several of these grant opportunities are expected to have deadlines around November, while the SCDOT grant opportunity is anticipated to have an April deadline.

Drainage Issues

Council discussed two significant drainage problems within the Town, including areas near Old Asheville Highway and Rector Street.

Police Chief McNeill reported that excessive water is flowing toward low-lying areas, creating drainage concerns that need to be addressed promptly. The Rector Street issue is particularly time-sensitive because road construction and repaving are expected to begin in the area within the next month.

Mayor Ash emphasized the need to expedite the drainage projects rather than allowing the issues to remain unresolved. Staff reported that Town representatives had met with an engineer to discuss possible solutions and that additional individuals with knowledge of the area may be able to assist with identifying practical solutions.

Council discussed the possibility of receiving emails outlining proposed solutions and estimated costs and, if necessary, holding a special or called meeting to address the drainage matters promptly.

An additional drainage concern was raised regarding 11771 Highway 11, where significant water issues were reported on both sides of the property. Staff will put a request in to SCDOT to further investigate the issue.

Council also discussed a drainage ditch along Highway 176 near the Landrum area that needs to be cleaned. Staff reported that SCDOT may be able to assist with cleaning several ditches in the area and that the matter would be submitted to SCDOT as a work order.

Staff noted that brush and wood debris from recent roadside clearing has accumulated near a drainage area and may be obstructing the flow of water. Staff agreed to follow up with SCDOT regarding the issue.

Council discussed the increasing severity of recent rain events and the resulting stormwater and tree-related issues throughout the area.

Staff noted that recent storms had resulted in numerous trees being down, including several large trees in areas near Interstate 26.

Council agreed that drainage and stormwater issues should continue to be monitored and addressed as quickly as possible.

Promotion of Town Businesses and Churches

Council continued discussion regarding efforts to promote local businesses and work with churches throughout the Town.

Mayor Ash explained that the Town intends to make these meetings an ongoing effort, with business and community meetings planned at least twice each year. The upcoming meeting will be the second such meeting and will focus on public safety, future community events, opportunities for businesses and churches to work together, and ways the Town can promote local businesses.

Council noted that supporting and encouraging local businesses benefits the entire community and expressed hope that additional business development opportunities may be announced within the next 60 to 90 days.

Corner Building / Business Assistance

Council discussed the building located at the corner of Highways 357 and 176, which has recently seen some renovation activity.

The Mayor reported meeting with the building's owner and learning that the owner is personally funding the renovation project. Council discussed ways the Town may be able to assist the owner by identifying grants and other available resources.

Staff specifically mentioned a potential Duke Energy grant as an opportunity to investigate. Council also discussed identifying other grants that could be shared with local businesses to help support improvements and economic development.

The owner reportedly plans to order doors and windows as soon as possible as the next step in the renovation process.

Council discussed whether historic-preservation grants may be available for the building due to its age and historic character. Staff reported that previous owners had explored having the building placed on the historic register but encountered concerns that the designation could create additional restrictions or complications rather than providing benefits.

Council noted that circumstances and available programs may have changed and agreed that the possibility of historic-preservation assistance could be revisited.

A representative also noted that One Spartanburg may have programs available that could benefit the building owner and other small businesses. Council discussed the importance of connecting local business owners with available countywide economic-development resources.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Sidewalk Improvements

Council revisited the Town's sidewalk improvement priorities.

The primary project discussed is extending the sidewalk near **Hyper Motorsports and the Post Office**, including installation of a crosswalk to improve pedestrian safety for residents accessing the Post Office and surrounding businesses.

Council also discussed damaged sidewalk sections resulting from recent road paving activities. Staff is continuing to communicate with the appropriate road authorities regarding repairs and is awaiting further information.

Pacolet River Cleanup

Council again discussed the condition of the Pacolet River and the Town's efforts to obtain assistance with cleanup.

Photographs documenting the condition of the river have been submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Town is awaiting a response.

Council expressed concern regarding the number of trees and other debris in the river, particularly trees that are on or near power lines, creating potential safety hazards.

Council also discussed the potential benefit of the Saluda Grade Rail Trail project in bringing additional attention and resources to the area. Staff expressed optimism that the Town's concerns may receive additional consideration as the trail project progresses.

Traffic Study — Highways 357 and 176

Council continued discussion regarding the proposed traffic signal at the intersection of Highways 357 and 176, near the building discussed previously.

Council agreed that a traffic signal would improve safety and traffic flow at the location. Staff reported that the County has indicated a willingness to consider installing a signal, provided the Town can demonstrate through the traffic study that the signal is warranted.

The Town will continue working with the appropriate agencies and plans to move forward with the traffic study in September.

2026–2027 Budget Presentation

Trey presented the proposed 2026–2027 Town budget to Council.

Trey thanked the Police and Fire Chiefs for their work in preparing their respective departmental budgets and recognized Kim for her organization and assistance throughout the budget development process. He also thanked the Mayor for contacting the Town's auditing firm and helping obtain the most recent audit, which was used to provide additional confidence in the financial information supporting the proposed budget.

The proposed budget is balanced at \$1,431,950, representing an increase of \$58,685 over the current year's budget.

Trey reported that the proposed budget contains no increases to taxes or fees.

The Town also reviewed the Police Department's salary allocations following a recent change involving a protection officer. Staff reported that they are comfortable with the Police Department's salary figures as reflected in the proposed budget.

Trey reported that the proposed budget includes an appropriation of slightly more than \$40,000 from the Town's fund balance in order to balance the budget.

He noted that the Town hopes actual revenues will exceed projections and expenses will be below budget, which could reduce or eliminate the need to use the appropriated fund balance.

The Town currently has more than \$132,000 in its General Fund balance. Trey stated that while the Town is financially positioned to address the current budget, reliance on fund balance should not become an annual practice.

Trey advised Council members that staff remains available to provide additional information and answer questions as Council continues reviewing the proposed budget.

Mayor Ash commented on the positive financial performance of the Town's ballfield. He noted that ballfield revenues are sufficient to cover the associated expenses, allowing the Town to continue providing the facility to the community without requiring additional funding beyond the revenue generated by the ballfield.

Trey also recognized the Police and Fire Chiefs and Town staff for their work on the Gosnell Park project. He explained that the Town's required match for the park grant will be satisfied through in-kind labor hours contributed by Town staff and the departments.

Staff explained that Council may make changes to the budget between first and second reading, provided the final budget is adopted within the required timeframe. Council will have additional time to review the budget, ask questions, and request any necessary revisions before the final reading.

Mayor Ash stated that the proposed budgets were available for Council consideration and that Council could proceed with the first reading while continuing to review the document before the second reading.

After receiving no questions from Council regarding the 2026-2027 Budgets, a Motion was made by Council Member McDowell to adopt the first reading of the 2026-2027 Town of Campobello budget, Police Department Budget, Victim's Advocate Budget, Sewer Budget and the Fire Department Budget, which was seconded by Council Member Kaminer and carried unanimously.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2026

Mayor Ash provided an update and expressed appreciation regarding the Town's recent National Night Out event. He described the event as a very successful and meaningful community gathering and shared a story about a mother from another community who attended the event with her three children. The mother expressed that she had been concerned about being able to provide school supplies for her children until she learned about the Town's National Night Out event. A special thanks was given to Lt. Chris Miller for his hard work in making it such a successful event.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Vote to Transition from Google Drive to Microsoft 365

Council revisited the previously discussed proposal to transition the Town's email, file storage, and office productivity systems from Google Drive/Google Workspace to Microsoft 365.

Council reviewed the previously discussed implementation cost of approximately \$5,800. Staff reiterated that the initial expense includes the setup and migration of the Town's existing information and accounts. The vendor has agreed to allow the Town to divide the initial expense between two budget years rather than paying the entire amount upfront.

Council discussed the ongoing cost comparison and noted that remaining with Google's current services would result in a significant increase in monthly expenses. After the initial transition costs, Microsoft 365 is expected to have a lower ongoing cost.

Council also discussed the security benefits of Microsoft 365, particularly in relation to the Town's police department, email systems, and compliance requirements associated with SLED. Staff indicated

that the Microsoft platform would provide a more secure environment and help the Town better meet applicable security and compliance requirements.

A motion was made by Council Member Kaminer to transition the Town from Google Drive/Google Workspace to Microsoft 365, which was seconded by Council Member Stevenson and carried unanimously.

Memorial for Eddie McNeill

Town resident, John Owenby, addressed Council regarding a previously discussed proposal to create an appropriate memorial honoring the late Eddie McNeill and his service to the Town of Campobello. He noted that the matter had been discussed at prior Council meetings but that a final decision regarding the form or location of a memorial had not yet been determined.

Council discussed the possibility of placing an appropriate memorial at Gosnell Park to recognize Mr. McNeill's contributions and service to the community. Council members expressed agreement that Mr. McNeill made significant contributions to Campobello and that an appropriate tribute should be considered. Mayor Ash stated that opportunities may become available in the future to create a suitable memorial and that the Town intends to revisit the matter as those opportunities develop.

9. Adjourned- August 10, 2026 at 7:35p

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 10th day of August, 2026