

Prior to the Regular Town Council Meeting, the Town's Municipal Election Commission met at 6:30 pm to review the April 7, 2020 Municipal Election Schedule. All three Commission members, Donn Lee, Eddie Talbert, and Marilyn New, along with Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Judy Foster, were in attendance. The April 7, 2020 Municipal Election Schedule was approved and signed by all three (3) Commission members.

**Town of McCormick, SC
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2019 – 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room, 109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC**

Attendance:

Mayor:

Roy Smith, Jr.

Council Members Present:

Dolly Franklin
Nathan Jones
J. Calvin Chiles
Eric Butler
Ann Seymour

Council Member Absent:

Alvin Jennings

Staff Present:

Police Chief W.D. Bo Willis
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney

Staff Absent:

Fire Chief Mike Barron

Town Attorney:

John D. Compton, III

Guests:

Pauline Dain
Shaaron Kohl
Margaret Jennings
Marian Parnell
David Cook
Roseanne Verkeyn
Rich Lewis
Aaron & Claire Watson
Donn & Christine Lee
Chuck Cook, Corporate Secretary &
Liaison, Public Affairs Committee –
Savannah Lakes Village, Inc.
& Mrs. Cook

Charlotte Tallent, Executive Director,
Chamber of Commerce
Marge Elmore, Resident of Washington
Street

For Audit Presentation:

Mary Loucks, McKinley, Cooper & Co. LLC

For Citizens Input

Steve Kozsey - representing MAD -
"McCormick Making A Difference"
Group, and Business Owners

News Media:

None

Public Notification: October 4, 2019

News Media – McCormick Messenger and The Index Journal - notified of the meeting by e-mail

Posting to the Town's website, townofmccormicksc.org.

All other parties requesting notification either by fax, e-mail or correspondence

Public Notice - Posting - Town's Kiosk outside of the Town Hall area

Agenda Posted to Rear Entrance of the One Stop Conference Room – October 8

FOIA Notifications: October 8, 2019

Chuck Cook, Corporate Secretary & Liaison, Public Affairs Committee – Savannah Lakes Village, Inc.

Charlotte Tallent, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce

Welcome:

Mayor Smith welcomed and thanked those in attendance for the Town's regular council meeting for October. He stated that Council Member Mr. Jennings and Fire Chief Barron were absent due to being out of Town. Mayor Smith also welcomed the Town's Auditor, Marcy Loucks, McKinley, Cooper & Co., LLC, who would be presenting the Town's audit.

1. Call to Order:

At approximately 7:05 PM, the regular Town Council meeting for the month of October was called to order by Mayor Smith. Calling for the Pledge of Allegiance, all present stood and offered the Pledge of Allegiance in a patriotic manner. Mayor Smith called for Council Member Mr. Butler to give the invocation; Council Member Mr. Butler did so, being thankful for the day and seeking guidance and divine intervention of the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda as Presented:

Mayor Smith, calling for any questions or discussion regarding the **Agenda as Presented** and receiving none, called for the approval of the Agenda as presented.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made the motion to approve the agenda as presented, said motion being duly second by Council Members Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

3. Appearance of Citizens/Submitted Requests:

(A) Steve Kozsey, representing the McCormick's Making A Difference Group – MAD, and business owner's downtown

Mayor Smith called for Mr. Kozsey to address Council, stating he had three (3) minutes.

Mr. Kozsey spoke to the issues of the deteriorating buildings downtown, stating that citizens should be able to use sidewalks safely. He addressed the collapsed roof in the area of Pine and East Augusta Street, as well as the building being a fire hazard. He stated he had spoken to a structural engineer about the concerns.

At this point, Mayor Smith informed Mr. Kozsey that his three (3) minutes were up.

Discussion was entered into as to the Town not owning the buildings downtown, and it was the property owners' responsibility with regard to their buildings.

Mayor Smith stated to Mr. Kozsey that his comments and the photographs that Mr. Kozsey had presented would be taken under consideration.

Mayor Smith then closed the Appearance of Citizens section of the meeting.

Presentation of Town's FY 18/19 Audit – Marcy Loucks, McKinley, Cooper & Co., LLC Mayor Smith called upon Mrs. Loucks.

Mrs. Loucks briefly summarized the FY 18/19 Town audit, stating that her firm had given the Town a “fairly unmodified – clean opinion”. She stated that at the end of the fiscal year, the Town's assets exceeded its liabilities. She reviewed GASB 68, stating that the Town had to book future pension liability as directed by PEBA (South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority) dealing with employee retirement. Revenue of \$1.1 million versus expenditures of \$978,000 had resulted in an increase in the Town's fund balance. She noted that the audit included the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Cash on hand and in banks were secure and collateralized as required. She stated again that the Town's position was good overall, and that the audit reflected a fairly unmodified – clean opinion.

Prior to preceding to Regular Town Council Business Items, Mrs. Shaaron Kohl, asked to speak, and stated along with Mr. Kozsey's remarks, she wanted to bring to Council's attention the fact that the “potential collapse of the buildings in questions would create a “blow- out” which would possible cause harm”. She stated she understood that it was the owner's responsibility, but again, asked that the Town look to hire a structural engineer.

Mayor Smith, again stated, that the comments of Mr. Kozsey would be taken under consideration.

4. Regular Town Council Business Items for consideration/motions to approve:

Council had received copies of the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for September for review prior to the meeting.

- A) **Minutes**, September 10 – Regular Council Meeting - Motion to Approve as Written
- B) **Bills**, September – Motion to Pay in Usual Manner
- C) **Financial Statement** - September – Motion to Accept as Information

Mayor Smith called for any discussion or comments from Council regarding the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement.

Council Member Mr. Chiles had a question regarding the payment to George Ballentine, for \$3,069.01.

Mayor Smith asked Chief Willis to explain.

Chief Willis stated one of the patrol units had been damaged and had to be repaired. He stated the Town's insurance covered most of the costs.

Calling for other questions, and receiving none, Mayor Smith called for a motion regarding the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement.

Council Member Mr. Butler made the motion to approve the Minutes, the Bills, and the Financial Statement, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

5. Legislation for consideration:

Council had received copies of all Legislative items for review prior to the meeting.

Mayor Smith stated one ordinance was listed for consideration:

- A) **Ordinances** – One –

O-2019-09-10-01 – Second Reading/Approval of Ordinance to Amend FY 19/20 GFO Budget for PARD Grant Match - \$5,000 – Gold Mine Repairs

Council had received a copy of the Ordinance and the PARD Grant Award for review prior to the meeting.

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

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made a motion to give second reading and approval of Ordinance – O-2019-09-10-01, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

6. Reports:

Council had received copies of all reports prior to the meeting for review.

- A) **Police**
- B) **Fire**
- C) **Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer**

Mayor Smith called for any comments or questions regarding the Reports:

Police – no questions or comments offered

Fire – no questions or comments offered

Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – no questions or comments offered.

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

Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion to approve the Reports, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

7. Old Business:

Mayor Smith stated no Old Business was listed for discussion.

9. New Business:

Mayor Smith stated under New Business one item was listed, consideration of a request for a donation from the Chamber of Commerce for the Smithsonian Water Ways Exhibit - \$500.

Mayor Smith stated this donation would be used for promotion/advertising of the event, and called upon Mrs. Tallent, the Chamber's Executive Director for comment.

Mrs. Tallent stated she would be using several sources, news media, radio, television, and other methods of promoting the event.

Mayor Smith called for council action regarding the request.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion to give the \$500 donation, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Mrs. Franklin and Mrs. Seymour, and being unanimously approved.

Mayor's Concluding Comments:

Concluding, Mayor Smith stated:

Several good things had happened in the Town over the months:

In June – Wardlaw Funeral Home had opened; Mr. Wardlaw taking an older building, the old Gurley's building, and renovating it;

In August – Burger King opened;

The downtown Streetscape project had commenced and was about 75% complete.

The Town had received a grant for the Gold Mine, and repairs would start soon;

The Subway was undergoing remodeling;

West Carolina was going to have a big announcement in the coming weeks of improvements in Town, as he had met with the CEO;

A business would be opening next to the Chamber of Commerce; the business would be a real estate business, Re-Max Real Estate Office, and that a couple from SLV would be opening it; it was also stated that the Depot was being renovated to house old historic toys, and was opened during Gold Rush.

Listed as events, Mayor Smith reminded those present of the –
Don't Fall for Drugs event – October 19
Halloween – October 31
A Joint Meeting of McCormick Governing Bodies – October 17; 7 pm; Talmadge Center
Women in Business Luncheon – October 24; 11 AM – 1 PM – SLV Recreation Center

Mayor Smith also stated October 6-12 was National Fire Prevention Week and several firemen would be recognized at the November meeting of council.

9. Adjournment:

Mayor Smith, calling for other items to come before council and receiving none, then called for adjournment.

Council Member Mr. Butler made the motion to adjourn, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

Meeting concluded at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Town Clerk/Treasurer

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