

**Town of McCormick, SC  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, April 12, 2016**

**McCormick One Stop Conference Room, 109 W. Augusta St., McCormick, SC**

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**Attendance:**

**Mayor:** Roy Smith, Jr.

**Council Members Present:** Nathan Jones  
Calvin Chiles  
Eric T. Butler  
Ann Seymour  
Alvin Jennings

**Council Member Absent:** Dolly Franklin (Medical)

**Staff Present:** Major W.D. (Bo) Willis, Interim Chief  
Fire Chief Mike Barron  
Town Attorney John D. Compton, III  
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney

**News Media:** **None**

**Other Guests:** Christine & Donn Lee, MEC Members  
Kenny Green, G. Ben Turnipseed, Engineers  
Charles Hegler, CPW Commissioner  
Emanuel Crowder, Resident

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**Public Notification:**

News Media had been notified of the meeting by e-mail on April 6 and 8, 2016. Posting to the Town's website, townofmccormicksc.org. had been made on April 11, 2016. All other parties requesting notification had received notice either by fax, e-mail or correspondence on April 8, 2016. Agenda Packages were delivered to Council Members on April 8, 2016. Public notice posting was to the Town's Kiosk outside of the Town Hall area on April 8, 2016.

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**Welcome/Business Pick of the Month:**

Mayor Smith welcomed everyone to the regular meeting of Council and called for the selection of the business pick of the month; Council Member Mr. Jones selected "Subway".

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**1. Call to Order:**

At approximately 7:01 pm, Mayor Smith called to order the McCormick Town Council's regular scheduled meeting for April 12, 2016.

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## **OATH OF OFFICE – SWEAR IN – ELECTED OFFICIALS FROM APRIL 5, 2016 GENERAL ELECTION & ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM**

Judge of Probate, Kitty Butler, gave the oath of office to Mayor Roy Smith, Jr. who was the successful, incumbent, candidate from the April 5, 2016 Town General Election. Mayor Smith will serve in his third term of Mayor – April, 2016 to March, 2020.

Judge Butler was then excused.

Mayor Smith called forward Charles Hegler, incumbent candidate, no opposition, for CPW Commissioner in the April 5, 2016 General Election. Oath of office was duly given. Term of office will be from April, 2016 to March, 2022.

Mayor Smith then called forward incumbent candidates for Council, who had no opposition in the April 5, 2016 election – Nathan Jones, Eric Butler, and Ann Seymour. Oath of office was duly given by Mayor Smith. Terms of office will be from April, 2016 to March, 2020.

Mayor Smith announced that the election of Mayor Pro Tem would be held preceding the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

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### **2. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Smith asked all present to stand and offer the Pledge of Allegiance; all did so in a patriotic manner.

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### **3. Invocation:**

Mayor Smith called for Council Member Mr. Butler to offer the invocation; Council Member Mr. Butler did so, grateful for those present, and seeking God's guidance and governance all to His glory.

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### **4. Approval of Agenda as Written:**

Mayor Smith called any discussion regarding the Agenda as Written and receiving none, called for a motion; Council Member Mr. Chiles offered the motion to approve the agenda as written, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved.

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### **5. General Public Comments:**

Mayor Smith called the General Public Comments agenda item opened for public comments at approximately 7:05 pm.

Mr. Kenny Green, CPW Engineer, with the firm of G. Ben Turnipseed, Engineers, addressed Council and gave an update on the proposed CPW water plant grant/loan through USDA/RDA.

Mr. Green stated the project initially began in 2006 with seeking grant funding from USDA/RDA and was put on hold due to lack of funding. The project was revisited beginning in 2014, and Mr. Green stated that partial funding was now available to proceed with the project in phases. He stated that the current plant was built in the 1930's and was not adequate for the present time. He stated that the costs to build a new water plant was estimated to run at approximately \$11 million, which would include new plant, tanks, lines, and other appurtenances. He stated USDA was ready to proceed with approximately 75% of the grant funding; he stated the other funding would be done by loan. He stated the project would be done in two phases, the first phase, and a new plant at approximately \$6.9 million, which would build the essential components of the plant.

Mr. Green stated that the Town would be receiving a letter of conditions for review and reiterated that the town was not committed at this point. He stated that the letter of conditions would need to be reviewed by Council and approval would be needed to approve the project.

Mr. Green stated that once approved by Council, it would be a long time before the plant was built, in that a design would be sought, bids for work, legal, work, construction plants and coordination of the grant process and loan would be needed.

To cover the costs of any loans, Mr. Green stated that an increase in water rates would be needed, the increase being from \$2.00 up to \$10.00. He stated the current interest rates on poverty loans was 1.75%.

With the new plant, Mr. Green stated that this would give the Town clean, reliable water for 40 years or more.

Mayor Smith stated his concern with regard to how much loan funds, how much grant funds, and the repayment of any loans. It was stated that CPW would pay back the loan out of any water fees generated, and the Town would continue to pay from water fees, if CPW were dissolved.

Mr. Green stated that with CPW not being able to borrow funds or seek grants, the Town had to be the signatory on any documents.

Discussion continued regarding the raising of water rates and trying to keep costs down for Town residents.

Mr. Green was then excused from the meeting.

Mayor Smith called for any additional comments to come to Council. Receiving none, he closed the General Public Comments at approximately 7:20 pm.

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## **6. Regular Town Council Business Items:**

Mayor Smith stated Council had received copies of the **Minutes** of the regular meeting of Council for March 8, 2016, the Budget Workshop of March 19, and the Special Called Meeting of March 21 for review prior to the meeting and called for any discussion or action regarding the Minutes as presented.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion that the Minutes stand approved as written, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Mr. Jones and Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated Council had received, for review prior to the meeting, a copy of the **Bills** for March, with receivables report, and called for any discussion or action regarding the Bills.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion that the Bills be paid in the usual manner, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy, for review, of the March **Financial**

**Statement** prior to the meeting, and called for any discussion or action regarding same.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made a motion that the Financial Statement be received as information, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

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### **7. Legislation:**

Mayor Smith stated under Legislation, there were no Ordinances for consideration.

Mayor Smith stated there was one Resolution to consider, **R-2016-04-12-01**, SOP/Policy Updates for the Police Department.

Mayor Smith called upon Town Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney to address Council.

Mrs. McKinney, deferring the matter to Interim Police Chief Major W.D. Willis, stated that these updates were from and recommended by the Municipal Association as part of the Police Department's SOP. Major Willis stated that the two that were applicable to the Department were the Body Camera update and the Taser Use update. He stated training on both of these updates had been done.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour offered a motion to allow the Mayor and Town Clerk/Treasurer to sign off on the Resolution, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated there was one Proclamation to be considered: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. He stated one surprising fact was the number of teen pregnancies.

Mayor Smith then moved to Reports.

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### **8. Reports**

Mayor Smith called upon Major W.D. Willis to give the **Police** Department Report for the month of March.

Collisions Investigated - 4  
Traffic Offenses – 10  
Arrests – 8  
Overall Offenses (Incident Reports filed) – 26  
Calls for Service – 335

Major Willis stated that two recent break ins, Chinese Restaurant and Drive Inn, had been resolved by the suspect moving out of county. He stated the video evidence was clear as to who the suspect is and continuing efforts would be made to close the matter.

Mayor Smith thanked Major Willis and moved to the **Fire** Report, calling upon Fire Chief Barron.

Chief Barron, stated that March was a busy month, and reported the following activity:

Automotive – 5  
Structure Fires – 7  
Misc./Alarms - 8  
Brush – 4  
For a total of 24 calls.

Chief Barron stated that there had been outstanding job performance from all firefighters to the large number of calls.

Chief Barron stating he would be working with the Red Cross for the home smoke alarm program with two firefighters going to Columbia for training. He stated that this would allow the Department to install smoke detectors offered by the Red Cross. He stated that Red Cross would be responsible for all paperwork.

Chief Barron stated that revised information had been given to the Mayor with regard to the requirements of the Department for the brush truck and that costs had been pared down to suit Department needs. He stated that he understood that this matter was still in discussion.

Mayor Smith stated that he and Council Member Mr. Chiles had attended the County Council meeting and made a request for assistance and funding for the brush truck. He stated no information had been forthcoming from the County on their request.

Mayor Smith thanked Chief Barron for his report and called for the Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's reports.

Mrs. McKinney reported as follows for the month of March:

**Town Clerk/Treasurer Additional Report to Council for March:**

**Purchases of goods and services:**

7% local purchases; 11% out of town;  
6% for personal services; 15% for contracted services;  
Transfers to Investment Pool Accounts – 61%

**Continuing/Upcoming Events listed included:**

April Fair Housing Resolution & Non Discrimination Ad to Messenger for publication  
April 7  
Public Hearing: FY 16/17 Town General Fund Operating Budget – May 10  
(Messenger)

**Filings:**

Phone Conference, PEBA, Insurance Benefits Filing (Audit)

**Publications:**

Solicitation Bid for Repairs to the Dorn House –  
The Index Journal, the Press & Banner & Messenger  
General Election Ad – Messenger

**Zoning:**

Permitted Use/Activities for East Gold Street property

Phone Conference, Zoning Issue, Main Street

**Meetings:**

03/16/16 – FOIA Workshop – Upper Savannah COG

Mrs. McKinney stated she had also given the Mayor and Council information/updates on Risk Management activities, the Dorn House repairs, and the Downtown Streetscape Project.

**Mandated Reviews/Dates:**

Town Comprehensive Plan/Zoning – 2017  
Policy Manuals/SOP's – Police & Fire – 2018  
Town Handbook/Policy Manual – 2018  
Business License Standardized Bill/Implementation – January, 2018

Mrs. McKinney stated that a proposal had been given for the Dorn House Repairs for the exterior work.

In giving the Deputy Town Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney reported:

**Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's report:**

**Business licenses:** 5 – new; 28 - renewals  
**Building Permit Coordination:** 10-for repairs  
**Zoning Issues:** Old McCormick Tire & Battery, Gold Street, Permitted Uses/Activities  
**Background Checks:** 3 - Employment; 2 – Apartment  
**Visitor's Log:** Town Hall - 99; Police Department - 55; Fire Department – 3; for a total of 157  
**Meetings attended:** March 15 – Business License Update - Greenwood  
**New Businesses started in Town:** Community Threads, 218 South Main Street, and SC Wilds Heritage Center – 201 south Main Street (Depot).

Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve all reports as given.

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

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**9. Old Business**

Mayor Smith stated, under Old Business Council had received, for review, a copy of the FY 16/17 General Fund Operating Budget, information regarding the SC Business License Tax Standardization Act (H 5109), and a copy of the County's branding logos/icons for Railtowns of McCormick.

Mayor Smith called for comments or discussion regarding the items under Old Business and receiving none moved to New Business.

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**10. New Business**

Mayor Smith stated no items were listed, he having nothing to report, and called for any New Business to come to Council. No new business was offered.

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**11. Information Items**

Mayor Smith stated he did not have any information items to report.

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**ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM**

Mayor Smith stated that this would be done by closed ballot.  
Council Members were asked to appoint a member of council.

Attorney Compton gathered and counted the ballots.  
Council Member Mr. Chiles was appointed as Mayor Pro Tem.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:50 pm**

**DISCUSSION – EMPLOYMENT MATTERS – FOIA/SECTION: 30-4-70 (1) (a)**

**Mayor Smith called for a motion for the Executive Session. Council Member Mrs. Seymour offered the motion, motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler and unanimously approved.**

**REVERT BACK TO OPEN SESSION – 8:05 pm**

**Council Member Mrs. Seymour offered the motion to revert back to open session, motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles and unanimously approved.**

**Mayor Smith stated that no further action was needed as to the discussions held in Executive Session.**

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Mayor Smith stated before adjourning, he wanted to recognize the Lees (Christine & Donn) for their work in the recent Town election.

Mayor Smith, calling for and receiving no further business to come before Council, called for adjournment.

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**11. Adjournment**

Council Member Mrs. Seymour offered the motion to adjourn, said motion being duly seconded by Council Members Mr. Jones and Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Council adjourned at approximately 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra McKinney  
Town Clerk/Treasurer

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