



MINUTES

Council Work Session
November 9, 2021, 6:30pm
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 and Bob Porter
Members not in attendance: Council Member Brian Jackson

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 6:30 PM

Mayor Campbell led in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

II. Items for Discussion

A. Chief Shumpert – AT&T First Net

Chief Shumpert introduced Council to AT&T First Net Representative, Mr. Matthew Kelly. Chief Shumpert met Mr. Kelly at the Police Chief's Conference and he advised that most of the surrounding agencies were making the swap to First Net because of the faster, more reliable service and newer equipment. Mr. Kelly advised Council that First Net is a priority network created exclusively for first responders. Consumers are not allowed on the "band 14" network because it is exclusive to first responders which provides continued service with no lag time. Mr. Kelly stated that 75% of municipalities are already on board and using First Net.

Councilman Drennan asked about the pricing that was presented on the quote provided by AT&T. Chief Shumpert advised the quote also included a tablet requested by Officer Walker who needs a device that he can use to take pictures. Officer Walker is currently using his personal cell phone. By utilizing his personal cell phone for code enforcement, his phone could potentially be subpoenaed and confiscated.

Councilman Drennan suggested we consider issuing department cell phones to the Police Officers rather than paying them a monthly stipend.

Mayor Campbell asked about the capability to track the phones.

B. Ordinance 21-005 Hospitality Tax–

Council discussed Ordinance 21-005 Hospitality Tax and agreed to add the ordinance to the agenda for the November 16, 2021 meeting. Council discussed sending businesses to be affected a letter inviting them to a public hearing to be scheduled prior to the second reading.

- C. Ordinance for Tow Yard –
Mayor Campbell tabled the agenda item for December’s work session.
- D. Zoning Administrator and Duties –
Council discussed the need to appoint a Zoning Administrator no later than December 31st.
- E. Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission
Council discussed the Planning Commission and agreed the ordinance should be amended to allow the commission to have (5) five members.
- F. C Fund
Councilman Drennan requested to follow up with Lexington County and suggested working with Lexington County Councilman Bimbo Jones to help with coordinating efforts.
- G. Council Compensation and Employment
Mayor Campbell presented to Council a report from MASC website resource with comparable municipalities with council compensation and employee salary amounts as information.
- H. State Health Plan
Councilman Porter compared the premiums of the current BCBS plan and the State BCBS plan. He requested Municipal Clerk Williams send a survey out to employees to pole their opinion on switching to the State’s Health Plan.
- I. State Investment Pool
Councilman Porter suggested the money currently in United Bank be moved into the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP).
- J. Preparation and Discussion Ramblin Rd. Improvements
Councilman Porter advised that representatives from SCDOT would be attending the November 16th council meeting. He asked that everyone be prepared to discuss the resurfacing of Ramblin Road.
- K. 2021-2022 Budget Amendments
Mayor Pro-Tem Mabry advised of needed amendments to the 2021-22 budget. Pro-Tem Mabry volunteered to make the necessary adjustments and amendments and present the amended budget to Council when completed.

L. Team Building and Strategic Planning

Mayor Campbell informed that Jeff Shacker, MASC Field Representative, would attend the rescheduled Council Workshop on December 14, 2021, to assist Council with team building and strategic planning.

M. Office Procedures

Councilman Drennan discussed an email that was sent out to the staff at Town Hall and recommended in the future any actions or statements that were disciplinary in nature be done one on one with the employee and not in a mass email.

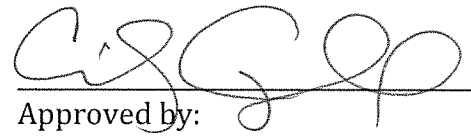
III. **Citizens Comments**

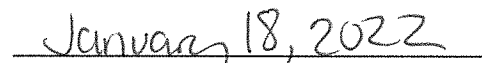
No public comment was made.

IV. **Adjournment**

Council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell and seconded by Councilman Porter, to adjourn at 9:41 PM. The motion carried.


Attested by:


Approved by:
Cindy Campbell,
Mayor


Date Approved