

Minutes
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 - 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W Augusta St., McCormick, SC

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Call to Order:

- A) **Quorum Confirmation**
- B) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- C) **Invocation**

Mayor Smith, wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day, welcomed all those present to the Town's February regular Town Council meeting stating that Council Member Dansby would be absent due to him being out of Town. He then called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m., and called for a quorum confirmation. Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney confirmed that a quorum was present with Council Members Dolly Franklin, Alvin Jennings, Calvin Chiles, Nathan Jones, and Faye Hood attending.

Also attending were Police Chief W.D. Bo Willis, Fire Chief Mike Barron, Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney and Town Attorney James Graham Padgett, III.

Other attendees/guests were Chuck Cook, County Council Member, District 3 and Mrs. Cook; Charlotte Tallent, Executive Director, McCormick County Chamber of Commerce, and Marge Elmore, resident of Washington Street. Joshua James, Police Candidate, was present and introduced to Council.

Notice of Meeting – In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 4, Title 30, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, an agenda had been posted on the rear entrance door of the McCormick One Stop Building, 109 West Augusta Street, as well as posted in the Town's Kiosk, 117 West Augusta Street, giving public notice of the meeting, copies were emailed to news media, Journal-Messenger and the Index-Journal, those requesting notice of meetings, and posting was done on the Town's website.

FOIA Notification – those requesting agenda packages were given said packages at the meeting, February 14.

News Media present – John Stone, Lincoln/Journal/Messenger.

All present stood and offered the Pledge of Allegiance in a patriotic manner, and Mayor Smith gave the invocation, seeking a humble manner, being thankful for another day, seeking mercy, grace, blessings for all assembled and the community, and that tongue, mind, and thought being guided in the conduct of the meeting.

Approval of Agenda as Presented:

Mayor Smith called for any discussion or comments regarding the agenda as presented and receiving none, he called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Council Member Jennings offered the motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Franklin, and said motion being unanimously approved.

Appearance of Citizens, Public Comments, No Written Requests by Required Deadline

Mayor Smith called for public comments and none were offered; he stated that no requests to appear before council had been received by the required deadline.

Mayor Smith then introduced *Joshua James*, police officer candidate to Council, stating the Town had a great police department, and that from conversation he seemed to be a good fit for the department. Mayor Smith stated he would be sworn in at the March meeting of council.

Regular Town Council Business Items: - January:

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

Council had received copies of the Minutes, Bills and Financial Statement for January for review prior to the meeting. Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments regarding each item and receiving none, called for a motion.

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

Legislation:

- A) **Ordinances** – One - Second Reading/Adoption
Ordinance O-2023-01-10-01 – Comprehensive Plan Update
- B) **Resolutions** –
- C) **Proclamations** –

(Obtain signatures for Resolution R-2023-01-10 – Town Emergency Action Plan & Ordinance O-2023-01-10 – CP Plan Update)

Council had received copies of Legislative items for review prior to the meeting. Mayor Smith stated that only one ordinance was listed, Comprehensive Plan Update which required second reading and adoption. He stated there were no Resolutions or Proclamations.

Calling for a motion, Council Member Chiles made the motion to give second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2023-01-10-01, Comprehensive Plan Update, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Jones and Jennings, and said being unanimously approved.

Council then proceeded to sign off on the Ordinance 2023-01-10-01, and the previously approved Emergency Action Plan Resolution – 2023-01-10-01.

Reports:

- A) Police
- B) Fire
- C) Clerk/Treasurer & Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Council had received copies of all Reports for review prior to the meeting, and Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding all reports, Police, Fire, Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

Council Member Chiles questioned the Fire Chief's and his report regarding fire equipment and the return of equipment to Plum Branch.

Chief Barron stated that Plum Branch had requested that all equipment be returned by those firemen who were with McCormick which left the firemen without radios and bunker gear.

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

Old Business:

Mayor Smith stated there was no Old Business to come to Council.

New Business:

- A) Filing of 2021 Statements of Economic Interests (must be done By elected officials online (no exceptions) and due by noon, March 30

Under New Business, Mayor Smith stated there was a reminder for Council Members to file their SEI's online by the due date of March 30 and if not filed a penalty of \$100 a day would be assessed.

Mayor's Comments

**Hometown Legislation Action Day – MASC – Wednesday, February 7, 2023
Mayor Smith stated he attended the Conference, which had over 300 attendees and was a good conference. He stated one focus of the conference was the "civility pledge" recently adopted by the Municipal Association and was presented to Council at a prior meeting. Mayor Smith read the pledge to those attending the meeting.**

Mayor Smith stated that Council Member Mr. Dansby had also attended the conference and one of the beginner's classes.

Mayor Smith stated he was planning to have a joint meeting with the Commission of Public Works and would be getting information to Council on date and time; he stated there were items that needed to be discussed.

He then stated that it may have been noticed that there were red ribbons placed downtown and called for Mrs. McKinney to explain.

Mrs. McKinney stated that February was Heart Month as well as Valentine's and red ribbons and hearts were placed on the antique street lights and in the seating areas to commemorate.

Mayor Smith stated Town Hall would be closed on Monday, February 20 for President's Day.

Adjournment:

Mayor Smith called for a motion to adjourn, said motion being offered by Council Member Jennings, duly seconded by Council Member Franklin, said motion being unanimously approved.

Council adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sandra McKinney
Town Clerk/Treasurer**

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