



COUNCIL PRESENT:

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

COUNCIL ABSENT:

Debbie McIver

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Crystal Bouknight, Town Administrator
Kelli Ricard, Town Clerk

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, radio, and television stations were all notified by email on July 28, 2025.

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.

II. Unfinished Business

- a. Mayor Campbell entertained a motion for Second Reading Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Title 3, Chapter 34, Section 2 of the Town of South Congaree Code of Ordinances Regarding Municipal Elections. Mayor Pro Tem Spires motioned to amend the ordinance for municipal elections from April 26, 2026, to the first Tuesday in November 2027. Council Member Brian Jackson seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Spires expressed her concern about moving the election to November 2025. She stated it does not give the town time to disseminate the information to all citizens and doesn't give citizens wanting to run for office time to decide. She wanted to ensure the Town was in sync with the County, considering all options. She expressed concern that some voters might not be aware that the election would be on a standard ballot in November. Extending the time until 2027 would give the town time to get organized. She stated that holding the election in November would share the cost with the other municipalities, rather than spreading the cost between two municipalities if it continues to be held in April. She stated that State law would eventually mandate the change.

Council Member Prosser stated that voting in April would be at Town Hall, and voting in November would be at the citizens' usual polling place.

The motion passed unanimously.

III. New Business

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion to consider First Reading Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Title 3, Chapter 34, Section 7 of the Town of South Congaree Code of Ordinances Relating to Election Filing Fees. Council Member Jackson motioned, and Mayor Pro Tem Spires seconded the motion.

Mayor Campbell stated the filing fees for the election have been \$25 for Council Members and \$50 for the Mayor since 1985. The new filing fees would be \$100 for Council Members and \$150 for candidates running for Mayor. She opened the floor for discussion.

Council Member Jackson stated the costs were in line with the commitment. Council Member Prosser noted that the fees help offset the election costs. Mayor Pro Tem Spires said the increased cost was an investment in the town. She stated that if the price of registration was a deterrent, the cost of running for Council might not be feasible for everyone.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Adjourn to Executive Session

Mayor Campbell made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion of Contractual Matters Related to the Current Town Hall Project pursuant to (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70 (A) (2)). Mayor Pro Tem Spires seconded the motion. Council entered Executive Session at 6:18 PM.

IV. **Reconvene to Regular Session**

Mayor Campbell stated no votes were taken during Executive Session and made a motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene to regular session. Mayor Pro Tem Spires seconded the motion. Council reconvened at 7:06 PM.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

No action was taken.

V. **Public Comments**

Mayor Campbell recognized Mr. Jon Jones. Mr. Jones inquired whether an additional reading of the election dates ordinance would be necessary, given that the dates had been amended from November 2025 to November 2027 between the first and second readings. Town Administrator, Crystal Bouknight, stated she would confirm with the Municipal Association of SC (MASC) and the town attorney.

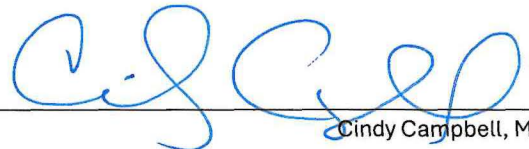
VI. **Adjournment**

Mayor Campbell entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Prosser seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

The motion passed unanimously.



Kelli Ricard, Town Clerk



Cindy Campbell, Mayor

Date Approved: 8.19.25