



**MINUTES**  
**Council Meeting**  
**March 15, 2022 - 6:30 pm**  
**South Congaree Town Hall**  
**Council Chambers**  
**119 West Berry Rd.**  
**West Columbia, SC, 29172**

**Members in Attendance: Mayor Cindy Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Mechelle Mabry and Council Members Jim Drennan, Brian Jackson and Bobby Porter**

**I. Call to Order**

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

A quorum was present.

Mayor Campbell led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Tom Atten, Dunn's Chapel Church, gave the Invocation.

Mayor Campbell made a motion to amend the agenda to include the Lost Revenue Resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Mabry.

**II. Lost Revenue Resolution**

Councilman Jackson made a motion to adopt a Resolution Electing the Standard Allowance for Lost Revenues under the American Rescue Plan, seconded by Councilman Drennan.

Roll Call Vote –

Councilman Drennan – Yes

Councilman Jackson – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes

Councilman Porter – No

Mayor Campbell – Yes

**III. First Reading Ordinance 22-02**

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT LEXINGTON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE 21-20 CHAPTER 10, ANIMAL CONTROL, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, TO INCLUDE SECTION 10-42 TETHERING AND SHELTER.

Lexington County Council adopted changes regarding the County's Animal Control Ordinance.

Councilman Porter made a motion to adopt by reference Lexington County's Animal Control Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call Vote –

Councilman Drennan – Yes

Councilman Jackson – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes

Councilman Porter – Yes

Mayor Campbell – Yes

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

January 13, 2022  
February 10, 2022  
February 15, 2022  
February 22, 2022

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2022, meeting, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call Vote –  
Councilman Drennan – Yes  
Councilman Jackson – Yes  
Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – No  
Councilman Porter – Yes  
Mayor Campbell – Yes

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2022, meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mabry.

Roll Call Vote –  
Councilman Drennan – Abstain  
Councilman Jackson – Yes  
Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes  
Councilman Porter – Yes  
Mayor Campbell – Yes

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2022, meeting, seconded by Councilman Jackson.

Roll Call Vote –  
Councilman Drennan – Yes  
Councilman Jackson – Yes  
Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes  
Councilman Porter – Yes  
Mayor Campbell – Yes

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2022, meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mabry.

Roll Call Vote –  
Councilman Drennan – Yes  
Councilman Jackson – Yes  
Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes  
Councilman Porter – Yes  
Mayor Campbell – Yes

**V. Friends of the SCPR Library – Kitty Spires, President**

Mrs. Kitty Spires, President of the Friends of the South Congaree Pine Ridge Library introduced Carol Clark, Branch Librarian of the SCPR Library since July 2007. Mrs. Spires presented to Council the purpose of the Friends group by promoting interest in the library, assist library staff as needed, encourage growth and use of the library and to supplement the library by raising funds for special projects, programs and events. Mrs. Spires shared some of the highlights and projects from the previous year. In 2021, the Friends of the South Congaree Pine Ridge Library won the very first Outstanding Friends Group Award and for 2022, on March 26, 2022, Andy Gambrell will be presented with the John Landrum Advocacy Award. This award recognizes individuals that go beyond the call to get a library established and/or fund the library.

Mrs. Spires thanked Council for their support and asked that they consider investing in the community by supporting the Friends of the SCPR Library by including them in the 2022-23 budget. Mrs. Spires presented Council with a membership bag as a thank you.

**VI. Craig Kirby, PE – American Engineering Consultants**

Craig Kirby, Project Manager and William (Bill) Bingham, Jr., President, presented to Council regarding the waste water study for the Town along the Hwy 302 corridor. Will be looking at what the waste water needs are now and for the future and what amount of waste water flow could be expected to be generated in that area were the Town in the future have an interest in extending lines in that direction. They will also be looking at a physical infrastructure that will be required to serve that area as well as what may need to be done to the City of Cayce's system in South Congaree to get it through to their pump station in front of the Food Lion.

Mr. Kirby advised they will provide estimated costs, phasing as to how the project could be built, funding opportunities and assist with identifying those opportunities to secure funding.

Mr. Bingham added the State has a large pot of ARPA funds available for submitted projects. The importance of this project is the need for a basis to make a request in order to receive funds for a project. Mr. Bingham advised the purpose of the study is to set the goal for what the town wants to do to ensure a good submission for a grant request for the ARPA funds.

The pump station has a peak capacity of approximately a million gallons per day and that is what the study will determine as to how much capacity is left in the station. Indian River and Lake Francis all come through the pump station. Modifications were made 15 years ago to the pump station that increased the capacity of the pump station.

**VII. Reports**

Chief Shumpert advised 113 tickets were written in the past month. Chief Shumpert advised of speaking engagements he had made to the Blue Ridge Terrace Community Club and the Congaree Legion Hut meeting. Received twelve titles for vehicles in the tow yard will hold an auction on a Friday afternoon in April. Three off duty officers will be working the Rodeo. He met with the State Transport Police regarding the trash coming from trucks traveling to the landfill.

Chief Shumpert introduced newly hired Officer Daniel LaGrega who comes to South Congaree with five years' experience. Officer LaGrega has worked for the New York City PD and City of Columbia. Chief Shumpert proceeded with the swearing in of Officer LaGrega.

Officer Walker advised he is working on three complaints received and four properties have been put on notice to comply. Working to identify four properties in the town in reference to abandoned and/or dilapidated houses before getting with Lexington County to notify how the process is going. There are 19 cases pending for code enforcement in court tomorrow until they request a jury trial. Officer Walker asked Council about a property on Pine Street where the owners are deceased and no one to reach out to assist with cleanup. Councilman Drennan stated the County will sell the property in approximately two years for delinquent taxes and the Town needs to have a lien on the property for whoever picks it up so they can pay it. Mr. Drennan added we need to get it cleaned up and put a lien on the property. Officer Walker to provide council with estimates to clean up the property. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry requested that Officer Walker also get an estimate for the house on Garden Lane that has been condemned for three or four years. Officer Walker knows of the one on Garden Lane but more concerned with the one that is more of an eyesore and in the town's view. Officer Walker asked about business owners in the town that are not in compliance with whatever they are doing business for and without being specific, would it be possible to put a hold on their business license renewal until they come into compliance? Councilman Porter asked how does he know they are not in compliance? Officer Walker advised he has addressed the violations and they are not in compliance. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked if they are not issued a business license what is the next step? Councilman Porter advised they would be issued a cease and desist. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked who does that? Officer Walker stated that is his next step up and wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page with withholding the license and then pass this on to the lawyer.

Officer Walker will send the next steps for withholding business licenses for non-compliant businesses for Council approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Mabry asked Officer Walker to send all of council an email listing the businesses not in compliance in the event we are approached and not blind-sided.

**VIII. Deputy Gabe Mulkey, Lexington County Sherriff's Department**

Deputy Gabe Mulkey advised he is the resident deputy for Dixiana which encompasses South Congaree. He shared the primary area he assists with is property crimes, stolen cars, catalytic converters.

**IX. Citizens Comments**

Question was asked to Chief Shumpert what does the homeless population look like for South Congaree? Chief Shumpert advised there has been an increase in people walking through but do not know of any active homeless camps inside the town limits.  
Public comment was made by Jerry Smith.

Council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mabry, voted unanimously to enter executive session.

Council took a 5-minute recess.

**III. Citizens Comments**

Public comment was made by Jerry Smith.

Council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, seconded by Councilman Porter, voted unanimously to enter executive session.

Council took a 5-minute recess.

**X. Executive Session**

A. Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

Discussion of employment, compensation, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee.

No votes were taken during Executive Session.

Council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, seconded by Councilman Drennan, voted unanimously to reconvene at 8:35 p.m. in public forum.

Per State Law, Section 5-7-170, salaries and expenses of Mayor and Councilmen determined by Council through ordinance, the Council may determine the annual salary of its members by ordinance provided that an ordinance establishing or increasing such salaries shall not become effective until the commencement date of the terms of two or more members elected at the next general election following the adoption of the ordinance at which time it will become effective for all members whether or not they were elected in such election. The mayor and councilmembers may also receive payment for actual expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties within limitations prescribed by ordinance.

Mayor Campbell made a motion to increase compensation of council and for council to be paid monthly to become effective May 1, 2022, for council members to be paid on the first pay period of every month, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mabry.

Roll Call Vote –

Councilman Drennan – Yes

Councilman Jackson – No

Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes

Councilman Porter – No

Mayor Campbell – Yes

Councilman Drennan made a motion to receive compensation for November 2020 and April 2021, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mabry.

Roll Call Vote –

Councilman Drennan – Yes

Councilman Jackson – Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Mabry – Yes

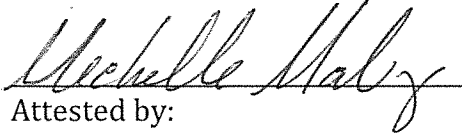
Councilman Porter – Yes


Mayor Campbell – Yes

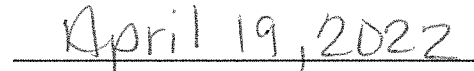
Mayor Pro Tem Mabry requested to schedule meetings for first reading of ordinance to change council compensation. Council agreed to schedule first reading on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

**XI. Adjournment**

Council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, seconded by Councilman Jackson, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

  
Attested by:

  
Approved by:  
Cindy Campbell,  
Mayor

  
Date Approved