

TOWN OF SWANSEA
COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 27, 2026

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Doris Simmons
Pro Tem Michael Luongo
Councilwoman Angie Alley
Councilwoman Melissa Williams
Councilman Tom Dougherty

Mayor Doris Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the Swansea Municipal Building Courtroom, 320 West Third Street, Swansea, SC 29160.

All notifications were sent to the appropriate outlets. A quorum was present.

Pastor Chris Cornette delivered the invocation to the Town of Swansea Council.

The Mayor asked the Council to consider approving the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of June 22, 2026; the Special Call Meeting of June 30, 2026; the Public Hearing; and the 2025 -2026 Budget.

A motion was presented by Councilman Luongo to accept the minutes of June 22, 2026, and June 30, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dougherty.
Motion passed unanimously

Joint Municipal Water

Jay Nicholson, General Manager & CEO of Joint Municipal Water & Sewer Commission, shared the following:

- The meter changeout project was completed at the end of June. We have not billed a full cycle with all new meters yet; early indications show water loss has dropped from near 50% to about 15%.
- Relatively few complaints have been received from customers since JMWSC has taken over full operations.

- SCDES has notified JMWSC of additional funding through SRF for sewer projects – approximately \$988k. This brings the total of grants for Swansea improvements to \$5.326M. Scope development and design have begun for initial projects. We anticipate project bids in late 2026/early 2027, with construction commencing soon after (late winter/early spring)
- They are working with the County on replacement of the Cardiff water line ahead of the road resurfacing project.
- They will be sending letters in September to approximately 53 commercial customers regarding backflow requirements on their water service lines, and two customers regarding grease trap requirements on their food service establishment sewer drain lines. They will be given six months to comply with JMWC standards. They normally would not allow this much of a grace period, but they understand the need for flexibility given the change in utility management.

Maintenance Department

Mayor Simmons shared, on behalf of the town's maintenance worker, Ray Mullins, who was absent, the following:

- He took 10 tons of yard debris to the landfill for the month.
- He fixed, repaired, and serviced equipment
 - O Turn
 - Lawn Mower
 - Backpack Blower

Customer gave him a riding lawn mower personally. He, in turn, fixed and repaired it. Afterward, he donated it to the Town of Swansea.

- The Utility truck had a windshield replacement. He will check, as the van needs new brakes.

Margaret Harvey shared with the Mayor and Council the following:

Hospitality Tax Payment History report from Fiscal Year 7/1/2025 to June 30, 2026. The report showed 3 business accounts with past-due Hospitality Tax payments.

Business License Fiscal Year 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026 total collected: 74085.40.

I also provided information for the business license non-payment report.

Accountant's Report

Timothy Hillian shared the following information for the month.

- This is the final Revenue & Expense report for fiscal year 25-26
- The current balance in the local hospitality fund is \$128,271.19 as of June 30, 2026
- The town's overall year-end net operating income balance is \$480,375.32 as of June 30, 2026.

Mayor and Council agreed on a workshop for the 2026-2027 Budget on 8/18/2026.

Millage Rate Increase discussion due on 8/14/2026. The motion to move forward by Councilman Luongo and seconded by Councilwoman Williams. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

The Dominion Energy contract was tabled. Councilman Luongo presented the motion, and Councilwoman Alley seconded it. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Council/Mayor Comments:

Councilwoman Melissa Williams shared information from the Masc Annual Meeting in Greenville, the week of July 15-July 19, 2026.

Keynote speaker Doug Griffith: 13 ways to kill your community. We should be looking for ways to ensure our community is successful and thriving.

Our community should look for ways to build a strong, vibrant community by bringing in new businesses and affordable housing developments.

She enjoyed hearing the candidate for Governor, Jermaine Johnson, talk about what he would do for South Carolina if he becomes the next governor. She met him and took pictures with him.

Public Comments

There were no public comments

Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session.

Pursuant to SC Section 30-470 (a)

1. Code Enforcement
2. Personnel Matters
3. Contract Proposal

Councilman Luongo made the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Alley.

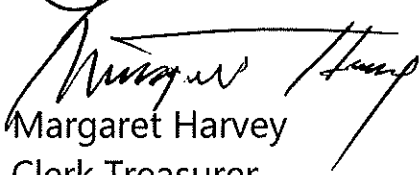
The Motion Passed Unanimously

Mayor asked if there was a motion to adjourn from Executive Session. Councilman Luongo made the motion to return from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Alley.

The Motion Passed Unanimously

Mayor stated there were no actions taken on items discussed in Executive Session. She asked if there was a motion to adjourn. Councilman Luongo Made the motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Councilwoman Williams. **The Motion Passed Unanimously**

Respectively Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Harvey', written over the printed name.

Margaret Harvey

Clerk Treasurer

Town of Swansea

7:45