



## MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting  
March 19, 2024, 6:30PM  
South Congaree Town Hall  
Council Chambers  
119 West Berry Rd.  
West Columbia, SC, 29172

**Members in Attendance:** Mayor Cindy Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Mechelle Mabry,  
**Councilmembers:** Brian Jackson Kitty Spires, and Jim Drennan.

**Also in Attendance:** Municipal Clerk Kerri Charlton, Town Attorney John Rakowsky,  
Captain Chris Garner and Sergeant L. Chad Walker

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The public was duly notified of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

**I. Call to Order.**

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at **6:30 PM**. A quorum was present. Mayor Campbell led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Natalie A. Minor; Platt Springs Baptist Church led the Invocation. Mayor Campbell the Freedom of Information Act Town compliance.

**II. Resolution in recognition of Chief Josh Shumpert.**

The Town Council presented the former Chief Joshua Shumpert with a Resolution for his dedication and his 19 years of service with the South Congaree Police Department. Mr. Shumpert was unable to attend, his resolution will be personally delivered.

**III. South Congaree Pine Ridge Library Speaker:**

Ms. Devon Hughes, South Congaree Pine Ridge Library Friends Group.

As secretary of the South Congaree Pine Ridge Library, Ms. Hughes highlighted library events from 2023.

- January to February: Planning for the summer reading program.
- March: Beautification with flower garden cleanup.
- April: Book sale and vegetable garden cleanup. Started youth dietary education programs using community garden produce.
- May: Scholarship presentation and attendance at a county library gathering.
- June: Summer reading program kickoff with games and competitions.
- July: Continued summer reading activities with various sessions.
- September: Provided books for teachers and presented a Little Free Library to South Congaree.
- October: Halloween event.
- December: Santa Visit and Christmas Parade participation.
- July 17, 2024, marked the library's 16th anniversary.

**IV. McKinley Cooper & Co., LLC 2021 Audit Report**

*Presenter: McKinley Cooper Partner Marcy Loucks*

Marcy Louks, representing McKinley Cooper, formally presented the comprehensive findings and conclusive report stemming from the auditing process conducted for the fiscal year 2021. Ms. Louks meticulously outlined the key observations, assessments, and recommendations encapsulated within the audit report.

**V. Legislative Items:**

**Animal Control Ordinance: Second and Final Reading**

*AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING, BY REFERENCE, THE COUNTY OF LEXINGTON'S UPDATED ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE 23-10; CHAPTER 10, ANIMALS, ARTICLE II, ANIMAL CONTROL, DIVISION I, GENERALLY; TO INCLUDE SECTION 10-42, TETHERING AND SHELTER*

Motion made by Councilman Jackson (6:58 PM) to approve the Animal Ordinance second and final reading as stated by Lexington County, Seconded Councilman Drennan.

No Discussion

**Motion carried at 7:00 PM**

- Councilman Drennan-Yea
- Councilman Jackson- Yea
- Councilwoman Spires- Yea
- Mayor Pro-Tem Mabry- Yea
- Mayor Campbell- Yea

**VI. Executive Session Entered at 7:01 PM:**

**S.C. Code 30-4-70 (A) (1)** Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body. (Police Department-Interim Police Chief)

- Mayor Campbell made the motion to enter into Executive Session at **7:00 PM**, Motion seconded by Councilman Drennan, Motion carries by unanimous vote.
- Mayor Campbell made the motion to Invite: Town Attorney John Rakowsky, Municipal Clerk Kerri Charlton, and Captain Chris Garner into Executive Session at **7:01 PM**, Motion seconded by Councilwoman Spires, Motion carries by unanimous vote.
- Mayor Campbell made the motion to exit Executive Session at **7:25 PM**, and reconvene to Public forum, Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson, Motion carries by unanimous vote.
- No Votes were taken during Executive Session.

**Upon returning to open session, action may be taken by Council regarding matters discussed in the Executive Session**

**VII. Oath of Office & Swearing-In Ceremony Interim Police Chief Chris Garner 7:26 PM**

Administered by Sergeant L. Chad Walker, South Congaree Police Department.

Before adjourning, Mayor Campbell announced the following community events and important dates:

This Friday and Saturday, the Town of South Congaree's Championship Rodeo Bull Bash will be held at the Lexington County Arena on Oak Street.

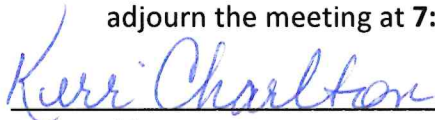
Saturday, March 30, 2024, is a community Easter egg hunt and, on Sunday March 31, at 7 am, Easter services will take place at the arena.

Town elections are scheduled for April 2, 2024, from 7 am to 7 pm. Early voting began yesterday at the Lexington County Voters Office.

**VIII. Citizen Comments:** No Citizen comments.

**IX. Adjournment of Council Meeting:**

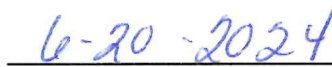
The council, on the motion of Mayor Campbell, seconded by Councilman Jackson, voted to adjourn the meeting at **7:30 PM**. Motion carried with unanimous vote of council.

  
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Attested by:  
Kerri Charlton, Municipal Clerk

  
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Approved by:  
Cindy Campbell, Mayor

  
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Date Approved

*Civility Pledge*

*I pledge to build a stronger and more prosperous community by advocating for civil engagement, respecting others, and their viewpoints, and finding solutions for the betterment of my city or town.*

**For the complete Live Stream Video, Please see the following Facebook Links:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TownOfSouthCongaree/videos/447604477703732/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/TownOfSouthCongaree/videos/1144176703605282/> PT2

**The public was duly notified of the date, time, and place of the upcoming meeting.**

The Town of South Congaree is a handicapped accessible facility.