

**Town of McCormick, SC
Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2013**

Attendance:

Mayor: Roy Smith, Jr.

Council Members: Dolly Franklin
Nathan Jones
James C. (Calvin) Chiles
Eric T. Butler
Ann D. Seymour

**Newly Elected Council Member
for District 5** **Alvin L. Jennings**

Staff Present: Police Chief J.R. Jones
Reserve Police Officer Richard Young
Fire Chief Mike Barron
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney
Town Attorney John D. Compton, III

Media Present: None

Other Guests: Sojourner Jennings, T'Sayveon Creswell,
T' Keveon Creswell, and
T'Shaun Creswell
Family of Alvin L. Jennings

Mayor Smith welcomed everyone present to the regular, monthly meeting of the McCormick Town Council for October 8, 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 October 2 & 4, 2013. All other parties requesting notification had received notice either by fax, e-mail or correspondence on October 4, 2013. Agenda Packages were delivered to Council Members on October 4, 2013. Public notice posting was to the Town's Kiosk outside of the Town Hall area on October 4, 2013.

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Mayor Smith welcomed all in attendance to the regular, monthly meeting of the McCormick Town Council, stating he was glad to have everyone to attend, recognizing the Town's auditor, welcoming her, and stating she would be giving Council a report on the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 later in the meeting.

Mayor Smith stated it was customary, prior to the meeting, to have a business pick of the month to show appreciation to local businesses, and called upon Council Member Mr. Jones to make the selection. Council Member Mr. Jones selected "**Walker Funeral Home**". Mayor

Smith asked the Clerk/Treasurer to send a Certificate of Appreciation to this business.

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.

Swear -In New Council Member for District 5 – ALVIN L. JENNINGS

Mayor Smith called Mr. Jennings forward and recited the Oath of Office with Mr. Jennings affirming. After the Oath, Council Member Mr. Jennings took his seat at Council Table and was given a copy of the Agenda Package for the meeting. Council Member Mr. Jennings was given welcome and a round of applause by Council and those in attendance.

Swear-In Reserve Police Officer – RICHARD YOUNG

Mayor Smith called Mr. Young forward and recited the Oath of Office with Mr. Young affirming. After the Oath, Council welcomed Mr. Young as a Reserve Police Officer with the McCormick Police Department, stating they were glad to have him on board.

3. Invocation

Mayor Smith called upon Council Member Mr. Butler to give the **Invocation**. Council Member Mr. Butler did so, giving thanks for the day, and that the business of the Town be conducted in a pleasing manner.

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 Member Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

Presentation of FY 12/13 Audit

Toni McKinley, McKinley, Cooper & Co. LLC

Mayor Smith again welcomed Mrs. McKinley and called upon her to give her audit presentation.

Mrs. McKinley stated she would be presenting the audit for the fiscal year end of June 30, 2013. She asked Council to look at the Table of Contents section stating there were essentially no changes, but that Council would see some differences in the language used due to changes in audit standards. She stated the Town had received a “clean opinion”. She then reviewed each section of the audit from the management letter, basic financial statements, and the required supplementary information. She stated that all departments stayed within the budgeted amounts for each, that being a good indication of proper financial management. She explained the differences in fund balances, assigned and unassigned with the general fund balance showing an increase of approximately \$106,136. She stated that the Town had a good, healthy fund balance of up to 180% which meant that the Town's fund balance would indicate a good carryover for almost two years of operating. She pointed out the two fiduciary accounts, Garbage and Firemen's Fund, stating that the accounts were not considered a part of the general fund, in that they could not be used for Town operations. With

regard to the final schedule, she stated this schedule showed expenditures by departments, again indicating that each department had stayed within budget and indicated good accountability and management.

Mayor Smith called for any questions. Mayor Smith thanked Mrs. McKinley for her presentation and said he wanted to thank the Council and Staff for their efforts in staying within budget.

Mrs. McKinley was then excused from the meeting.

5. General Public Comments

Mayor Smith opened, and called for any, General Public Comments at approximately 7:24 pm. None were offered, and Mayor Smith closed General Public Comments at approximately 7:24 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 September 10, 2013, and called for action regarding same. Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion to approve the Minutes as written, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of the **Bills** for September, along with a copy of the Receivables Report and called for any questions. No questions were offered, and Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion to pay the Bills in the usual manner, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Franklin, and unanimously approved.

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

7. Legislation

Under Legislation, Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of **Ordinance No. 2013-09-01**, Election Ordinance – 2014 General Election for Districts 1,3, and 5, and a CPW Commissioner for second and final reading.

Council Member Mr. Chiles offered the motion to give final reading and adoption of **Ordinance No. 2013-09-01**, Election Ordinance, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Butler and unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 2013-10-01 was introduced by Mayor Smith, this Ordinance being for the appropriation of funds for the purchase of a police patrol unit to replace the unit that was wrecked. Council Member Mrs. Seymour questioned the recent purchase of a car. Mayor Smith stated that the recently purchased car was to replace the car used by the Administrative Department, the old 1999 Ford Crown Vic which had maintenance problems and gas issues. Mayor Smith stated that this ordinance was to appropriate funds to the current budget for the purchase of a patrol unit. Council Member Mr. Butler offered a motion to give first reading to Ordinance No. 2013-10-01, with Council Member Mr. Chiles duly giving second, with first reading being given to Ordinance No. 2013-10-01.

No **Resolutions** were published for review and adoption.

Mayor Smith reported one **Proclamation** was published during September, one for **THELMA CORNELIA WILLIAMS SIBERT**, on the occasion of her 75th birthday.

8. Reports

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

In reporting activity for September, Chief Jones reported:
Collisions Investigated 4; Traffic Offenses 24; Arrests 15; Overall Offenses (Incident Reports filed) 31; and Calls for Service 329.

Chief Jones stated A.L.E.R.T. - TACTICAL – training was to be held by the Department, with Major Willis, Training Officer for the Department and Special Investigator Joe Collier, of the County, conducting the training. He stated approximately six agencies would be included in this training. He stated different scenarios would be involved, with the School offering facilities for the training. He stated no students would be involved, the students would be out of the building. He stated this type of training was the same as for larger cities and used the example of the recent incident in Connecticut. Discussion was had as to the public being aware of this training also in that the public needed to know what do to in case of an incident that required law enforcement and other agencies responding to certain crises, such as terrorist attacks and similar incidents. The question was raised as to adults knowing where to go in case of such incidents. It was stated that the School District probably had their own policies in place that would alert parents as to where to go with regard to their children and any incident happening in the Schools. Chief Barron stated that for fire emergencies, the location point was the Food Lion parking area. Discussion continued as to the necessity of rules and regulations being in place for just such an incident, with each agency being aware of them, and that proper communication was essential throughout the community in the event of such an incident.

Mayor Smith thanked Chief Jones and called upon Fire Chief Mike Barron to give the **Fire** Report for September.

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

Automotive: City – 2; County – 3; Structure: City - 0; County – 0; Brush: City – 0; County – 0; Training: City – 2; County – 0; Alarm: City – 2; County – 0; Miscellaneous: City – 1; County – 1; Total Calls: City – 7; County – 4; for a total of 11 calls for service in September, 2013.

Under notes, Chief Barron reported two inter agency training sessions held in September – Lz operations and pumper shuttle operations.

Chief Barron stated he also wanted to request that a motion be offered for the expenditure of \$3,400 for improvements in the department's extrication capabilities, the equipment being air bags and regulator assembly.

Chief Barron stated that with a recent incident which required the extrication equipment, air bags would have been very helpful for the Department, in that the air bags used were not

sufficient.

Discussion was had as to the necessity that proper equipment in the fire department be available in responding to emergency incidents. Questions were raised as to the availability to other agencies, and it was stated that each agency should have their own equipment in good working order, with each agency working together in properly responding to emergencies. Chief Barron, after being asked about training for the equipment, stated that all firemen who had gone through the Firefighter I level of training would be trained on the equipment.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour offered the motion to allow for the purchase of equipment in the Fire Department in the amount of \$3,400. Council Member Mr. Butler duly gave second to the motion, with the motion being unanimously approved.

Mayor Smith asked Chief Barron to report on the recent county meetings.

Chief Barron stated that the meeting were essentially at a standstill, with issues of radio equipment being discussed. Chief Barron stated there were still problems with dispatching calls. He stated that two had been missed over the weekend due to radio miscommunication. Discussion was again had as to proper equipment being essential in emergency response. Chief Barron stated the County was working on updating the equipment, radios, tower, and console, but due to lack of funds, improvements in these areas were being delayed. Questioned as to the Fire Department's radios, Chief Barron stated that he was waiting on the County for either new radios, batteries, or upgrades in their equipment. He said the Department's radios were 50/50, the major issue being with dispatching issues.

Chief Barron reported, with good news, that the Department had received a "Bucket Brigade Grant" from a local employer in the approximate amount of \$5,000 which would be used for personal protection, safety gear.

Mayor Smith thanked Fire Chief Barron 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:

Purchases of goods and services: 11% local; 14% out of town, 6% for personal services 27% for contracted services and 42% for Interagency funding.

Reports filed: None

Required Publications: Election Notices for Special Election

Insurance Renewal to SCMIRF completed September 3

Upcoming Events: Full Costs/Annual Landfill Reports; Election Schedule for April, 2014

General Election for the election of Council Members 1,3 and 5, and a CPW Commissioner; Comprehensive Plan Review process, with first meeting being held on September 24, and the Town's Personnel Policy Review, a letter being sent to a labor attorney asking if they would be interested in doing the Town's review.

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

Business licenses: new – 8 contractors; renewals – 2

Building Permit Coordinations: repairs – 12

Zoning Issues: none

Background Checks: 8 employment and 6 apartment
Visitor's Log: Town Hall 87; Police Department 72; Fire Department 1: for a total of 160
Meetings Attended: National Night Out/Don't Fall for Drugs, Chamber Breakfast, Gold Rush
Meeting, Visitor Council Meeting, and Comprehensive Review Meeting.

Mrs. McKinney also reported that the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer had also completed another session of the MCTI training.

There were no new businesses opened in the Town during the month of September.

Mayor Smith thanked Mrs. McKinney and called for a motion to approve all reports as given.

9. Old Business

Mayor Smith stated Council had received for information copies of the letters that were sent to the Interagencies that were funded from the Accommodations Tax monies.

Council Member Mr. Chiles stated the letter was well worded as to the possible reduction in the amount of funding due to the cuts to the Town from the State.

Discussion was had with Council Member Mrs. Seymour stating that the Town had to be careful in the expenditure of these type funds.

Mayor Smith stated that he wanted to let the Interagencies know that their allocations could possibly be cut if the Town also received cuts in funding.

10. New Business

Under New Business, Mayor Smith stated Council had been given information regarding the health care offered by the government.

Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. McKinney stated that all employees of the Town had been mailed this information in September.

11. Information Items

Under information items, Mayor Smith had several events to report:

National Night Out – Don't Fall For Drugs – October 12

Holiday on Main – Christmas Parade – December 7

4K Run/March for the MACK – October 19

Mayor Smith, in closing comments, once again welcomed Council Member Mr. Jennings to Council.

12. Adjournment

Calling for any other business to come before Council and receiving none, Mayor Smith called for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Mr. Butler made the motion, with Council Member Mrs. Seymour giving second. Council unanimously agreed to adjourn at approximately 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Clerk/Treasurer - CMCT

File: M10082013