

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
KINGSTREE TOWN COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 18, 2023 - 6:30 PM  
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM  
FRANK H. MCGILL MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

**ROLL CALL**

**COUNCIL  
PRESENT**

Darren Tisdale, Mayor

Luester McCullough, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Michelle Butterworth, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Chris Williams, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Derek Fitts, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
C.M. (Bubba) Hammet, Jr., 5<sup>th</sup> District

**COUNCIL  
ABSENT**

Stan A. Williamson, 6<sup>th</sup> District

**OFFICIALS  
PRESENT**

Richard L. Treme, Town Manager  
Leonard R. Lowery, Municipal Clerk  
Alvin D. Chambers, Community Development Director  
Evan Reynolds, Town Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION** – Councilman Williams

**NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA** – Verified

**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 18, 2023.**

- *Councilwoman Butterworth moved to approve the regular meeting agenda for December 18, 2023.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Fitts.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2023.**

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the regular meeting held on November 20, 2023. Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE 2023-09 BUDGET AMENDMENT** – To transfer funds to add a part-time employee in the Recreation Department.

- *Councilman Fitts made a motion to Approve Ordinance 2023-09.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

**MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT** – Kingstree Police Department and Hemingway Police Department.

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreement between the Hemingway Police Department and the Kingstree Police Department.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

## **HWY 527 WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BID**

- *Councilman Williams made a motion to award the Hwy 527 Water Improvement Project to Hybrid Engineering.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Hammet.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Personnel Matter

- *Councilman Hammet made a motion for Council to enter executive session.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*
  
- *Councilman Hammet made a motion to return out of executive session and back to the regular council meeting. No action was taken during the executive session.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

## **MAIN STREET UPDATE**

Katie Wheeler, Main Street Director, stated that nine large-scale Main Street events occurred in 2023. The Tams brought more people to Kingstree Live than any other event. It is estimated that more than three hundred people attended the event. Pig Pickin` was such a successful event that vendors are already calling to reserve space for next year. The streetscape project was launched this year, and we were also able to have our mural displayed downtown; we also purchased new Christmas decorations. Five façade grants were awarded. Over three hundred and forty-five Kingstree t-shirts were sold this year. Kingstree also hosted the third-quarter training for over forty Main Street Directors. Several activities are planned for 2024.

## **TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS**

Mr. Treme told the audience that he announced his retirement in executive session. He stated that he appreciates the support of Mayor Tisdale, the Council, the town staff, and the citizens of Kingstree throughout the years. The Council must now select someone to take his place. The Council has to choose someone who likes working with people and knows how a municipality should operate. Mr. Treme thanked the Council for allowing him to serve the Town of Kingstree.

## NON-AGENDA COUNCIL COMMENTS

### Councilman Fitts

The Councilman Fitts thanked Mr. Treme for his time and his work for the Town of Kingstree.

### Councilwoman McCullough

No comment.

### Councilwoman Butterworth

Councilwoman Butterworth thanked Mr. Treme for eight years of service. She stated that he has done a great job and that his retirement is well deserved. Councilwoman Butterworth also acknowledged that Councilwoman McCullough will be retiring from the Council. She recognized Councilwoman McCullough's twenty-seven years of service on the Council. She concluded her comments by thanking Katie for her work on Main Street projects during the year.

### Councilman Williams

Councilman Williams thanked the entire town staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We have had many accomplishments this year. Councilman Williams noted the great job that Mr. Treme has done, and he thanked Mrs. Treme and his family for sharing Mr. Treme with the town for eight years.

### Councilman Hammet

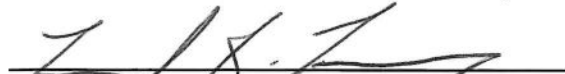
Councilman Hammet thanked Katie Wheeler and everyone involved with Main Street. The Kingstree Live events are wonderful. People from the surrounding towns visit Kingstree to participate in these events. The Main Street program is making a difference. Councilman Hammet told Councilwoman McCullough she will be missed as a member of the Council. He also told Mr. Treme that he had been a breath of fresh air from when he arrived in the town until now. Councilman Hammet also told Mr. Treme that we appreciate everything he has done for the town.

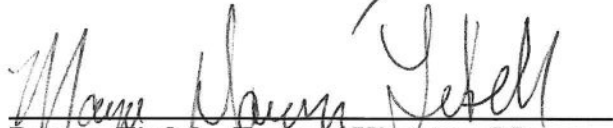
### Mayor Tisdale

Mayor Tisdale thanked Katie for her hard work during the holiday season. He noted that this year's events have been well done and enjoyable. Mayor Tisdale also stated that Councilwoman McCullough has served our town well and will be missed on Council. He told Mr. Treme it has been an honor working with him. The Mayor stated that Mr. Treme has done a lot for the town. He has done great with the staff, the Council, and the town's citizens. In closing, Mayor Tisdale presented Councilwoman McCullough with a plaque recognizing her twenty-seven years of devoted service on the Kingstree Town Council. Mayor Tisdale also gave Mrs. Marylyn Treme the Key to the Town of Kingstree for her unwavering support of the town.

## AJOURNMENT

- *Councilman Hammet made the motion to adjourn.*
- *Councilman Williams seconded the motion to adjourn.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

  
Leonard R. Lowery, Municipal Clerk

  
Darren Tisdale, Town of Kingstree Mayor