

Town of McCormick, SC
Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Attendance:

Mayor: Roy Smith, Jr.

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

Staff Present: Police Chief J.R. Jones
Fire Chief Mike Barron
Town Clerk/Treasurer Sandra McKinney
Administrator David Krumwiede

(Attorney John D. Compton, III was absent)

Media Present: Christine Lee and Donn Lee, McCormick
Messenger

General Public Comments Guest: Timothy Hunter for the Will Lou Gray
Opportunity School

Other Guests: Byron Thompson
Charles Jennings, Chair
McCormick County Council
Columbus Stevens, Administrator
McCormick County
Mike Sharpe, Fire Chief, Sandy Branch
FD and Other Fire Personnel

The regular, monthly meeting of the McCormick Town Council for **November 13, 2012**, 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 November 7, 2012. All other parties requesting notification had received notice either by fax, e-mail or correspondence on November 7, 2012. Agenda Packages were delivered to Council Members on November 9, 2012. Public notice posting was to the Town's Kiosk outside of the Town Hall area on November 9, 2012.

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1. Welcome/Call to Order

Mayor Smith welcomed all present to the regular, monthly meeting of the McCormick Town Council, at approximately 7:01 pm.

Mayor Smith stated that it was customary, prior to the meeting, that a business be selected as business of the month. He asked Council Member Mr. Jones to do the drawing, and "Short Cuts, Etc." was drawn as business pick of the month for November.

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 good day, the opportunity to meet once again, and that the meeting be governed in making right decisions and was conducted in a well manner.

4. Approval of Agenda as Written

Mayor Smith having called for a motion to approve the agenda as published. Council Member Mr. Chiles made the motion, said motion being duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Johnson, and unanimously approved.

5. General Public Comments

Mayor Smith stated that Timothy Hunter had asked to come before Council to speak to Council regarding the Will Lou Gray Opportunity School.

Mr. Hunter handed out a packet of information on the School and then spoke to Council about the School's purpose which was to give students who may not otherwise fit into a regular school setting an opportunity to obtain a GED. He stated that the School wanted to partner with the Town and the McCormick Community in providing this opportunity. He asked if there was a student that needed assistance that Council was aware of that Council offer them the information about Will Lou Gray. He stated that the course was for 14-weeks, tuition free, military style setting. He stated that there was a basic cost of \$175.00, which took care of basic necessities, but that the inability to pay did not preclude the student from attending. He stated that the School would make arrangements, a payment plan, for the family who could not pay. He stated that the classes were small, modernized with computers, I-Pads and separated by gender. He stated that the School was not like DJJ or a reform school; he stated that students who had felony records could not attend, but any minor incidences would not preclude the student from attending. He stated the School gave the student structure and discipline, in a controlled environment, in an effort to help the student complete their education and obtain their GED. He stated it was a volunteer program; that no student was forced to complete the program; if a student didn't want to be there, they had a choice. He stated it was a very valuable program in that it would be possibly a last chance for some students to obtain an education, to get their GED. He stated that all clothing, transportation, drug tests, pregnancy tests, and other necessities were paid for by the School from the \$175.00 fee. He stated again the purpose was to focus on education for those students who

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might not otherwise fit into mainstream education. He stated the target group age was 16-19, with the average age being 17. He stated that a 20 year old would be considered. He thanked Council for letting him appear and speak.

Mayor Smith asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Hunter

Council Member Mr. Butler asked if Mr. Hunter would make a presentation to Churches. Other questions were as to class size, location of school, and how School was funded.

Mr. Hunter stated that he would be glad to speak to Churches and any other group that wished him to do so. He stated that the class size was small, separated by male/female, and that the School was funded by the State Legislature. He stated the School was located on I-26, near the Columbia Airport.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Hunter for his attendance and the valuable information that had been given to Council. He stated that it sounded very impressive.

Public Hearing

Mayor Smith stated that the next item was a Public Hearing regarding the MASC Ordinance to Amend Business License Ordinance and Provisions for Insurance Companies. Public Hearing was opened at 7:24 pm. No comments were offered, and Mayor Smith closed the Public Hearing at 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 October 9, 2012, 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 October, along with a copy of the Receivables report and called for any questions.

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

Mayor Smith stated Council had received a copy of the **Financial Statement** for October and called for action regarding same. Council Member Mrs. Seymour 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 Members Mr. Butler, and unanimously approved.

7. Legislation

Mayor Smith stated under Legislation several ordinances needed consideration for second reading and adoption:

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Ordinance No. 2012-004, Amend FY 12/13 Budget to Include Additional Expenditure for Impound Lot. Mayor Smith stated the Town joined with the County in making improvements to the impound lot at the Stockade that was used by the County Sheriff's Department, the EMS, and the Police Department.

Council Member Mr. Chiles questioned costs and what type of improvements were made.

Mayor Smith stated that the costs was approximately \$2,300.00 and stated the Chief could better address the improvements. He stated that the costs were divided three ways for the Sheriff's Office, the Police Department, and the EMS.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion to give second reading and adoption to Ordinance No. 2012-004, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mrs. Seymour, and unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 2012-005, Amend FY 12/13 Budget to Include Additional Expenditure for Infrastructure – Street Light Improvements.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made a motion to give second reading and adoption to Ordinance No. 2012-005, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles, and unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 2012-006, Amend FY 12/13 Budget to Include Additional Expenditure for Lot/ Site Improvements – Message Board.

Council Member Mr. Chiles made a motion to give first reading to Ordinance No. 2012-006, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Johnson, and unanimously approved.

MASC Ordinance/Agreement to Amend Business License Ordinances to include Insurance & Brokers Tax Collection Program.

Council Member Mrs. Seymour made a motion to give first reading to the MASC Ordinance/Agreement, said motion duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles, and unanimously approved.

8. Reports

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

Chief Jones reported activity for the month of October as follows:
Collisions Investigated 2; Traffic Offenses 7; Arrests 15; Overall Offenses (Incident Reports filed) 23, and Calls for Service 435.

Chief Jones stated he had attended the annual Police Chief's convention and an Education Expo held at McCormick High School.

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Mayor Smith thanked Chief Jones and called upon Fire Chief Mike Barron for the Fire Report.

Chief Barron reported that October turned out to be a good month in that he had reported no activity last month. For October, he reported activity in the City was only one false alarm. For the County, he reported three automotive, one false alarm at the school complex, and one brush fire. He stated that the total calls for service was six. Under notes, Chief Barron stated that three calls were missed during the day time hours, and that the calls were for support to the mutual aid stations.

Mayor Smith asked if Chief Barron could give a comparison to last year regarding calls.

Chief Barron stated that calls were down compared to the present time and last year. Chief Barron stated that the total calls for last year at this time were approximately 165, and the present call rate was somewhere around 100.

Council Member Seymour posed a question with regard to people burning leaves and if there was any type of law regarding burning of leaves and people with health issues such as COPD.

Discussion centered around Red Flag Warning alerts, the 1-800-705-8616 call number to Forestry for a burn permit number to burn yard debris, and the lack of enforcement for those who violated Red Flag Warnings.

Discussion continued with the possibility of the Town considering a yard debris burning ordinance and adopting the same to have some measure of enforcement. Chief Barron stated that he could not regulate and enforce without some measure being taken to adopt an ordinance addressing the issue.

Council Member Mr. Chiles stated that maybe the Town should purchase a leave vacuum truck; he stated some measure needed to be taken to correct the problem.

It was stated that leaves were picked up every other week, but that the resident had to notify the Town that they had leaves to be picked it. It was stated that if the resident would bag their leaves, and put them beside their roll cart, that the Trash people would usually pick them up at the same time as their residential garbage pickup.

Consensus of Council was that a study be made of the matter. Mayor Smith directed the Clerk/Treasurer to draft an ordinance for the Attorney and Council to review.

Mayor Smith thanked Chief Barron and called for the Clerk/Treasurer's Report.

Mrs. McKinney reported data as follows:

Purchase of property, goods and services: 7% local, 25% out of town, 15% for personal services and 53% for contracted services. Under Meetings/Events attended she reported attendance at an in house Staff Meeting which included a Safety Meeting and a Budget Meeting. For reports filed, Mrs. McKinney stated that she had filed the 3rd quarterly payroll reports, the annual and sick leave statements to employees, the Local Government Debt

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Report to the State, and had mailed out the FY 11/12 Audit Report for those agencies requesting the report for compliance with reporting regulations.

Reporting data from the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's report, Mrs. McKinney gave the following information:

Business Licenses: new: 2 renewals (contractors)

Building Permit Coordinations: 3 for repairs

Zoning Issues 4; for clarification; business in an R1; MF class/zone for a group looking for this type area; and for a zoning question for the CB district

Background Checks: employment: 6; apartment: 6

Visitor's Log: 130 total visitors; 63 for Town Hall; 65 for Police Department; and 2 for the Fire Department

Meetings Attended: Wideman Drop-in on the 14th and the Women's in Business Luncheon on the 24th.

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

Administrator Krumwiede stated that he had attended the annual Administrator's Meeting and had met the three Administrators from Calhoun Falls. He stated that Calhoun Falls was trying to develop a recreation area and look for other opportunities. He stated they were looking to develop a lodge along the lake shores.

A brief discussion was held regarding the three lakes, Russell, Thurmond, and Hartwell, and lake levels.

Administrator Krumwiede stated that was the only thing he wanted to report.

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

9. Old Business

Mayor Smith stated under Old Business, the MOU had been changed and would be given to County Council for review. He stated the lease for the Baptist Church had also been changed and would be given to the Church for review.

For the annual Christmas Dinner, Mayor Smith has asked Council their option/opinion, dinner or drop-in. He again asked if Council had a preference. No opinions was given and Mayor Smith stated that he would leave it to the Clerk/Treasurer to decide.

10. New Business

Mayor Smith stated that no items had been listed under New Business, and called for any to come from Council. None was offered.

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11. Information Items

Mayor Smith stated no items were listed.

He asked Council to be aware of the following happenings in Town:

Holiday on Main – Christmas Parade on December 8
Holiday Showcase on November 17
Savannah Lakes Craft Show on December 1

Mayor Smith called for any other items to come before Council and none were offered.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Smith, called for the motion for adjournment, duly given by Council Member Mrs. Seymour, duly seconded by Council Member Mr. Chiles, and unanimous approved.

Council adjourned at approximately 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McKinney
Clerk/Treasurer

File: M11132012

A joint meeting of the McCormick Town Council and the McCormick County Council was held immediately following the meeting of Town Council and began at 8 pm with McCormick County Council chairing.

Topics for discussion were: Volunteer Fire Departments and status; update on W.S. Mims Civic Center, and Economic Development.

As the County chaired this meeting, no minutes were taken.

