

## Minutes

### McClellanville Town Council

June 1, 2026 – 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 Chris Bates, Bob Gannon, and Jim Scott were present. Councilman Malcolm Baldwin was not present. Others present included Town Administrator Michelle McClellan and Battalion Chief Whitworth with the Awendaw-McClellanville Consolidated Fire District.

Mayor Rutledge B. Leland, III, called the meeting to order. Mayor Leland requested Council review the minutes from May 4, 2026, Council Meeting. Councilman Gannon made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and passed unanimously by all members.

Battalion Chief Whitworth gave a monthly report. Ms. McClellan asked him about open burning on cleared lots in Town. Chief Whitworth said that contractors are required to notify the Forestry Commission before burning, and the burn must comply with state smoke-management and safety rules. He said residents can call the fire department if they have any questions or concerns about open or brush burning.

Councilman Scott made a motion to contribute \$250 to sponsor the St. James Health and Wellness Food Pharmacy Program which was seconded by Councilman Gannon. The motion was approved unanimously by Council members present.

Council discussed adding Berkeley County as an additional pickup location under the Town's AirMedCare contract for the 2026–2027 fiscal year. The current contract includes Charleston and Georgetown Counties. Staff noted that expanding coverage to include Berkeley County would increase the annual contract cost by \$60. Councilman Bates made a motion to approve the contract with the addition of Berkeley County. Councilman Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by Council members present.

There were no questions regarding the financial statements.

There were no public comments.

During Council comments, Councilman Scott raised ongoing concerns regarding e-bike use in Town. He reported that a young driver recently struck a small tree on Pinckney Street while swerving to avoid a child on an e-bike who pulled out in front of him. He noted that similar incidents continue to occur and remain a safety issue. Council agreed that continued reminders in the Town newsletter would be helpful, as well as notifying the Sheriff's Office so deputies can increase awareness and reinforce safe riding practices.

Mayor Leland addressed a letter submitted by Ms. Prioleau requesting that the Town issue a public statement, acknowledgement, and outreach regarding the recent death of Lewis Garrett.

He stated that he felt it would not be appropriate for the Town to issue a formal statement for one individual when it has not done so for others in the past. Council agreed, noting that there is no established precedent for issuing official statements in response to deaths within the community.

Mayor Leland made a motion to enter executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gannon and passed unanimously by all members present. Councilman Baldwin joined via telephone for the executive session discussions.

Upon returning to regular session, Mayor Leland stated that no votes or action had been taken during executive session. Council resumed open session.

Councilman Scott made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bates and passed unanimously by all members present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle McClellan  
Clerk of Council