

Minutes
McClellanville Town Council
October 2, 2023 – 7:00 PM

McClellanville Town Council met on the above-noted date. Notice of the meeting had been published in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Mayor Rutledge Leland presided. Council members Chris Bates, Bob Gannon and Jim Scott were present. Councilman Aaron Baldwin was absent. Others present included: Michelle McClellan, Mike Fitze, Mike Bowers, Cheves Leland and Nancy Wilson.

Mayor Leland called the meeting to order and asked Council to review the September 5 and September 14 minutes. Councilman Gannon made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council present and voting.

Chief Bowers gave monthly reports for the Awendaw-McClellanville Fire Department. There was no representative present from the Charleston County Sheriff's Office.

Council considered requests from CREECS to hold Annual JMT Creekslam Fishing Tournament at Town Hall on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from Dawn until 6:00 PM and for the Village Museum to hold its Annual Oyster Roast on Saturday, November 11, 2023. Council had no objections to the requests.

Next, Council discussed a request from the Town of Awendaw to sponsor the Blue Crab Festival on Saturday, October 7, 2023. Mayor Leland noted that the Town only sponsored events for non-profit organizations. Council agreed and the donation request was denied.

Council considered appointing Scott Rowland to the Board of Zoning appeals. Councilman Scott made a motion to appoint. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council members present and voting.

Council considered a Resolution for the Adoption of the amended 2023-2024 Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation and Program for Public Information Plan by the McClellanville Town Council. Councilman Bates made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council present and voting.

Council considered Resolution 2023-3 - A Resolution for the Declaration of Disaster – Shrimp Dumping. Mayor Leland stated that this was a regional effort among several states including Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, and North Carolina to declare a disaster based on the amount of imported shrimp that is flooding the current market and undermining local shrimp prices. He said that it was a real concern and had already affected the Gulf States as many boats were tied up at the dock because they could not compete with the foreign market with the high cost of fuel. Councilman Scott made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council present and voting.

Councilman Bates asked to defer approving the Employee Handbook until next month to allow Council more time to study the document. Council had no objection. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council present and voting.

Council considered the Deed Restrictions for Deer Head Oak Property that were submitted by Lowcountry Land Trust. Council had no objections to the restrictions and agreed that the park should remain as a passive park. Councilman Bates made a motion to accept the deed restrictions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council present and voting.

Next, Councilman Gannon asked Council to consider writing a letter of interest to property owner regarding 13.74 acres at 1184 N. Pinckney Street for a town greenspace. Councilman Gannon said he had been approached about the property and it was a large parcel that could possibly be developed. Ms. McClellan said that it was listed by residents as a possible green space during Comprehensive Plan discussions. Council agreed to speak with one of the local land trusts about the possibility of conserving the property.

During a time for public comments, Mayor Leland said that Nancy Wilson had approached him about possibly putting out signs prior to meetings to inform residents. Ms. McClellan said that the meetings were on the website, in the newsletter and posted on the front door of Town Hall. Ms. Wilson said that she did not receive the newsletter. Ms. McClellan said she would make sure that she was added to the newsletter list.

Council reviewed financial statements and had no questions.

Councilman Bates made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council members present and voting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle A. McClellan
Clerk of Council