

**Town of McCormick, SC
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 – 7:00 PM
McCormick One Stop Conference Room, 109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC
VIA TELECONFERCING**

Attendance:

Mayor: Roy Smith, Jr.

Council Members Present: Dolly Franklin
Nathan Jones
J. Calvin Chiles
Eric Butler
Alvin Jennings
Ann Seymour

(Quorum Present)

Staff Present: Police Chief W.D. Bo Willis
Fire Chief Mike Barron
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney

Town Attorney: Absent

Guests: Charlotte Tallent, Chamber of Commerce
Marge Elmore

For Appearance of Citizens: None

News Media: None

Prior to the regular meeting of Council for May 12, 2020, a Budget Workshop was held to receive Council input for the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 General Fund Operating Budget. Mayor Smith reviewed the draft budget, noting Departmental requests – Administrative – no requests made; Police Department – raises for officers, cell phones for all officers, and a new patrol unit; Fire Department – \$20 per fire call/drill remains the same, and certain capital items – which Mayor Smith stated that he and the Fire Chief had not had an opportunity to meet and discuss, but would discuss at some point. Mayor Smith stated a 2% across the board raise increase was included in the budget draft. Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Mr. Chiles and Council Member Mr. Butler stated they would like to see a 3% raise increase across the board. Questions were presented by Mayor Pro Tem and Council Member Mr. Chiles regarding take home cars in the Police Department versus the stipend which has been previously established, as well as the reduction in millage. Mayor Smith stated that the issue of take-home cars had been discussed in previous budgets, and the stipend established seemed to work well. As

to the reduction in tax millage, the Town Clerk/Treasurer stated that this was due to a higher revenue from local option sales tax, which gave a tax credit back to the taxpayer. Mayor Smith stated that the budget workshop was for information only, and closed the workshop at approximately 6:50 pm. The Budget Detail page of the Budget Narrative and the Recap Schedules were mentioned by the Clerk/Treasurer which showed the 2% increase, the FICA and Medicare and Retirement withholding percentages, the retained positions, and the sources of revenue and expenditures for the \$1,277,078 budget draft.

Public Notification:

May 8, 2020 - 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

FOIA Notifications: May 8, 2020 – by mail:

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

Charlotte Tallent, McCormick County Chamber of Commerce

Welcome:

Mayor Smith welcomed and thanked those in attendance for the Town's regular council meeting for May, stating that this was a first for the Town by way of teleconferencing in light of the Covid-19 – Coronavirus Pandemic affecting the world. Mayor Smith stated since the meeting was via teleconferencing – a roll call vote would be necessary.

1. Call to Order:

At approximately 7:01 PM, the regular Town Council meeting for the month of May was called to order by Mayor Smith, who then called for the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was offered in a patriotic manner.

Invocation

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 divine guidance 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. Chiles, with said motion being unanimously approved; Chiles-yes; Butler-yes; Jones-yes; Seymour-yes.

3. Regular Town Council Business Items:

Council had received copies of the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement for both March and

April (no meeting having been held due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for social distancing) for review prior to the meeting.

A) **Minutes** - Motion to Approve as Written

B) **Bills** – Motion to Pay in Usual Manner

C) **Financial Statement** - Motion to Accept as Information

Mayor Smith called for any discussion or comments from Council regarding the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement. Receiving none, Mayor Smith called for a motion regarding the Minutes, Bills, and Financial Statement.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made the motion to approve the Minutes as written, pay the Bills in the usual manner, and accept the Financial Statement as information, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles, with said motion being unanimously approved; Chiles-yes; Jones-yes; Butler-yes; Seymour-yes.

Public Hearing: FY 20/21 General Fund Operating Budget as published in the McCormick Messenger – Citizens desiring to review the budget draft for FY 20/21 and make comments may request a copy or review the document on file at Town Hall Mayor Smith opened the Public Hearing at approximately 7:07 pm and called for any comments. No comments were offered; Mayor Smith closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:07 pm.

4. Legislation for consideration:

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

Noting Legislative Item – **Ordinance No. 2020-05-12-01**, first reading for the FY 20/21 General Fund Operating Budget, Mayor Smith stated a motion was needed.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion to first reading to Ordinance No. O-2020-05-12-01 – FY 20/21 Budget Draft, motion being duly seconded by Council Members Mrs. Seymour, and unanimously approved; Chiles-yes; Butler-yes; Jones-yes; Seymour-yes.

Ordinance No. 2020-05-12-02, Mayor Smith noted pertained to the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic, recommended by FEMA, as a Continuity of Operation Plan for municipalities.

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

Mayor Smith stated no Resolutions had been issued, but two Proclamations had been issued – one for Alcohol Awareness Month – April – Cornerstone requesting; and one titled “Pay It Forward” which recognized undue acts of kindness shown to others during these uncertain times.

5. Reports:

Council had received copies of reports for March and April prior to the meeting for review. Regarding the **A) Police Report** - Mayor Smith called for any comments or questions; Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Mr. Chiles stated he noted the decrease in calls and questioned if it was thought to be relative to the Coronavirus. Chief Willis stated possibly since people were having to stay home.

Regarding the **B) Fire Report** – Mayor Smith called for any comments or questions; Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Mr. Chiles stated he saw there were possibly two new hires and asked their status. Chief Barron stated that one was doing quite well, and the other one needed a little more training, with only one being accepted. Discussion was held regarding reduction in number of EMS responses with Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Mr. asking if and when the Fire Department responded to these types of calls did it fall to the Town to pay. Chief Barron stated yes, these types of calls were logged as Town calls. Asking about the capital items in the draft budget, Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem Mr. Chiles asked if these were the same items from the County, or, were they for other items. Chief Barron stated yes, a part had to do with the SCBA's but also included safety protection items such as masks, helmets, and gloves.

Regarding the **C) Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Reports** - Mayor Smith called for any comments or questions regarding the Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Reports; no comments or questions were offered.

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

Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion to approve all Reports, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Seymour, with said motion being unanimously approved; Chiles-yes; Jones-yes; Butler-yes; and Seymour-yes.

6. Old Business:

Mayor Smith stated there was no Old Business for Council to consider.

7. New Business:

Mayor Smith stated under New Business, Council had received – information regarding the annual MASC meeting and if any of Council wanted to attend, they should see the Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor's Concluding Comments:

Mayor Smith stated he did not have any further comments to add.

8. Adjournment:

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

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made the motion to adjourn, with Council Member Mr. Butler giving second, and said motion was unanimously approved; Chiles-yes; Jones-yes; Butler-yes; Seymour-yes.

Meeting concluded at approximately 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Town Clerk/Treasurer

M 05122020