

*Minutes*  
*Regular Town Council Meeting*  
**Tuesday, October 8, 2024 - 7:00 PM**  
*109 W Augusta Street, McCormick, SC*

**APPROVED**  
11/19/24  
  
**Mayor Smith**

**Welcome & Comments** – Mayor Smith welcomed those present to the meeting, stating that before calling the meeting to order he wanted to speak to the recent disaster, Hurricane Helene, and recognize the efforts of the Police and Fire Departments in responding to this disaster situation. He also recognized several individuals in the community – Tim White of Michelle’s for providing food sometimes at no cost, Robbie Sanders of McCormick Oil, who supplied gas and diesel to keep emergency and law enforcement vehicles running, South Carolina DOT for promptly coming in to clear roadways, McCormick Commission of Public Works, who responded quickly to keep the water flowing and eventually getting the Town back up and running with electric power ahead of any other utility, the SC National Guard who was mobilized to bring in bottled water and MRE’s (meals ready to eat), and the number of town residents who stepped up and volunteer services. All of this, he stated, prove the point that working together works.

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**1. Call to Order – 7:05 pm – Mayor Smith called for:**

- A) **Quorum Confirmation** – Mayor Smith called for the Clerk/Treasurer to verify that a quorum was present; Mrs. McKinney stated, with the mayor as a voting member, a quorum was present.
  - B) **Pledge of Allegiance** – All present stood and offered the Pledge in a patriotic manner.
  - C) **Invocation** – Mayor Smith offered the invocation, being thankful for the dawn of another day, presence of spirit in the midst of the storm; for mercy and grace, and being grateful that there were no casualties from the recent storm.
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**2. Approval of Agenda as Presented –**

Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Council Member Mr. Chiles made said motion, it being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.**

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**Presentation of the FY 23/24 Audit by McKinley, Cooper**

Mayor Smith stated that report would be given at the November council meeting.

**3. Appearance of Citizens** – Item not addressed Walk.

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**4. Regular Town Council Business Items** – September –

Mayor and Council had received copies of the regular business items to come before council prior to the meeting for review, and Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments and receiving none, called a motion to approve the:

- A) **Minutes**
- B) **Bills**
- C) **Financial Statement** – stating that  
Audit work has begun for the FY 23/24 Fiscal Year.

**Council Member Dansby made the motion to approve the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for September, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Hood and unanimously approved.**

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Moving to:

**5. Legislation for consideration** – Mayor and Council had received copies of the legislative items to come before council prior to the meeting for review, and Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments and receiving none, called a motion to approve the:

- A) (1) Ordinance No. O-2024-11-19-01  
**to Amend the Town’s FY 24/25 General Fund Operating Budget to Account for non-grant related Expenditures for the Community Development Block Grant 4-CE-009-020, Streetscape – Introduction/First Reading**

**Receiving no questions or comments, Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve first reading.**

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

- B) (1) Resolution R-2024-10-08-2024 – **Amendment to Travel Reimbursement Policy**

**Council Member Mr. Chiles questioned the \$60.00 per day - \$15.00 per quarter for meal reimbursement; explaining, Mrs. McKinney, stated that the day was broken into quarter, three meals per day, allowing for each meal the \$15.00.**

**No further questions or comments offered; Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the Resolution.**

**Council Member Mr. Dansby made the motion to approve the Resolution, motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles, and unanimously approved.**

- D) (1) Proclamations: One – **Breast Cancer Awareness Month – October**

Mayor Smith stated he issued one Proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness, and announced that the Breast Cancer Walk event had been moved to October 26.

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Moving to:

**6. Reports –**

**Mayor Smith stated that for the Police and Fire reports, he wanted for Chief Willis and Chief Barron to speak to the recent disaster of Hurricane Helene.**

**Chief Barron, speaking, stated that there were positive and negative responses to the storm, a lack of following proper procedures in declaring the emergency, a lack of communications to the various agencies involved, particularly the fire departments, and the need, in the future, for training in the proper chain of command, response, relief and recovery during disasters. He also spoke to the many positive challenges that the Fire Department had in responding to the situation from opening up the station to the community for charging of cell phones and other devices, being a site for the handout of water and meal kits, responding to all calls for service in a time and efficient manner, and being properly trained to handle the situation in a timely manner.**

**Chief Willis, speaking, affirmed some of the same responses as Chief Barron, adding that some years ago, he had the foresight to obtain generators from the federal surplus property program and those generators met the need for the Fire Station and Town Hall to stay open. He also stated that he had recently upgraded his communication equipment, and offered some of those to the emergency services to use, in that there were difficulties there; he stated that a recent meeting showed there was a need to get better at handling these types of situations, from activation, response, and recovery, and when a final debriefing session is held that one subject for that debriefing would be to find ways to better respond in the future.**

A) **Police** – No questions or comments offered. Comments given as to recent disaster from Hurricane Helene.

B) **Fire** – No questions or comments offered. Comments given as to the recent disaster from Hurricane Helene

**Calling for questions or comments, regarding the**

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

Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer reports.

**Council Member Mrs. Hood made the motion to approve all Reports, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.**

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**7. Old Business** – Mayor Smith stated there was no Old Business to consider.

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**8. New Business** – Mayor Smith stated there was one item of New Business to consider.

A) **Consideration of a Quit Claim Deed to the McCormick Arts Council conveying the Keturah Hotel lot to the MACK**

He called upon Clerk/Treasurer, Mrs. McKinney, to address.

Mrs. McKinney stated that the Arts Council had requested that both the Town and County consider deeding the building and lot which the building sits on to the Arts Council in an effort to continue to make renovations to the building. McCormick County prepared a quitclaim deed to do so, with the Town thinking that the deed would contain signatures for the Town as co-owner, in that the Town passed an ordinance approving for the County to prepare the necessary deed. As it came to the attention of the Town that this was not done, the quit claim deed for the Town to sign was before Council for action to finish this process.

Calling for questions or comments and receiving none, Mayor Smith called for a motion.

Council Member Mr. Chiles offered the motion for the Town to sign off on the quit claim deed, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated an item needed to be considered that was not listed on the agenda, but was in part due to the recent storm, and that was an agreement which was being proposed for all local communities affected by the storm to partner with SC DOT for clearing of trees and debris in rights-of-ways. He stated that SCDOT was working the Municipal Association in getting the agreement signed off on by local governments, and that he was asking that Council approve for the Town of McCormick, with he as Mayor, to sign on behalf of the Town.

Council Member Hood made the motion, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Dansby, and unanimously approved.

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**Executive Session: FOIA Section 30-4-70-(2) .... Receipt of legal advice .... Contractual Arrangement  
(Possible Action May or May Note Be Taken upon return to Regular Session)**

Mayor Smith called for a motion to enter the executive session.

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

Executive Session from 7:45 pm to 8:40 pm.

Upon return to regular session, Mayor Smith announced that no action was needed from discussions held in Executive Session.

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**Moving to:  
Mayor's Comments –**

Mayor Smith stated that Halloween would be on October 31, an update on the storm had

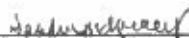
been given, and calling for other comments to come before Council and receiving none, he called for adjournment.

**9. Adjournment -**

Council Member Mrs. Hood made the motion to adjourn, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.

Council adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Sandra McKinney, Town Clerk/Treasurer

M-10-08-2024

***Attendance Schedule***  
***Regular Town Council Meeting***  
***Tuesday, October 8, 2024 - 7:00 PM***  
***109 W Augusta Street, McCormick, SC***

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Mayor	Roy Smith, Jr.
Council Members	Calvin Chiles Curt Dansby Faye Hood
Absent	Alvin Jennings Dolly Franklin Nathan Jones
Attorney	Douglas Bell
Departments	Police Chief Willis Fire Chief Barron
News Media	None
For FOIA Notifications:	Scott Wharram, SLV Public Liaison

**Others:**

Heather McNally, Program Director, MACK  
Keith Smith, Community Development Director, Upper Savannah Council of Governments  
Rett Harbeson, Johnson, Laschober & Associates, Architects  
David McGhee, Contractor for the Town's Streetscape Project

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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)