



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 6:30pm
South Congaree Town Hall
Council Chambers
119 West Berry Rd.
West Columbia, SC, 29172

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

(<https://www.facebook.com/TownOfSouthCongaree/videos/418470013666126>).

In attendance

Mayor Cindy Campbell
Councilmembers Jim Drennan
Councilmember Brian Jackson

Mayor Pro-Tem Mechelle Mabry
Councilmember Kitty Spires

Staff

City Attorney, John Rakowsky
Police Chief Joshua Shumpert

Municipal Clerk, Teresa Benjamin

Presenters: Pastor Jerry Freeman (Congaree Baptist Church), Angela Vandelay, Taylor Brewer, Bill Bingham, and Craig Kirby

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor Campbell called the Regular Town Council Meeting to order- at 6:32 p.m.; A quorum was present. Mayor Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pastor Jerry Freeman (Congaree Baptist Church) gave the Invocation.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
June 16, 2022 Public Hearing
June 16, 2022 Council Special-Called Meeting/Worksession
June 21, 2022 Council Regular Meeting
June 28, 2022, Special-Called Meeting

A motion to amend the agenda by moving this item after Executive Session, due to fact that the Municipal Clerk Benjamin was not prepared with the revised draft meeting minutes: Mayor Campbell

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Motion Carried: Unanimously.

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Sewer Feasibility Study Update – American Engineering (Bill Bingham and Craig Kirby)

Mr. Kirby presented detailed results and information of the Sanitary Sewer Study for the area located SC Highway 302, Ramblin Road, and Gator Road. The Town of South Congaree commissioned this study to examine wastewater needs and develop a plan of service for an area along SC Highway 302 (the main commercial thoroughfare). Sanitary sewer is critical to facilitating commercial growth and attracting retail and other development to include grocery stores, restaurants, and medical facilities. The lack of wastewater infrastructure along the key corridor has limited this type of development. From the information gathered, to provide sanitary sewer services to the identified study area along Highway 302; a 10-inch gravity sewer line is recommended between Ramblin Road and Lanier Avenue. Due to the elevations beyond Lanier Avenue, this area will require the use of a separate gravity system and pump station extending out to Earline Drive. To begin and complete this proposed project, several phases will need to be put in place. Phase IA – the construction of a 10-inch gravity line between Ramblin Road and the current Town limits near McTavish Avenue. Phase IB – would involve extending the 10-inch gravity line to near Lanier Avenue. Phase II would complete the proposed system with a gravity system and pump station to serve the area beyond Lanier Avenue out to Earline Drive. The financials, as well as financial opportunities were discussed: grants, loans, ARPA funding, CBDG and RIA Infrastructure Administration grants and private financing are additional options. The deadline to apply for the ARPA funding is September 12, 2022 and requires a 15% match. Currently, the Town does not own or operate a sanitary sewer system. The Town of South Congaree is a part of the City of Cayce's 208 Management area. The Town of South Congaree would have to approach the City of Cayce to apply for ARPA funding; The City of Cayce would have to apply for the Town of South Congaree. The recommendation is that any system that is constructed because of this project, be deeded by the Town to the City with reservations for capacity to serve the study area. Since the City of Cayce is the 208 Management agency and owns plus operates that system into which the improvements contemplated herein would connect. The proposed plan of service is subject to their approval to submit an application on the behalf of the Town of South Congaree. The Town of South Congaree does not currently own and operate a sanitary sewer system, it was stressed that any applications for grants or loans for the construction of improvements within the study would need to be submitted by the City of Cayce on behalf of the Town. Councilmember Jackson asked if the new lines would run on the north side? Mr. Kirby responded the new lines would run on the south side. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked is it possible to get multiple grants at the same time; the response was yes. Mr. Bingham emphasized that one thing funding institutions look at are you making citizens tie on; they do not want to build dry infrastructures. Mayor Pro Tem asked is this a one-time grant. Mr. Bingham responded yes, and the funds will need to be spent by the end of year 2025. Meaning, limited or use of septic; they must be tied-in to the waterline and using the Town's sewer (when available). Mr. Bingham stated that in most cases, that to receive funding, a municipality will have to enact an Ordinance ordering their citizens to tie-in to their water system and get rid of septic tanks. Mayor Campbell asked if this was

new, and Mr. Bingham responded not really. Any grant will make this a requirement, so there will be flow through this structure to secure that they

would recoup funding on any funding. Councilmember Spires asked how far from the road would a citizen be compelled to tie-in? Mr. Bingham responded that by law only if it is available in their area; he gave an example. Mr. Bingham detailed other scenarios of other projects they have worked on and reemphasized the deadline for the ARPA funding. Mayor Campbell asked about if it would be worth it because of the limited number of homes on that side. Mr. Bingham explained the possibilities and reemphasized the steps needed to apply for ARPA funding or any other funding; The Town of South Congaree would have to talk with the City of Cayce for approval. Mr. Bingham reassured Council that he is more than willing to work with the Town of South Congaree. A hard copy of the presentation has been provided.

B. MS4 permit requirements, upcoming DHEC audit, the Town's and the County's responsibilities – Ms. Angela Vandelay (Senior Engineer/Project Manager) and Taylor Brewer (Lexington County Environmental Coordinator)

Ms. Angela Vandelay and Ms. Taylor Brewer presented information to Council stressing the importance of the MS4 Audit. For 15 years, the MS4 Audit has been in place. A municipality must be near an urbanized area, for stormwater conveyances and provide detailed requirements. There are six minimum requirements for control measures: public education, public involvement, IDDE, construction site runoff, post-construction Solid Waste Management, and pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations. Ms. Vandelay provided an overview of all the requirements and answered the following questions: what is an MS4 and why is a permit needed; Phase 2 MS4 Permit Requirements; Lexington County's Permit Obligations; and Town of South Congaree's Financial Commitment. The Town of South Congaree was designated as an MS4 and permitted by DHEC in 2007. It is the Town or City's responsibility to monitor and implement programs to monitor the illicit discharge. This also allows for citizens to ask questions and participation. The outfalls must be screened to monitor the illicit discharges. The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium provides training and updates, and a member from each participating municipality is required to send a member to attend these meetings. This presentation will count towards the Town of South Congaree's educational profile/training requirements. Ms. Taylor provided additional information pertaining to the Permit Requirements, which includes the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). Ms. Taylor stated that the Town of South Congaree has one monitoring site off Congaree Creek on Pine Street. Once every season, someone must go out two hours after a rain to collect samples. An annual report must be sent to DHEC. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked has this always been the monitoring location at Congaree Creek on Pine Street. Ms. Vandelay answered yes, this has always been the monitoring location according to DHEC. The Lexington County's Consortium consists of seven municipalities that have a small population. Lexington County's Commitment: assist with the minimum control measures (1-6); conduct plan reviews; conduct construction inspections; and to help develop TMDL Monitoring and Advertisement Plans. The Intergovernmental agreement and the Town of South Congaree's Responsibilities was shown; and for the month of August, the Municipal

The Town of South Congaree is a handicap accessible facility.

Clerk Benjamin will be attending the meeting as the representative for the Town of South Congaree. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked if it must be the same person? Ms. Taylor responded no, any member of Council or the community can attend and be an active part of the Consortium. Training opportunities were covered, and they offered their services to get this completed. Mayor Campbell asked them to explain what the Town of South Congaree needs to manage. Ms. Taylor added that there is a need to provide staff/volunteers to participate in monitoring and collecting of the sample of water two hours after a rain each season. The audit process was explained in detail.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Public Safety – Chief Shumpert provided the following:

1. Statistical information (156 tickets have been issued in the month of June) and the coverage for the South Congaree Rodeo event
2. Police Department is short one patrol officer
3. Catalytic convertors - Chief Shumpert has been in communication with Mr. Walker, at Walker Transmission, in attempt to find some additional information and examine other options for this owner that may lead to an arrest
4. Officer Walker has returned to work, and the department is short a vehicle
5. Chief Shumpert attended the honorary swearing-in ceremony at the Criminal Justice Academy the previous week. Different agencies combined to fulfil a terminally ill young person's desire to become an officer of the law. The young person was sworn in as a Junior Officer for South Congaree Police Department
6. Chief Shumpert stated that the South Congaree Police Department has been very initiative-taking in the community. He and some other officers assisted in picking up trash that fell off a truck on SC 302
7. Zoning issues – they are making some progress
8. Mayor Campbell asked what the status of the vehicle is, and he responded that they are on a waiting list up to three months out
9. The town sign is operable but there are some other functions that will need to be updated to be able to convert fully over to new carrier

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT(S): A motion to move Public Comment up: Mayor Campbell; Second: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Motion Carried: All Ayes. There was one signed up to address Council: Jerry Smith (150 Chapel Road)

A motion was made to take a 5-minute recess at 8:35 p.m.: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Second: Councilmember Jackson; Motion Carried: Unanimously.

A motion to reconvene at 8:38 p.m.: Mayor Campbell; Second: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Motion Carried: Unanimously.

V. LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

A. RESOLUTION 2022-02: To Continue the Bid/IFB process until July 27, 2022.

A Resolution for the Town of South Congaree, South Carolina for the approval of the bid award for Financial Services; and all other matters related thereto. Mayor Campbell informed Council that they are in receipt of two bids. Councilmember Jackson asked if the Municipal Clerk Benjamin reached out to the local company, Walker and Associates? Mayor Campbell responded that question needs to be addressed by Municipal Clerk Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked why is this being assigned as a Resolution and provided an example of a Resolution. Mayor Campbell responded that Municipal Clerk Benjamin would have to address this question. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry read aloud the guidelines for a Resolution from the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Municipal Clerk Benjamin responded to the effect that this is a Resolution is a temporary motion. Items addressed pertained to the lack of staffing. Councilmember Jackson asked if the Municipal Clerk Benjamin reached out to Walker and Associates. Municipal Clerk Benjamin took ownership of the fact that she did not contact them. Town Attorney, Rakowsky added and explained the terms of the law pertaining to a conflict of interest. Copies of the revised meeting minutes were distributed to Council. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry stated that this item was posted on SCBO for three days. Municipal Clerk Benjamin responded that due to the password reset of the password that is why it was there for three days, and the posting was on the Town's social media platforms. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry read aloud the guidelines for the posting and a date was decided. There was discussion as to the perimeters and updates to the re-submission of the Invitation for Proposal.

A motion to re-submit the Invitation for Bid/Proposal on all social media platforms until Tuesday, July 26, 2022 with a closing time of 4 p.m., to open and vote on during the Wednesday, July 27, 2022 Special-Called Meeting: Mayor Campbell; Second: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Motion Carried: Unanimously.

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Table until Wednesday, July 27, 2022

- June 16, 2022 Public Hearing
- June 16, 2022 Council Special-Called Meeting/Worksession
- June 21, 2022 Council Regular Meeting
- June 28, 2022, Special-Called Meeting

A motion to table voting on the meeting minutes until Wednesday, July 27, 2022: Councilmember Jackson; Second: None; A motion to amend the motion to charge the Municipal Clerk Benjamin to make corrections according to the recording: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Second: None; Discussion: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry gave some examples pertaining to the section detailing the information about the Municipal Town Attorney. Councilmember Spires asked for some additional time to review the minutes, because there have been some corrections. This would allow the opportunity to read them and provide any additional corrections be sent to Municipal Clerk, Benjamin by Monday, July 25, 2022.

A motion to table voting on the meeting minutes until Wednesday, July 27, 2022:
Councilmember Jackson; Second: Mayor Pro Tem Mabry; Motion Carried to Table Until
Wednesday, July 27, 2022: Unanimously.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to South Carolina State Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1)(2)
Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or
release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by public body or the appointment of a
person to a public body and discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual
arrangements. **Upon returning to open session, action may be taken by Council regarding
matters discussed in Executive Session.**


A motion to enter Executive Session at 9:05 p.m.; Second: Councilmember Jackson; Motion
Carried: Unanimously.

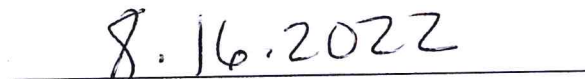
A motion to exit Executive Session at 9:20 p.m.: Mayor Campbell; Second: Councilmember
Jackson; Motion Carried: Unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Having heard all the concerns, a motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.: Mayor Campbell; Second:
Councilmember Jackson; Motion Carried: Unanimously.


Attested by:


Cindy Campbell
Mayor


Date Approved:

