

Town of McCormick, SC
Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Attendance:

Mayor: Roy Smith, Jr.

Council Members: Dolly Franklin
Nathan Jones
James C. (Calvin) Chiles
Eric T. Butler
J.E. (Jesse Earl) Johnson
Ann Seymour

Staff Present: Police Chief J.R. Jones
Genethia Yeldell, Police Officer
Jacob Deason, Police Officer
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney
Administrator David Krumwiede
Town Attorney John D. Compton, III

Staff Absent: Fire Chief, Mike Barron

Media Present: Christine Lee, McCormick Messenger

Other Guests: Donn M. Lee
George and Georgia Yeldell
Jim Lambeth
Evelyn Johnson
Columbus Stevens, County Administrator
John Philcox
Carolyn Sibert
Sanquinetta Leverette
American Government Students
Administrator Krumwiede, Advisor:
Tierra Tutt
Isaac Jamal Andrews
Miranda Moore
Corey Hollingsworth
Toni Tutt

Mayor Smith welcomed everyone present to the regular, monthly meeting of the McCormick Town Council for April 9, 2013. The meeting was held at the McCormick One Stop's Conference Room, 109 W. Augusta Street, Town of McCormick, SC at 7:00 PM. News Media had been notified of the meeting by e-mail on April 3 and 5, 2013. All other parties requesting notification had received notice either by fax, e-mail or correspondence on April 3 and 5, 2013. Agenda Packages were delivered to Council Members on April 5, 2013. Public notice posting was to the Town's Kiosk outside of the Town Hall area on April 5, 2013.

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Mayor Smith welcomed all in attendance to the regular, monthly meeting of the McCormickTown Council, stating that several guests were present:

Jim Lambeth and George Yeldell, McCormick County School Board
Columbus Stevens, County Administrator, McCormick County
and John Philcox, retired County Council Member.

Mayor Smith stated it was good to see the attendance and encouraged everyone to continue to attend Town Council meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of each month. He also stated that two words of emphasis were in place for the Town, they being open government and transparency.

Mayor Smith then **called the meeting to order** at approximately 7:02 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith asked everyone present to stand and offer the **Pledge of Allegiance**. All in attendance did so in a humble, patriotic manner.

3. Invocation

Mayor Smith called upon Council Member Mr. Butler to give the **Invocation**. Council Member Mr. Butler did so giving thanks for a great day, asking that right decisions be made, and giving thanks for all blessings.

Mayor Smith stated that a sympathy card had been sent to the Town of Saluda from the Mayor and Council in the recent death of Mayor Addy.

Oath of Office – Police Officer – Private Genethia Yeldell

Mayor Smith called Officer Yeldell forward and gave the oath of office. He welcomed her to the Town's Police Department and asked if she would like to say a few words. Officer Yeldell thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity given, stating that she would strive to serve, to the best of her ability, the Town which she grew up in.

Recognition of Savannah Lakes Road Warriors – John Philcox

Mayor Smith stated that the Town had an employee, Royce Grizzard, who worked in the Maintenance Department to keep the Town's streets clean, but there was another group who also worked to keep the Town and the highways clean, the Savannah Lakes Road Warriors. Mayor Smith stated that he wanted to present this group with a Certificate of Appreciation for all the work they did; he then read the Certificate of Appreciation to the audience. He asked if Mr. Philcox would like to comment. Mr. Philcox stated that he would like to see the citizens "put the Road Warriors out of business". He stated that the Road Warriors picked up approximately 2,250 pounds of debris every month. He thanked Chief Jones for the recent article in support of controlling litter. He asked that people do not put garbage bags in the back of pickups, and he stated that a beer bottle could only become litter when it was thrown from a vehicle.

Mayor Smith stated that a group of Administrator Krumwiede's middle college students were in attendance. The students were asked to introduce themselves. In attendance were:

Tierra Tutt
Isaac Jamal Andrews
Miranda Moore
Corey Hollingsworth
Toni Tutt.

Recognition of Columbus Stevens, McCormick County Administrator

Mayor Smith called upon Administrator Stevens to give the Town an update of County affairs.

Administrator Stevens stated that there had been a lot of talk recently about volunteer firemen. He stated that the County had put on four part time firemen, working 90 hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm in order to have a better response during the day and to alleviate some of the issues of response times. He stated that these positions would run through June and hopefully the County could include the positions in the FY 13/14 County Budget. He stated that the County was working to resolve some of these issues. He stated that meetings would begin to address further issues regarding fire service, and stated hopefully a junior fire program could be put in place. He stated that it was not easy to transition from a volunteer department to a paid department, and over the next several months, meetings would be held, at some point with the Town, to address this issue. He stated that the long term impact, not short term, needed to be addressed in order to find solutions that would best suit. He stated just as schools attracted businesses and industries, fire departments were another asset.

On economic development, Administrator Stevens stated that the Town may have noticed that the County was running an ad for a part time economic development position. He stated that George Woodsby was in the position full time, but had taken over another department within the County. He stated that Milliken was gracious in that they had offered space at their facility to be used if and when businesses were attracted to the area and in offering the space for potential meetings and interviews. Administrator Stevens stated that meetings with the Town would be held in the future to see what could be done to attract businesses, while encouraging and keeping the businesses already in McCormick. He stated that plans were not to infringe upon these businesses, but to enhance them, while attracting new businesses to the area. He stated the position would be part time through June, and then the County would decide whether to go full time or use a contractual arrangement. He stated the position would work with the SC Central Alliance to identify issues and concerns in bringing businesses and industry to the area, as well as working with the Chamber and the SC Department of Commerce.

Administrator Stevens then asked to be excused, but wanted to let everyone know of a praise in his life, in that his sister, who had been hospitalized due to heart failure, and whom the doctors had given up on, was taken off the machines and was breathing on her own. He asked for continued prayers for her.

4. Approval of Agenda as Written

Mayor Smith stated Council had a copy of the agenda as published and called for a motion to

approve the agenda as written. Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Seymour, and unanimously approved.

5. General Public Comments

Mayor Smith called for any comments to come before Council. None were presented and he closed the General Public Comments section of the meeting at approximately 7:19 pm.

6. Regular Town Council Business Items:

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of the **Minutes** of the regular meeting of Council for March 12, 2013, and called for action regarding same. Council Member Mrs. Seymour made a motion to approve the Minutes as written, motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of the **Bills** for March, along with a copy of the Receivables report for March and called for any questions. Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion that the Bills be paid in the usual manner, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Seymour and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of the **Financial Statement** for March and called for action regarding same. Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion that the Financial Statement be received as information, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Johnson, and unanimously approved.

7. Legislation

Mayor Smith stated under Legislation several ordinances were listed.

Ordinance #05-2013 – Amend FY 12/13 Town Budget for purchase of an Administrative Vehicle – Second Reading/Adoption

Mayor Smith called for a motion. Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion to give second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 05-2013, with Council Member Mrs. Seymour giving second. Ordinance No. 05-2013 was unanimously approved.

Ordinance #06-2013 – Banning Texting While Operating a Motor Vehicle - Second Reading/Adoption

Mayor Smith called for a motion. Council Member Mrs. Seymour made the motion to give second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 06-2013, with Council Member Mr. Butler giving second. Ordinance No. 06-2013 was unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated that he saw this ordinance as one that would be the potential to saving lives and stated that the Town was one of a few to adopt such an ordinance.

Resolution 2013-04-01 – Fair Housing

Mayor Smith stated that this Resolution was in support of fair housing in McCormick, it being felt that everyone regardless of race, religion, sex or national origin had a right to decent and fair housing. Council unanimously supported adoption of the Resolution.

Proclamation – Reverend James Foster Marshall

Mayor Smith stated he has been asked to adopt this Proclamation in honor of

Reverend Marshall who had been instrumental in founding of churches in the area, Bethany, Mt. Moriah; he stated that Bethany would be having a ceremony on April 28 in honor of Reverend Marshall.

Council was unanimous in support of this Proclamation.

8. Reports

Moving to Reports, Mayor Smith called upon Police Chief J.R. Jones to give the **Police** Department Report for March.

Chief Jones congratulated Officer Yeldell for her graduation from the Academy. He stated that Officer Yeldell was doing a great job and was catching on quick in that she had a lot to learn. He welcomed her as an Officer in the Department.

In reporting activity for March he reported:

Collisions Investigated 2; Traffic Offenses 44; Arrests 13; Overall Offenses (Incident Reports filed) 27; and Calls for Service 345.

Mayor Smith thanked Chief Jones and stated that the Fire Chief could not be in attendance and called upon Administrator Krumwiede to give the Fire Report.

Activity for March from the Fire Chief's report indicated:

City limits: Automotive – 2; Structure – 1; and False Alarm – 1; for a total of 4 calls;
County Response Area: Automotive – 3; Brush – 2; and Mutual Aide – 2; for a total of 7 calls;
total calls for March being 11.

Under notes, Chief Barron had reported that four members of the department were to attend fire fighter class 115, and that the yearly testing on the hoses would take place in May.

Mayor Smith thanked Administrator Krumwiede and called for the Clerk/Treasurer's and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's reports.

Mrs. McKinney reported as follows for the **Clerk/Treasurer's** additional report:

Purchase: goods and services: 4% local; 8% out of town, 9% for personal services; 24% for contracted services; and purchase of the new patrol unit at 55%.

Reports filed: none for March.

Upcoming Events: Comprehensive Plan Review in July; (Upper Savannah; Planning/Zoning Commission); and Inspections for 2013 for buildings/real properties.

Reporting from the **Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's** report, Mrs. McKinney reported as follows:

Business licenses: six new and 29 renewals;

Building Permit Coordinations: four new and two for repairs;

Zoning Issues: research on placement of an additional trailer in an existing trailer park

Background Checks: three for employment and six for apartment;

Visitor's Log: Town Hall 61; Police Department 46; File Department 4, for a total of 111.

Meetings Attended: Milliken and County – Major Employer's meeting

New Businesses in Town: Glory Enterprise, 123 N. Pine St., Joshua Cunningham.

Mayor Smith thanked Mrs. McKinney for the reports, and called for Administrator Krumwiede to give his report.

Administrator Krumwiede reported on his attendance at the quarterly Administrator's meeting at Upper Savannah. He stated that one of the most important matters in this meeting was the issue of the Workforce Development offices and their closure in some counties. He stated that the office in McCormick would not be closed, but he felt that Abbeville would be. He stated that this was an effort by the Governor to consolidate government services, cut expenses, and make major changes to government reform. He stated that eventually it would possibly be that call centers would be put in place to handle unemployment workers' compensation claims.

Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve all reports as given. Council Member Mrs. Seymour made the motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

9. Old Business

Mayor Smith stated under Old Business, Council needed to sign the Ordinance approving the amendment to the FY 12/13 Town Budget for the purchase of the new patrol unit. He called upon Mrs. McKinney to get the needed signatures.

Mayor Smith stated that a budget workshop had been held approximately two weeks earlier to gather information and opinions in drafting the FY 13/14 Town General Fund Operating Budget. He stated that he had taken all of the information and opinions, and in redrafting the budget, had given a 3% increase in employee wages, had increased the minimum salary ranges for police officers, and approved take home patrol units for those police officer living in Town limits. **Mayor Smith stated that he would make a motion to approve these changes in drafting the FY 13/14 budget. Council Member Mr. Johnson duly gave second, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

10. New Business

Mayor Smith stated there were no items under New Business, and called for any to come from Council.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour asked if a business of the month was to be picked. Mayor Smith asked Council Member Mr. Jones to do so, and **"Michelle's Pizza"** was chosen as business pick of the month for April.

11. Information Items

Mayor Smith stated no items were listed and under Mayor's Comments, he had several items: Spring Bonanza would be held April 20, and a Memorial Day service was being planned for Saturday, May 25. He stated that this would be the first time that the Memorial Service was held on a Saturday. Also mentioned was the McCormick Market would begin on May 18. Mayor Smith again thanked Mr. Yeldell and Mr. Lambeth for their attendance.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Smith, making a motion for adjournment, called for second, duly given by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimous approved.

Council adjourned at approximately 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Clerk/Treasurer

File: M04092013