



MINUTES

South Congaree Town Council

Council Meeting 6:00 PM

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

South Congaree Town Hall, Council Chambers

119 West Berry Rd., West Columbia, SC 29172

(Rescheduled January 21, 2025, Meeting Due to Inclement Weather)

Members in Attendance: Mayor Cindy Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Kitty Spires

Councilmembers: Brian Jackson, Debbie McIver and Dwayne Prosser.

Attendees Present: Municipal Clerk, Kerri Charlton, Police Chief Steven Jonas, Attorney Joseph Dickey, Lieutenant James Marchant

The public was duly notified of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

I. Call to Order.

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at **6:00 PM**. A quorum was present.

Mayor Campbell led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

This meeting complied with the public meeting notice and agenda requirements as per the Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code 30-4-80, posting 24 hours in advance.

II. New Business:

Presentation of Christmas Parade Awards

A heartfelt thank you was given to the volunteers who helped bring the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and the annual Christmas Parade to life. The volunteers acknowledged include Kim and Michael Yarbrough, Garrett Campbell, Joe and Cindy Gilchrist, Viki Wooten, Marty and Sheri Wooten, and Josh McCormick. Dunn's Chapel Church was also thanked for opening their doors and providing a safe place for parade participants.

The event was honored by the presence of Ms. Lea Foster Khalil, the 2024 Miss Gamecock, as the 2024 Grand Marshal. The parade judges for 2024 included Town of Springdale Mayor Justen Rikard, Cayce Mayor Pro-Tem and ewe Chamber President Tim James, News Media Personality Darci Strickland Rush, and West Metro News Publisher Terry Ward. Mayor Campbell announced the winners, while Chief Jonas assisted to distribute the awards to those present. Congratulations to all the winners! Here are the full results for the 2024 South Congaree Christmas Parade:

Walking Category:

- 1st place: Airport High School Band
- 2nd place: White Knoll Warhawk Dance Company
- 3rd place: Jesus is His Name/Abraham the Camel

Vehicle Category:

- 1st place: Troy Miller
- 2nd place: Mack Heating & Cooling
- 3rd place: 1520 Motorsports

Float Category:

- 1st place: Steve's Deli
- 2nd place: Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- 3rd place: In the Clear Land Management

III. Consideration to Make an Appointment to Fill a Vacancy on Planning Commission:

Wendy Wundrak and her partner, Mike, have been residents of South Congaree for two years. Wendy works as a school bus driver for Lexington School District 2 and previously held similar roles in Kentucky for 17 years. She is also pursuing a medical coding and billing certification at Midland Technical College. In her free time, she enjoys home renovations, gardening, and working on stained glass projects.

Pro-Tem Spires made a motion to appoint Wendy Wundrak to the Planning Commission, *Seconded by Councilmember Prosser*. No further discussion. Roll Call Vote:

Motion carried

- *Mayor Campbell- Yea*
- *Mayor Pro-Tem Spires- Yea*
- *Councilman Jackson- Yea*
- *Councilwoman McIver- Yea*
- *Councilman Prosser-Yea*

IV. Old Business:

Council Discussion of Potential Review and Updating of Town Ordinance(s)

Council Member McIver proposed initiating a review and update of the town's ordinances, noting that many are outdated. The suggestion was to prioritize the most urgent ordinances and address them one at a time to avoid overburdening the council and legal team. Mr. Dicky recommended grouping the ordinances into sections and reviewing them in phases, with set timelines and hearings. The council agreed to identify the most pressing issues first and finalize the review process in the February work session. Additionally, the fireworks ordinance, which has been under discussion since September, is to be added for its second reading at the next meeting.

V. Departmental Reports:

- A. Police Report: Chief Jonas' report highlighted positive citizen feedback, especially during officer walk-throughs in businesses, and successful case closures, including a robbery solved by Lieutenant Marchant. The department plans to apply for state and federal grants in the upcoming quarter. They are also exploring crime mapping technology to provide real-time crime data on social media for public awareness. The Chief emphasized a zero-tolerance approach to recurring issues at specific locations and stricter enforcement. Lastly, the department aims to make crime data publicly accessible to show trends in crime, aligning with best practices seen in other South Carolina cities.
- B. Code Enforcement Report: Lieutenant Marchant presented the monthly code enforcement report on behalf of Code Enforcement Officer Ronnie Hingleton, covering activities for December 2024. The report highlighted key issues such as notices of violations for property maintenance concerns, including accumulation of rubbish, overgrowth, unsafe conditions, and dilapidated structures.

VI. Public Comments: None

VII. Ad Adjourn to Executive Session:

Council entered Executive Session at **6:30 PM** under **S.C. Code 30-4-70 (A) (1) & (A) (2)** to discuss: Town Administrator, own Facilities, Telecommunications Franchise, Pending Litigation Matters and threatened claims.

Mayor Campbell made the motion to enter Executive Session at **6:30 PM**, Motion seconded by *Mayor Pro-Tem Spires*. Motion carries by unanimous vote of council.

Chief S. Jonas and Attorney Joseph Dickey invited to enter executive Session.

Councilmember Jackson left the Council meeting at 8:40 PM

Mayor Campbell made a motion to return to public session seconded by Councilmember Prosser and at **8:53 PM**. Motion carries by unanimous vote of council present.

No Votes were taken during Executive Session.

Mayor Pro-Tem Spires made the motion that Council enter into a contractual agreement Lease for the property discussed in Executive Session, Seconded by Councilmember Prosser, No Discussion. Roll Call Vote:

Motion carried

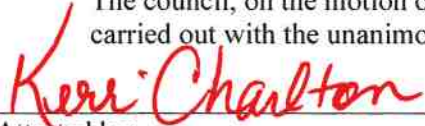
- Mayor Campbell- Yea
- Mayor Pro-Tem Spires- Yea
- Councilman Jackson- Absent
- Councilwoman McIver- Yea
- Councilman Prosser-Yea

Reminder:

The February 18, 2025, regular Council meeting was moved to Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM following the 4:30 PM Council Work Session.

VIII. Adjournment of Council Meeting:

The council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, voted to adjourn the meeting at **8:55 PM**. Motion was carried out with the unanimous vote of the council present.



Attested by:
Kerri Charlton, Municipal Clerk



Approved by:
Cindy Campbell, Mayor

3.18.2025

Date Approved

Civility Pledge

I pledge to build a stronger and more prosperous community by advocating for civil engagement, respecting others, and their viewpoints, and finding solutions for the betterment of my city or town.

The public was duly notified of the date, time, and place of the upcoming meeting.

The Town of South Congaree is a handicapped accessible facility.