

## Minutes

### McClellanville Town Council

July 7, 2025 – 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, Fire Chief Duley, Deputy Bohlander and members of the community.

Mayor Leland requested Council review the minutes from June 2, 2025. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Deputy Bohlander, representing the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, gave a monthly crime report. Captain Duley presented the monthly report from the Awendaw-McClellanville Consolidated Fire Department.

The Council discussed fundraising for the Community Center Gymnasium with Carrie Spahr from the McClellanville Community Foundation (MCF). The Town has contracted with MCF to accept donations. Council considered sending donation requests to graduates or community members. Ms. Spahr offered MCF's assistance but said they lacked a project lead. Ms. McClellan said she and Ms. Spahr had discussed paying someone to handle the task due to its workload. Council did not object to paying someone but wanted to seek out volunteers first.

Ms. McClellan provided an update on the Zoning Review. She informed Council that the Planning Commission had considered the ZR Committee's recommendations and moved to advance the revised recommendations for Council's consideration. Ms. McClellan noted that Ms. Basha is currently preparing the document in ordinance format, which is scheduled to be presented to the Council for its First Reading at the August meeting.

Ms. McClellan stated that the 2026 TST drainage project, located at the intersection of Mercantile and Pinckney, is scheduled to begin next week and will involve periodic traffic interruptions. Additionally, per the Town's request, the existing three crosswalks in the Village Commercial will be replaced with stamped pavement to enhance pedestrian visibility and aesthetics.

Ms. McClellan reported that the town received two SC Forestry Commission grants: one for canopy mapping and technical support, and another for reviewing the tree ordinance, public tree inventory, and committee education. Two SC Parks and Recreation grants were awarded for improvements to the basketball court at the old school and for playground equipment updates. Pending grants include one from the State Historic Preservation Office for the lookout tower and one for preparing the Village Museum building for the National Historic Register. Additionally, Ms. McClellan is collaborating with Ms. Basha and Shayla Jeffeson through the SBP

Nonprofit Resilience Program to secure FEMA funding for remaining Scotia Street Drainage Project costs.

The Council conducted the public hearing and final reading of an ordinance regarding the adoption of the 2025-2026 budget and an increase in millage from 11.8 to 12.2. There were no comments from the public. Councilman Gannon made a motion to approve the final reading, which was seconded by Councilman Baldwin, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Council.

Next Council considered a Resolution in support of a stop light at the intersection of Highway 17 & Highway 45. Councilman Gannon made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

Councilman Gannon asked Council to review the new SC golf cart laws, highlighting seatbelt requirements for children under 11 and provisions for municipalities to permit nighttime use by ordinance. Mayor Leland raised liability concerns, and Councilman Baldwin said that he felt enforcement would be an issue. Councilman Scott asked staff to get a legal opinion from the town attorney for the next meeting.

Next, Mayor Leland made a motion to reappoint Betty Hills to the Architectural Review Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gannon and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

There were no questions regarding financial statements.

There were no public comments at this time.

Councilman Gannon made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to South Carolina Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1) and (2) to discuss potential contractual agreements regarding the McClellanville Community Center and personnel issues relating to staff evaluations. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott and carried by a unanimous vote of Council.

After returning to Public Session, Mayor Leland stated no votes occurred in executive session. Councilman Gannon moved to increase staff salaries as discussed, Councilman Scott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle A. McClellan  
Clerk of Council