

Minutes
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2025 - 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W Augusta St., McCormick, SC

APPROVED

3/11/25
[Signature]

Mayor Smith

Welcome & Comments

Mayor Smith welcomed those in attendance to the Town's February regular town council meeting, acknowledging there were many in attendance from the community and others.

1. Call to Order: Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. and called for:

A) **Quorum Confirmation** - Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney stated a quorum was present;

B) **Pledge of Allegiance** - All present stood and offered the Pledge in a patriotic manner;

C) **Invocation** - and offered the invocation, being grateful for the dawn of day, seeking blessings for families and those present, open hearts and guidance in thought and tongue in the conduct of the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda as Presented: Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Council Member Mr. Jones, duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby and unanimously approved.

3. Appearance of Citizens, Public Comments -

A) **Jefferson Sturkey**, Community Awareness Concerns (3 minutes)

Mayor Smith called upon Mr. Sturkey to speak to Council

Mr. Sturkey, representing residents in the area of East Augusta, Maple, and the community at large, spoke to council with regard to a recent incident - discharge of a fire arm - in the area of East Augusta Street in Town. He stated the incident could have become very serious especially if there were children present. He stated he grew up in the Plum Branch area and wanted to become involved in the community. In an effort to keep everyone involved, he felt better communication was needed, with the community working together to solve not only these types of issues but issues of growth of the community, the loss of industry and resources. He suggested that the town when working with the budget, think about getting cameras installed, of better ways of checking houses, be a "handshake community", establish council/community/advisory committees; work with the youth in the community, and try to do the best for McCormick which is considered the smallest community in South Carolina, but having the highest

"move into" community in the State.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Sturkey for his comments and his attendance and agreed that the recent shooting incident could have been much worse than it was, and stated that the Police Department was working to develop additional information. He stated that the Department had a good relationship with the community. Having met with residents in the neighborhood of the shooting, Mayor Smith thanked them and stated that homeowner, being surprised that the incident even took place, was working to prevent any further incidences.

Oath of Office

- Natasha Butler - Municipal Election Commission

Mayor Smith called forward Ms. Butler to take the Oath of Office for the Municipal Election Commission, stating that she is already familiar with the election process. Oath of Office signed February 11, 2025.

Moving to:

4. Regular Town Council Business Items form January: - Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding the:

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

No questions or comments offered, Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for January.

Motion by Council Member Mr. Dansby, duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones and unanimously approved.

Moving to:

5. Legislation: Mayor Smith stated there were no -
A) Ordinances - to be considered;

Mayor Smith stated that he appreciated Council allowing him to work with the Town's Trash Collection Contractor, Paul Williams of Emerald Sanitation, he and Mr. Williams having discussed the Trash Collection Contract, with a few changes being made, with council having a copy of the contract in their agenda packages for review. Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments.

Council Member Mr. Chiles questioned the two holidays where trash would not be picked up and asked the schedule for pickup. Mr. Williams stated pickup would be the day after the holiday.

Council Member Mr. Chiles stated that he would also like to see, at some point, that the issue of the pickup of leaves and limbs be addressed, maybe with one or two days being set where residents could have them picked up. Discussion was held as to the fee that residents pay to use the recycling centers; Mr. Chiles stated he had been taking these to the Center, but, like many elderly, was getting where this was not convenient for him. Asking Mr. Williams regarding this matter would he consider, with Mr. Williams stating that the was willing to discuss the matter. Moving back to Resolutions for approval, Mayor Smith called for a motion.

Motion by Council Member Mr. Jones, duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, approval was given to the

B) Resolutions – for the **Trash Collection Contract** – R-2025-02-11-01.

C) Proclamations

Mayor Smith stated no Proclamations had been issued.

(Signatures for the Resolution R-2024-01-14-1 – Trash Collection Contract and for the recently adopted Emergency Action Plan

Moving to:

6. Reports for January – Mayor Smith called for questions or comments –

A) **Police – no questions or comments offered;**

B) **Fire** – Mayor Smith called upon Fire Chief Barron to talk to council regarding the Mutual Aid Agreement with Troy Fire Department and bring Troy on as a partner with McCormick. He stated Troy would assist with structure, entrapment, and assistance would be separate, with Troy paying their firemen and McCormick paying their firemen. He stated this partnership would benefit those in the outer areas, Bell Field Road, Bradley and other areas, and would allow a combining of resources to help in greater response times. He stated that a recent structure fire called for this partnership and Troy was on the scene in 2-1/2 minutes where it took McCormick to respond in 4 minutes. He stated this would also allow for increased training.

C) **Clerk/Treasurer & Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – no questions or comments offered.**

Mayor Smith then called for a motion from Council to approve the Reports.

Council Member Dansby offered the motion, duly seconded by Council Member Jones, with the motion unanimously approved.

.....
Under -

7. Old Business: - Mayor Smith stated the items were given as information:

A) **MEO Class Information** – Council can also access- Class “The Five Basics of Effective Governing” online visit www.masc.sc (key word: MEO)

B) **Filing of 2024 Statements of Economic Interests** (must be done By elected officials online (no exceptions) and due by noon, March 30

8. New Business for February:

A) **Review of Mutual Aid Agreement** between McCormick and Troy Fire Departments – Attorney Bell – Mayor Smith stated Attorney Bell had reviewed the Mutual Aid document and did not see any issues and the items of the

B) **Strategic Plan Report** of December, 2024 and the

C) **Safety Meeting Notes** – 4th Qtr. 2024 were given as information. For the Strategic Plan, Mayor Smith stated this document addressed future goals of the departments and the Town. Before giving the Mayor's Comments, Mayor Smith stated he wanted to update council with regard to status, council having given him the authority to work with the Chief in the recruitment of offers. He stated that the department would have six (6) officers, currently with three (3) certified officers, two (2) uncertified and one (1) certified who would be given a letter of offer at the end of the month. He stated that the contract for the county would be phased out, and that there had been a good working relationship with the Sheriff. He stated that Deputies would still be assisting the Department. He stated that Chief Willis would be returned to work on the 12th.

Mayor's Comments

MLK Program – Mayor Smith stated this was a well-attended program at the newly renovated Mims Center, and for the **Chamber Annual Dinner Meeting** – he stated this was well attended also, with a lot of good information given.

Before adjourning, Mayor Smith asked County Council Representative for District 3, Mr. Cook to address council regarding the old Riegel Building.

Mr. Cook stated that this property was sold to Mr. Kool HVAC, a company making and distributing AC units, would employ approximately 20 people. Also, giving information on the Spec Building, Mr. Cook stated that this was being considered by a German company producing cellulose for wood products and food producers, making a 3-million-dollar investment in the community, and employing 25-26 people.

Council Member Mr. Chiles thanked the county for trying to fill up vacant buildings and also stated there were vacant house and apartments that needed filling up.

Mayor Smith called for other items to come to Council; none were offered.


Calling for:

9. Adjournment

Council Member Dansby offered the motion to adjourn, duly seconded by Council Member Jones, and unanimously approved.

Council Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra McKinney, Clerk/Treasurer

M-02-11-2025

Minutes

Regular Town Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – 7:00 PM

McCormick One Stop Conference Room

109 W Augusta St., McCormick, SC

Attendance Schedule

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Mayor | Roy Smith, Jr. |
| Council Members | Nathan Jones Calvin Chiles Curt Dansby Faye Hood |
| Council Members Absent | Dolly Franklin Alvin Jennings |
| Attorney | Douglas L. Bell |
| Department Heads | Interim Chief Eric New Fire Chief Mike Barron |
| News Media | Journal-Messenger – John Stone |
| FOIA: | Chuck Cook, County Council District 3 & Mrs. Cook John Stone, Journal-Messenger Scott Wharram, SLV Liaison |
| Appearance of Citizens | Jefferson Sturkey |
| Others: | Natasha Butler, Appointee for the Elections Commission Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Chambers William D. (Bo) Willis Paul Williams, Emerald Sanitation Carole Sturkey Linda Kidd Allison Broadwater Diane Davis and Daughter Mr. and Mrs. Snider Other Residents of East Augusta Street Maple & Oak Streets |
| Council Member from Washington, GA | Andy Anderson |
| Public Posting | Town Kiosk, 117 W. Augusta St. Conference Room Entrance – One Stop – rear next to Fire Station/Parking Lot area |

- "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))