

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2026

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, June 8, 2026 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Felder, Herlong, Burton, Miller, and Nicholson. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Roger LeDuc, Willie Bethay, Debra Aston, Neil Cunningham, Darlene Smith, Crystal Edwards, Marcella Edwards, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the June 8, 2026 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes then opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Ms. Marcella Edwards with Edgefield County Youth Empowerment requested use of the town's square area for an event July 9, 2026 at 7:30 PM. The event is named "Prayer in the Square". Mayor Holmes assured Ms. Edwards that her request was already in the "New Business" on the agenda and will be considered for approval in that order.

Mr. Willie Bethay showed up to inquire on several things regarding upcoming events in town, mosquito spraying, and plans for the town's demolished property on Calhoun Street. Mr. Bethay also commended Mr. Ricky Deese on his work on the portion of the property he purchased from the town.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Holmes closed the public comments and moved into further business.

A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the May 11, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Herlong, to approve the May 2026 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the May bills.

Old Business

- (a) A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-1 FY2026/27 Annual Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

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New Business

- (a) The town's administrator, Roger Leduc, briefly reviewed the town's yearly audit and stated that we're in good standing. A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Burton, to accept the audit as shown. The motion passed unanimously.
- (b) A motion was made by Councilman Herlong, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve a request from Marcell Edwards of Edgefield County Youth Empowerment Center. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 12 fire and 2 drills since last meeting.
- Councilman Herlong reported 197 dispatched calls for the month for the Police Department.
- Councilman Felder mentioned a few maintenance truck issues, but no major problems and stated that Public Works is doing very well.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Burton expressed that he's grateful to have Mr. LeDuc working with the town and that he hopes to get things done.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes mentioned the upcoming July 4th holiday and the ordinance associated with firework timeframes. Holmes also stated that the town possibly begin interviews for a new Chief of Police.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:26PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk