

Minutes
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 2024 - 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC

APPROVED

5/14/24

[Signature]

Welcome & Comments – Mayor Smith welcomed all those in attendance to the ~~Town's April~~ regular Town Council meeting thanking them for their attendance. Stating that there would be oaths of office for recently elected officials, Mayor Smith stated he would like to say how that would go – he would be sworn in first by the Clerk of Court, Mrs. Gwen Chiles, and then he would swear in the others.

Call to Order –

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm, and called for

A) **Quorum Confirmation** – Town Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney announced a quorum was present

B) **Pledge of Allegiance** – all present stood and gave the Pledge in a patriotic manner

C) **Invocation** - Mayor Smith gave the invocation, being thankful for the dawn of another day, asking for blessings for family and community; clarity of mind, thoughts and tongue regarding the conduct of the meeting.

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

Council Member Mr. Chiles offered the motion, said motion duly seconded by Council Members Mr. Dansby and Jones, and unanimously approved.

Appearance of Citizens – Public Comments – Mayor Smith stated no written requests had been received by the deadline, Wednesday, April 3.

No further public comments were offered.

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Oaths of Office:

Mayor Smith is sworn in as Mayor by the Honorable Gwen Chiles, Clerk of Court for McCormick County

Mayor Smith swears in – Nathan Jones, Council Member, District 2 and Faye Hood, Council Member, District 6, and Leonard Bowick, Commissioner of Public Works

Mayor Smith also swears in Certified Police Officer Lauren Young, recent graduate of the SC Criminal Justice Academy.

Mayor Smith thanked Officer Young for her willingness to serve and being a part of the Town's Police Department and family; he stated that supporting her and in attendance were Deputy Sheriff Ricky Young, her dad as well as her mother and step-father.

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Moving to -

Regular Town Council Business Items –for March (copies of which were given to Council prior to the meeting for review) – Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding the

A) **Minutes**

B) **Bills**

C) **Financial Statement**

No questions or comments were offered, Mayor Smith called for a motion.

Council Member Mr. Jones offered the motion, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.

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Moving to -

Legislation for consideration – Mayor Smith stated two Ordinance were to be considered for approval –

(Council had received copies of the legislative documents for review prior to the meeting.)

A) Ordinances – Two – Mayor Smith stated there two ordinances to be considered:

(1) O-2024-03-12-02 - Flood Damage Prevention for second reading/adoption – Mayor Smith calls for a motion; **said motion was offered by Council Member Mr. Jennings, duly seconded by Council Members Mr. Dansby and Mrs. Frankin, and unanimously approved.**

(2) O-2024-04-09-01 – Compensation for Elected Officials for introduction/first reading; Mayor Smith stated that it had been sometime since compensation for elected officials had been looked at and called for discussion from Council. No discussion was offered, and Mayor Smtih called for a motion. **Council Member Mr. Jennings made the motion to give first reading to the ordinance amending the compensation of the Mayor and Members of Council; said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.**

B) Resolutions – None – Mayor Smith stated there were no Resolutions to be considered.

C) Proclamations – One – Mayor Smith stated one Proclamation had been issued regarding Public Procurement and Asset Management in support of the Governor’s Proclamation

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Moving to –

Reports – (council had received copies for review prior to the meeting). Mayor Smith called for questions or comments regarding

A) Police – no questions or comments offered

Mayor Smith asked Chief Willis if he would speak to the open carry law recently approved; Chief Willis stated that 18-year-olds now have the right to carry a weapon, but they couldn’t purchase the weapon nor the ammo for it and there were restrictions on when and where an open weapon could be carried; can’t carry in public buildings, government offices, churches (unless permission is given) day care centers, and if entering a private residence, the individual was required to tell the home owner that he was carrying a weapon. Chief Willis stated he was updating his policies with regard to the new law. Asked how law enforcement viewed this new law, Chief Willis stated that SLED, the Sheriff’s Association, the State Trooper’s Association and other law enforcement agencies were against it. He stated that SLED would be conducting two concealed weapons classes in the months, and was contracting with qualified instructors to hold these classes, and that he was the only qualified instructor locally, he would be holding those classes.

B) Fire – no questions or comments offered

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

He then called for a motion regarding Reports.

Council Member Mr. Dansby made the motion to approve all reports, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.

Under Old Business – Mayor Smith stated that –

A) Draft Copies of the FY 24/25 Budgets were listed, the General Fund Operating, the Capital Projects, and the American Rescue Fund, a budget workshop having been held on March 19.

He stated these budgets would move to Legislation in May for a public hearing, introduction, and first reading.

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Under New Business – Mayor Smith stated there were several items (Council having received copies prior to the meeting for review), stating that action may or may not be taken:

(A) Consider Use of American Rescue Plan funds for renovations/repairs to Town Owned Properties with ads to solicit architect’s qualifications for a proposal to create a Master Plan of improvements Draft Copy of FY 24/25 General Fund Operating Budget. Capital Projects Budget & American Rescue Fund Budget

(B) Consider Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding County/Municipality Council Member Coverage
Mayor Smith asked Mrs. McKinney, Clerk/Treasurer, to speak to this issue.

Mrs. McKinney stated that fulltime employees participated in the state’s health insurances and retirement programs and this would allow those employees to continue this benefit as a retiree with certain others not being able to participate once they retired.

(C) Consider Request for Donation – the Hardy Foundation in support of a Fair in the County –

Mayor Smith stated that it had been some time since there was a fair in the county and felt that this would ~~be people in~~ into the community; he stated that he had heard that the County was supporting this event with a donation of \$700, and asked for Council consideration and comments regarding with a possible donation in the amount of \$300.

Council Member Mr. Jennings made a motion to give a donation of \$300; said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.

Executive Session: FOIA – Section 30-4-70(a)(1) Discussion of receipt of legal advice...regarding Election Results from the April 2, 2024 General Election (Action May or May Note be taken after return to Regular Session)

Mayor Smtih called for a motion to hold the Executive Session. Council Member Mrs. Hood offered said motion, motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

Executive Session from approximately 7:30 pm to 7:50 pm.

Upon return to open session, Council Member Mr. Jenings made a motion to return to regular session, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.

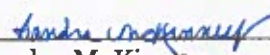
Moving to Mayor's Report – Mayor Smith reported that he attended –
The Bacot & Padgett annual barbeque
The Ribbon Cutting for Main Street Coffee on March 20, stating that if anyone had not been to that
business that they should; especially they having a good breakfast
An update on the grant for the electric charging stations; he stated that Mrs. McKinney and Rick
Green, Upper Savannah Council of Government worked on the grant submission, and a reply had been
sent stating that the grant was under review

Mayor Smith called for other items to come before council, and receiving none, he called for a motion
to adjourn.
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**Adjournment - Council Member Mr. Jennings offered the motion to adjourn, said
motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.**

Council Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted -



Sandra McKinney
Town Clerk/Treasurer

Attendance Schedule
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 2024 – 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC

Mayor	Roy Smith, Jr.
Council Members	Dolly Franklin Nathan Jones Calvin Chiles Curt Dansby Alvin Jennings Faye Hood
Attorney	James G. Padgett, III
Department Heads	Police Chief W.D. (Bo) Willis
Absent:	Fire Chief Mike Barron
Clerk/Treasurer Deputy Clerk/Treasurer	Sandra McKinney Michelle Chambers
News Media	Journal-Messenger-Reporter John Stone
FOIA Notifications	Chuck Cook, County Council Member, District 3 Charlotte Tallent, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce John Stone, Journal-Messenger Scott Wharram, SLV Liaison
Others	Ms. Naomi Reed, Field Services Representative – MASC Sgt. Eric New, Police Department Marge Elmore, Resident of Washington Street Lorna Hill, Candidate for Council District 4 Lenee Lovejoy Deputy Sheriff Ricky Young, Mother & Stepfather of Police Officer Lauren Young Mrs. Chuck Cook Deborah Fuller, McCormick Visitor's Council

For Oaths of Office

(the) Honorable Gwen Chiles, Clerk
Of Court – McCormick County
Roy Smith, Jr., for Mayor
Nathan Jones, Council Member
District 2
Faye Hood, Council Member
District 6
Leonard Bowick, CPW Commissioner
Lauren Young, Certified Police Officer
McCormick Police Department

Appearance of Citizens

None

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- "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)

File: M 04 09 2024