

Minutes

McCormick Town Council

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

McCormick One Stop - 109 W August Street - McCormick SC

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**Welcome & Comments**

Mayor Smith welcomed all in attendance to the June regular meeting of council.

Attendance sheets are attached for reference and made a part hereof.

**Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 4, Title 30, SC Code of Laws 1976, as amended, an agenda had been posted on the rear entrance door of the McCormick One Stop, 109 W Augusta Street, as well as posted in the Town's Kiosk 117 W Augusta Street, giving public notice of the meeting; copies were emailed to news media, Journal-Messenger and The Index-Journal, and those individuals and agencies who had requested notice of meetings. Posting was also placed on the Town's website - townofmccormicksc.org.

**FOIA Notifications**

Individuals/agencies who had requested full agenda packages as well as notice of meetings - those packages were available to them - the night of the meeting.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Smith called the regular town council meeting for June 13, 2023 to order at approximately 7:01 p.m. He then called for the Pledge of Allegiance to which all present stood and offered in a patriotic manner. Offering the Invocation, Mayor Smith gave thanks for the dawn of another day, for blessings on all present, families and community, open hearts and minds in the conduct of town business, guidance in thoughts, words and actions.

**Approval of Agenda As Written**

Council, having received a copy of the agenda and full agenda package prior to the meeting for review, a motion was called for by Mayor Smith regarding the agenda as presented.

Council Member Jennings made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, said motion duly seconded by Council Members Dansby and Franklin and unanimously approved.

**Appearance of Citizens**

Mayor Smith announced that the Town had not received notices to appear before council prior to the meeting.

**Regular Town Council Business Items - May**

Mayor Smith stated that council had an opportunity to review the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for May prior to the meeting and called for any questions or comments regarding same; none were offered. Mayor Smith called for a motion.

Council Member Jennings offered the motion to approve the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for May, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Dansby and Franklin, and unanimously approved.

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**Public Hearing - Ordinance 2023-06-13-02** - Updated Town Comprehensive Plan as published in the Lincoln-Journal-Messenger

Mayor Smith opened the public hearing to receive comments at approximately 7:05 p.m. No comments were offered; he then closed the public hearing.

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**Legislation**

Mayor Smith stated that council had received copies of all legislative items for review prior to the meeting. He called council action regarding second reading/adoption of the Town's FY 23/24 General Fund Operating Budget, the Capital Project's Budget and the American Rescue Fund Budget.

Council Member Jennings made a motion to give second reading/adoption to Ordinance 2023-06-13-01, said motion duly seconded by Council Members Dansby and Franklin, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith called for council action regarding Ordinance 2023-06-13-02, updated 2023 Town Comprehensive Plan.

Council Member Jennings made a motion to give second reading/adoption to Ordinance 2023-06-13-02 Updated 2023 Comprehensive Plan, said motion duly seconded by Council Members Dansby and Franklin and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated there were no Resolutions or Proclamations to consider.

**Reports**

Council had been provided with all reports for review prior to the meeting, and Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments regarding each, Police, Fire, Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. No questions or comments were offered.

Council Member Dansby commented that he wanted to thank Chief Willis and Officer New for their diligent work during the shortage of police officers for the town.

Mayor Smith called for a motion regarding the Reports, and Council Member Jennings made the motion to approve all reports, with Council Member Dansby duly giving second, with all council members unanimously approving same.

**Old Business**

Mayor Smith stated that Reverend Hall had spoken at the May meeting of council regarding the Youth Empowerment event recently held, and the many advantages to the community. He said Reverend Hall had also asked for a donation for the event and he was recommending that council consider a \$500 donation.

Council Member Chiles made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation of \$500 as a donation for the Youth Empowerment Program, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Dansby and unanimously approved.

MASC annual meeting information and registration forms had been provided to council members and Mayor Smith stated that those attending needed to get the information back to Mrs. McKinney so that she could get them registered; he encouraged council to attend this valuable training opportunity.

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**Executive Session**

As published by the agenda, an Executive Session was to be held regarding FOIA - Section 30.4.70(a)(1) - **Discussion of**

**Employment Matters - Compensation, Promotion/Appointment.** Mayor Smith called for a motion to hold the executive session.

Council Member Chiles made said motion which was duly seconded by Council Member Dansby and unanimously approved.

Executive Session held from 7:17 p.m. to 7:52 p.m.

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**Return to Regular Session**

Motion was offered by Council Member Jennings, duly seconded by Council Member Dansby to return to regular session.

Mayor Smith called for council action regarding the Executive Session discussion.

Council Member Chiles offered a motion to amend the agenda to provide for action regarding the Executive Session discussion - shortage of officers in the Police Department, giving the Mayor the authority to work with the McCormick County Sheriff's Office to provide assistance; to offer a stipend to Chief Willis who had worked additional hours to cover; to recruit qualified officers for the department, and to realign the number of officers in the department for future budgeting purposes. Said motion was duly seconded by Council Member Dansby and unanimously approved.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Smith stated he had attended the Upper Savannah's Mayor meeting on May 25 and topics of grant funding for economic development, the state budget increases for certain law enforcement agencies, and the issues of brownfield funding for those municipalities who faced this type of problem were heard.

He stated he and Council Member Chiles had attended the Mental Health event at the Library on May 25.

He stated the Streetscape Project, getting off to a slow start, was now underway, and reminded council of the upcoming Juneteenth events being planned by the Mims Foundation.

He also relayed to council that the town's new entrance signs were now in place.

**Adjournment**

Calling for other items to come before council and receiving none, he called for a motion to adjourn.

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

Council adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra McKinney, Clerk/Treasurer

**M06132023**