

Minutes
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 12, 2022 - 6:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room
109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC
Welcome & Comments

Mayor Smith welcomed all in attendance to the regular meeting of Council for June at approximately 6:02 pm, stating that Attorney Padgett would be absent due to attending a funeral. He also thanked the families of the two new police officers for their attendance and support of their family member. Also absent was Council Member District 5 – Alvin Jennings.

Mayor Smith also thanked Council for allowing the change in time of the meeting, stating that he had another meeting in Plum Branch.

Notifications -

News Media and others requesting notice of meeting was done by email on July 8 2022.

FOIA Notifications were done on July 12, 2022, for those requesting notice of meeting and agenda packages.

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Smith called to order the regular meeting of the McCormick Town Council for the month of July at approximately 6:04 pm.

Quorum Confirmation – The Town Clerk/Treasurer affirmed that a quorum was present, those being in attendance:

Mayor Roy Smith, Jr.

Council Members, Dolly Franklin, CM D#1, Nathan Jones, CM D#2, Calvin Chiles, CM D#3 & Mayor Pro Tem, Curt Dansby, CM D#4, and Faye Hood, CM D#6.

Also in attendance were Staff: Police Chief W.D. Bo Willis, Fire Chief Mike Barron, and Town Clerk/Treasurer, Sandra McKinney.

Others in attendance were Chuck Cook, County Council Member, District 3; Mrs. Cook; Charlotte Tallent, Chamber of Commerce; Police Officers Eric New, Sean Fry and Marcus Dalton; Mrs. Taylor and other family members of Officer Dalton; and Lynn Caughman.

News Media: None

Pledge of Allegiance – All present stood and offered the Pledge of Allegiance in a patriotic manner.

Invocation – Mayor Smith offered the invocation - being thankful for another day; mercy, grace, blessings for all in attendance, families and community and guidance in thought, tongue, and conduct of business of meeting.

Oath of Office – Police Officers Sean Fry and Marcus Dalton; Mayor Smith called both officers forward and offered the Oath of Office. He, again, thanked the families for their attendance and support of their family member, stating that each officer seemed to be a good fit for the Police Department, showing professional and high standards, and he felt would add value to the Police Department. He thanked Mrs. Dalton, mother of Officer Dalton, for having traveled from Columbia to support her son.

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2. Approval of Agenda as Written – Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the agenda as written.

Council Member Mrs. Hood offered said motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved.

3. Appearance of Citizens –

A) Chuck Cook, County Council Member, District 3; Presentation of Information Only – County Public Safety Committee Recommendations to County Council Re: County Fire Protection Plan

Mayor Smith called Mr. Cook forward to address Council.

Mr. Cook presented a power point presentation to Council addressing the issue of “county-wide fire protection”, the disparity of all districts versus those of SLV and the three municipalities, and the possibility of adding a fee or a tax millage to offset fire protection services county-wide. He stated that he and County Council Member Mr. Banks were appointed, as part of the County Public Safety Committee, to study and make recommendation to the County regarding the obvious objective to provide a level playing field throughout the County, and in achieving that objective, it may be necessary for a tax millage or a fee to be assessed. He stated that the decision of County Council, either by ordinance, or referendum, to achieve the objective would not disturb or impact the existing authority of the Town or SLV. He stated the proposal was not supported by some of the Fire Chiefs, but the County, again, has the authority to establish a tax district or establish a fee for fire protection services.

In his remarks, Mr. Cook stated, “the committee has recommended to council that a new fire tax district be established composed only of those county residents not already covered for fire protection by an independent taxing authority – the three municipalities and the SLV Tax District. Oversight for the new district would be provided by a tax commission. In this way, all county residents would pay for fire protection through their regular property taxes, as they are now doing, and those in the new tax district by a specific millage or fee that would mirror the allocations for fire protection now made through municipal tax levies and the SLV special tax district. In addition, the size of the new fire tax district would be large enough to assure that any new property tax levy or fee would be reasonable and affordable.”

Mr. Cook also commented that “this is a recommendation to council by the committee and that no final decision has been made, and that the presentation was made simply as information to give municipalities the opportunity to review the

recommendations and to provide any comments."

Mayor Smith asked that Mr. Cook provide the Town with a hard copy of the presentation, with Mr. Cook stating that he would do so.

4. Regular Town Council Business Items - June

- A) **Minutes** – RM – June 14; SCM – June 21
- B) **Bills**
- C) **Financial Statement**

Audit work has begun for the FY 21/22 Fiscal Year

Council had received copies of the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for June, prior to the meeting for review, and Mayor Smith called for any questions or comments regarding each of the same. No questions or comments being offered, Mayor Smith called for a motion from Council.

Council Member Mr. Dansby offered a motion to approve the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for June, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Hood, and unanimously approved.

5. Legislation – Mayor Smith stated that no Ordinances, Resolutions, or Proclamations needed to come before Council.

6. Reports for presentation and approval as presented -

- 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. No questions or comments were offered as to any of the Reports, and Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve.

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

7. Old Business – No old business was offered.

8. New Business – No new business was listed or offered.

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Executive Session: Section 30-4-70 (a)(1) – Discussion of employment, appointment compensation ... **Compensation**

Mayor Smith called for a motion for the Executive Session. Council Member Mrs. Hood offered the motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Dansby, and unanimously approved;

Executive Session: 6:35 pm to 6:40 pm

Regular Session: Council Member Mr. Dansby made a motion to return to regular session, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith called for Council action from the discussion only held in Executive Session.

Council Member Mr. Dansby offered a motion that the Town proceed to have a compensation study done, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

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Mayor's Comments

Mayor Smith stated that he had only one comment, and stated that with regard to the Streetscape Project, that the project had tentatively been awarded to contractor, SITEC, LLC, for a project cost of \$921,606.65.

9. Adjournment -

Mayor Smith called for the motion to adjourn.

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

Council adjourned at approximately 6:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Clerk/Treasurer

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