

## Minutes

### McClellanville Town Council

July 1, 2024 – 7:00 PM

McClellanville Town Council met on the above-noted date. Notice of the meeting was published in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Mayor Rutledge Leland presided. Council members Aaron Baldwin, Chris Bates, Bob Gannon and Jim Scott were present. Others present included: Michelle McClellan, Mike Bowers, Cheves Leland, Richie Billington, Susan Martindale, Emily Rodrigues and members of the community.

Mayor Leland asked Council to review the June 3 minutes. Councilman Gannon made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Baldwin and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Deputy Lyerly with Charleston County Sheriff's Office gave a monthly crime report. No representative from the Awendaw-McClellanville Consolidated Fire District was in attendance.

Mayor Leland made a motion to adopt a Resolution Honoring Mike Bowers Service and Dedication to the Town of McClellanville. Chief Bowers retired from the Awendaw-McClellanville Consolidated Fire District at the end of June. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gannon and carried by a unanimous vote of Council. Mayor Leland presented the Resolution to chief Bowers and Council thanked him for his many years of service to the community.

Next, Mayor Leland made a motion to adopt a Resolution Honoring the Outstanding Literary Achievements of William P. Baldwin - to be presented at 4<sup>th</sup> of July Town Picnic. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gannon and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman Scott discussed the recent power outages with Dominion Energy (DE). He said he felt that they were not communicating the issues and the time frame for the power to be restored. Mayor Leland said that he was told that a large tree had fallen on the line, and it was difficult to remove. He also stated that at one point DE had removed any trees that they thought were in danger of falling. Councilman Scott said he would like to see better communication when the power goes out.

Mayor Leland opened a Public Hearing for an ordinance to amend Chapter 4 Article III of the McClellanville Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference Charleston County's Flood Damage Prevention and Protection Ordinance 2245, as revised with certain exceptions in order to update the ordinance for the management of flood hazard areas. Council discussed their desire to amend the current ordinance from the County's that goes above and beyond FEMA requirements to make our ordinance in line with FEMA requirements. Councilman Gannon made a motion to hold final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Council discussed the State Budget funding request for improvements to the McClellanville school. Ms. McClellan said that Representative Lee Hewitt said that the request had passed

through the House and Senate and was awaiting the Governor's signature. The Town was approved for \$750K toward rural healthcare and a community center. Council will meet with Consultant Rebecca Vance on July 15, 2024, to discuss next steps.

Councilman Gannon discussed a meeting that he and Ms. McClellan had with Charleston County Public Works regarding a new SC DHEC and Army Core of Engineers requirement that requires permitting for ditch maintenance of tidal storm ditches. Councilman Gannon said the Town learned of this requirement while trying to get the McClellan Avenue Canal cleaned. After several months of saying the ditch would be cleaned, the County stated that it would have to be permitted. He said that the County said that they do not have the resources to apply for the permits for municipalities as it is a long and expensive process. Councilman Gannon asked if we could hire Malcolm Baldwin to look into this process for the Town and hire him to complete the process if necessary. Ms. McClellan said that Council had already hired Mr. Baldwin to access the town's drainage and she would ask him to look into this issue as well.

Councilman Gannon addressed the zoning permitting process. He received a letter from a property owner who had several issues navigating the process for a subdivision. The property owner was a realtor and offered to meet with zoning staff and develop a procedure sheet for subdivisions. Council agreed that would be helpful. Councilman Gannon also mentioned that he would like for Council to consider having a consultant review our zoning ordinance and make suggestions to abbreviate the document and make it flow better. He asked for this to be put on next month's agenda.

Ms. McClellan asked Council if they would like to purchase insurance on the new dock. She said that currently both docks were covered for liability but not for replacement value. The cost of annual insurance for one dock would be \$2,541.51. Councilman Gannon made a motion to purchase insurance for both docks. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Council considered a donation request from Charleston Animal Society. Mayor Leland made a motion to make a contribution of \$250. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gannon and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

There were no questions regarding the May financial statements.

There were no public comments. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle A. McClellan  
Clerk of Council