



MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:00 PM
South Congaree Town Hall, Council Chambers
119 West Berry Rd., West Columbia, SC 29172

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Cindy Campbell, Mayor
Kitty Spires, Mayor Pro Tem
Brian Jackson
Debbie McIver
Dwayne Prosser

COUNCIL ABSENT:

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Crystal Bouknight, Town Administrator
Kelli Ricard, Town Clerk
Joseph Dickey, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd Law Firm
Lt. Marchant, South Congaree Police Department
SRO Roche, South Congaree Police Department

Cpl. McComas, South Congaree Police Department
Susan Battles, Deputy Town Clerk
Wally Shangle, South Congaree Planning Commission
John Lastinger, SC House of Representatives
Todd Cullum, Lexington County Council

MEDIA NOTIFICATION:

The agenda was posted at Town Hall, and The State, Free Times, Lexington County Chronicle, Cayce-West Columbia News, The Columbia Star, COLADaily.com, as well as radio and television stations, were notified by email on February 13, 2026.

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. The invocation was provided by Natalie Minor of Platt Springs Baptist Church.
Council Member McIver arrived at 6:04 PM.

II. Announcements and Communications by the Mayor

Mayor Campbell had no announcements.

III. Presentation

Mayor Campbell recognized Municipal Judge Kenneth Ebener, who administered the oath of office to Carl James "CJ" Quinlan, officially swearing him in as Chief of Police for the Town of South Congaree. Chief Quinlan affirmed his commitment to faithfully discharge the duties of the office and to serve the community with integrity and professionalism. The Mayor and Council welcomed Chief Quinlan to the Town.

Mayor Campbell recognized Town Clerk Kelli Ricard, who gave Council a brief presentation on accepting credit card payments at Town Hall. She stated it would improve customer service and streamline operations, and asked Council to support the request to use Stripe as the Town's credit card processor.

Mrs. Ricard provided the Council with an overview of the request to amend Title III, Chapter 30, Section 07, the Council Compensation and Expenses Ordinance. The ordinance regarding Council compensation was last amended in 1985, establishing the Mayor's annual salary at \$3,000 and Council members' salaries at \$1,500, with biannual payments based upon available funds. The suggested amended ordinance would increase the Mayor's salary from \$ 3,000 to \$ 3,500 annually and Council Members' salaries from \$ 1,500 to \$ 2,000 annually. The increases were based on research of the surrounding municipalities of South Carolina with similar populations. It would also change the payment schedule from biannual to quarterly. The effective date of the amendment would occur after the election of at least two Council Members in the November 2027 general election. Council Member McIver asked why this item had been added to the agenda, noting that she would not support an increase. Mrs. Ricard explained that the Mayor requested that staff review the compensation, since it had not been updated since 1985.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2026, and January 28, 2026, Special Council Meetings, collectively. Mayor Pro Tem Spires made a motion, and Council Member McIver seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. **New Business**

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion for consideration to approve Stripe as the Town's credit card processing provider and to authorize the purchase of the Stripe BBPOS WisePOS E card reader for \$249, and the accompanying docking station for \$49. Council Member Jackson made a motion, and Council Member McIver seconded the motion.

Council Member Prosser asked how the Town would manage the credit card processing fees. Town Clerk Kelli Ricard stated that the fees would be posted and that the public would be informed of the additional cost, which would be passed on to the customer. Mayor Pro Tem Spires asked whether the cost of the reader was one time or if it would need to be upgraded at some point. Mrs. Ricard stated that technology usually needed to be upgraded every five to ten years.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion to adopt the new Town of South Congaree logo. Council Member Prosser made the motion, and Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Spires noted that the Town's logo had been round since its inception and expressed interest in considering a horizontal version instead. She stated that the horizontal logo incorporated an oak tree, symbolizing strength, longevity, and stability. Mayor Pro Tem Spires then made a motion to amend the logo selection to the horizontal version. Council Member McIver requested that "Established 1957" be added, and Council Member Jackson requested incorporating a creek into the horizontal version. Due to the lack of a second, the amended motion failed.

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion for consideration to approve an expenditure of \$870 for Clark Berry Professional Photography Services to provide updated headshots for the Town Council, Administrative Staff, and the Chief of Police for the Town's website redesign. Mayor Pro Tem Spires made a motion, and Council Member McIver seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. **Adjourn to Executive Session**

Mayor Campbell made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss contractual matters related to IT services, accounting firm, audit firm, litter control agreement, and attorney services (Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70 (A) (2)), and for the receipt of legal advice pertaining to amending the Council Compensation and Expenses Ordinance (Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70 (A) (2)). Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. Council entered executive session at 6:43 PM.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. **Reconvene to Regular Session**

Mayor Campbell stated that no votes were taken during the executive session and moved to adjourn the executive session and reconvene to the regular session. Council Member Prosser seconded the motion. Council reconvened at 7:58 PM. Council Member Jackson left the meeting during the executive session.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. **After Reconvening to Regular Session, Action May be Taken by Council Regarding Matters Discussed in the Executive Session**

Mayor Campbell asked if there were any motions for consideration after reconvening from executive session.

Council Member Prosser made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator, Crystal Bouknight, to move forward with soliciting IT services and auditing services as discussed in executive session. Mayor Pro Tem Spires seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

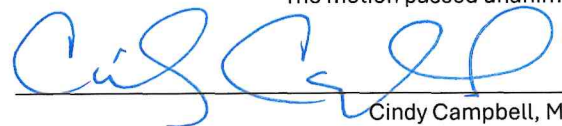
IX. **Adjournment**

Mayor Campbell made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member McIver seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The motion passed unanimously.



Kelli Ricard, Town Clerk



Cindy Campbell, Mayor

Date Approved: March 17, 2026