

Minutes
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2025 - 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W Augusta St., McCormick, SC

APPROVED
2/11/25

Mayor Smith

Welcome & Comments

Mayor Smith welcomed all in attendance to the Town's January Council Meeting wishing everyone a Happy New Year. He then called the meeting to order.

Call to Order: - 7:01 PM

- A) **Quorum Confirmation** – Mayor Smith called for quorum confirmation; Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney announced that a quorum was present (see attendance sheet attached).
 - B) **Pledge of Allegiance** – All in attendance gave the Pledge of Allegiance in a patriot manner.
 - C) **Invocation** – Mayor Smith gave the invocation, being grateful for the day, asking for blessings on those attending and their families, seeking clarity of mind and thought in conducting the meeting, and blessings of grace and mercy.
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Approval of Agenda as Presented – Council has received a copy of the agenda for review prior to the meeting, and Mayor Smith called for approval.

Council Member Jennings offered the motion to approved, duly seconded by Council Member Franklin, with motion being unanimously approved.

Appearance of Citizens, Public Comments, No Written Requests by Required Deadline – Mayor Smith stated no written request to appear were received by the required deadline.

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Before calling for the Oaths of Office, Mayor Smith commented, regarding Officer New, being promoted to Major/Assistant Chief - that Officer New had shown excellent professionalism in his 5-years with the Police Department and Officer Kelly, Mayor Smith stated - would be a good fit (he felt) for the Police Department, his background of having worked with several agencies, being a veteran, having high standards and professionalism, and being raised in the McCormick community.

Oaths of Office
Eric M New
Promotion - Major/Assistant Chief of Police

And

Timothy E Kelly
Certified Police Officer

Both officers stepped forward and Mayor Smith gave the Oath of Office.

Assistant Chief New stated he was grateful for the opportunity and thanked Chief Willis, the Mayor, and Council for their support.

Officer Kelly also thanked the Mayor and Council for giving him the opportunity to serve the community that he grew up in.

Council Member Mr. Dansby stated he was glad to see Officer Kelly become a member of the Police Department, he (Dansby) having known him for years, went to school with him, and held him in high regard.

Mayor Smith also recognized the Department's Officer – Eric Anderson – who would be going to the Academy later on in February.

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Regular Town Council Business Items: - December – Council had received copies of the business items for review prior to the meeting, and Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding each. Received none, Mayor Smith called for a motion regarding –

- A) **Minutes -**
- B) **Bills**
- C) **Financial Statement**

Council Member Jennings made the motion to approve the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, with said motion being unanimously approved.

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Moving to:

Legislation: - Mayor Smith stated there were no

- A) **Ordinances** – to be considered, with one
- B) **Resolutions – R-2025-01/14/01 – Emergency Action Plan** for adoption and one
- D) **Proclamation – School Choice Week** – which was an annual proclamation

speaking to choice of parents in seeking the best interest of their children and their education.

Council had received copies of the Legislative Items for review prior to the meeting, and Mayor Smith called for council action regarding the Resolution, after stating to council that this was a part of the Town's insurance coverages through the Municipal Association's SCMIRF Program.

Council Member Jennings offered the motion to approve Resolution 2025-01-14-02 Emergency Action Plan for the Town, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, with said motion being unanimously approved.

Council had received copies of the Reports – for December – and Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding each one.

A) **Police – No Questions or Comments offered**

B) **Fire –**

Mayor Smith called for Fire Chief Barron to comment.

Chief Barron stated he had several young people to step up and help the Department during the recent Hurricane, Lavar Fambrough, Cheyene Bentley, Elijah Bookert, and Aquanda Barcliff, with them continuing to show an interest in being a part of the Fire Department, with Miss Bentley, being in the Explorers Program at School. Chief Barron stated he wanted to introduce them to council with them possibly becoming members of the Fire Department.

C) **Clerk/Treasurer & Deputy Clerk/Treasurer** – Council Member Chiles questioned what type of business was going in the old Huddle House on South Mine.

Response from audience was that it was to be a Mexican Restaurant, the owner of the restaurant in Lincolnton to open up a restaurant in McCormick.

No further questions or comments offered Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve all reports.

Council Member Jennings made a motion to approve all reports as given, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Dansby, with said motion being unanimously approved.

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Old Business: No old business was offered to come before Council.

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Mayor Smith stated there were several items of **New Business** as information -

A) **Filing of 2023 Statements of Economic Interests (must be done By elected officials online (no exceptions) and due by noon, March 30**

B) **2025 Report on Contracts**

C) **2025 Yearly Employment Forms (will be delivered mid-January) – Information – no attachments**

D) **Report on American Rescue Funding Expenditures – 2021 to 2024**

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Mayor Smith then called for a motion to enter into an **executive session** under

**FOIA – Section 30-4-70 (1)
Discussion of Employment Matters, Hiring, Promotions, Discharges –
Police Department**

Session began at 7:20 pm and ended at 7:40 pm.

Upon return, Mayor Smith stated no action was needed from the discussion only held in the Executive Session.

He then called for a motion to revert to Regular Session.

Motion duly offered by Council Member Jennings, duly seconded by Council Member Dansby, said motion unanimously approved.

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Returning to Regular Session – at 7:40 pm – Mayor Smith then gave the

**Mayor's Comments
MLK 2025 - Holiday to be observed on Monday, January 20
Hometown Legislation Action Day – MASC – Wednesday, January 22**

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With regard to the appointment of Ms. Butler to the Election Commission, Mayor Smtih stated she was not present, in that she was helping with the School Board Election, and that she would be placed on the February agenda.

Appointment of Ms. Natasha Butler, as a Member of the Town’s Election Commission –
Oath of Office

Mayor Smith then called for any other comments or items to come before council.

Council Member Mr. Chiles stated he wanted to thank everyone for their visits, calls, or acts of kindness shown to him during his recent health struggles, thoughts, prayers. He stated he was back and was improving every day.

Council Member Dansby thanked the Chief for the Council’s new ID cards.

And prayers were called for the California wildfires and the many people affected.

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Adjournment – Council Member Jennings offered the **motion to adjourn**, duly seconded by Council Member Dansby, with said motion being unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Clerk/Treasurer

File: M 01 14 2025

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Distribution Schedule

Mayor	Roy Smith, Jr.
Council Members	Dolly Franklin Nathan Jones Calvin Chiles Curt Dansby Alvin Jennings Faye Hood
Attorney	Douglas L. Bell
Department Heads	Interim Police Chief Eric New Fire Chief Mike Barron William D (Bo) Willis Officer Eric Anderson
News Media	Journal-Messenger
FOIA:	Chuck Cook, County Council District 3 John Stone, Journal-Messenger Scott Wharram, SLV Liaison
Others:	Mrs. Cook Oscar New Lavar Fambrough Elijah Bookert Cheyene Bentley Aquanda Barcliff Linda Jennings

- "In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 4, Title 30, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, an agenda was posted on the rear entrance door to the McCormick One Stop, 109 W Augusta St and in the kiosk in front of Town Hall, 117 W Augusta St, posted on the Town's website, townofmccormicksc.org, and sent to the news media."

- This is a meeting defined under S.C. Code Ann. Section 30.4-20(d) - ('Meeting' means the convening of a quorum of the constituent membership of a public body, whether corporal or by means of electronic equipment, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.' (emphasis added))