

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2023

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, February 13, 2023, at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Berry, Burton, Felder, Miller, and Nicholson. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Police Chief John Perry, Mary Felton, Darlene Smith, Neil Cunningham, and Jack Reece from the Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the February 13, 2023 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

- Darlene Smith shared concerns on leaves and brush. She stated that hers hasn't been picked up in quite some time. Ms. Smith also requested that Johnston Police Department monitor May Street a bit more. Mayor Holmes responded that leaf pickup was being hindered due to mechanical problems with machinery used to collect leaves.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Holmes closed the public comments.

A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Burton, to approve the January 9, 2023 Council Meeting minutes, with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the January 2023 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed January's bills.

Old Business

- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder to keep the fire contract the same as it's been. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve request from the Johnston Development Corporation to receive \$5000 of the Hospitality Tax money for the 2023 Peach Blossom Festival. The motion passed unanimously.

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- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve request from the Johnston Development Corporation to close roads for Street Dance and Peach Blossom Festival. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve estimate and move forward with Billy's Cleaning Service, the estimate being \$1300.00. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Holmes advised Council and Citizens that the town's Budget Workshop will take place Monday, February 27, 2023 at 6:00 PM.
- A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Berry to approve upgrade with Dell Technologies in the amount of \$3,646.22. The motion passed unanimously.
- Council had a lengthy discussion concerning the ordinance on Fireworks.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 8 calls and 2 drills since our last meeting.
- Mayor Holmes reported a fire at "Holsomback Heating & Air."
- Councilman Berry reported 112 dispatched calls, 36 were traffic stops for the Johnston Police Department since the last meeting. JPD is fully staffed. One officer goes to get certified on February 22, 2023.
- Councilman Berry advised council that he will have further info on the town's website during the next meeting.
- Councilman Felder reported equipment that needs fixing for Public Works. Acting Supervisor Milford to update Felder on things that need improvement. Felder expressed that Public Works employees should have comfort while performing day-to-day duties.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Miller reported a purchase of a new breaker for the ball field, most lights were fixed.
- Councilman Berry showed concerns with Beavers and Water backing up around Aiken Ave and Edisto, Mobley, and Slide Hill roads.

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- Councilman Miller inquired on if the town is responsible for cracked sidewalks.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes reported that he's working with James Courtney on progress with the Warehouse building.
- More light has been added at the walking track at Citizens Park.
- New lights on town entrance signs.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to go into executive session concerning Personnel Matters. No motion was made. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk