

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2026

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, April 13, 2026 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Felder, Berry, Burton, Miller, and Nicholson. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Ricky Deese, Maureen Deese, Miranda Deese, Darlene Smith, Joe Papp, Janet Papp, Debra Aston, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the April 13, 2026 Council Meeting to order.

Prior to Public Comments, the town's attorney Jennifer Sumner swore in councilmen Herlong and Burton and Mayor Holmes. Council then thanked Councilman Berry with a plaque of appreciation for his duty as Councilmember and welcomed Councilman Herlong to take his place.

Mayor Holmes then opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Mr. Ricky Deese presented a detailed description of the finished product to be known as "The Gathering Press" and "The Daily Scoop" and requested for the town to sell him an additional eleven feet of what was the former Edwards property. Mayor Holmes advised Mr. Deese that they may consider his request.

Ms. Darlene Smith expressed concerns on an overgrown property on Railroad Avenue.

Ms. Janet Papp voiced that she noticed some overgrown properties in her area as well.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the March 9, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Council reviewed the March bills.

Old Business

- (a) None.

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New Business

- (a) A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Herlong to Approve a Request from Betty Bland Dowd for a financial contribution for the landscaping of Mount of Olives Cemetery. The motion passed unanimously. The contribution being \$400 for Mount of Olives as well at Mount Nebo.
- (b) Mayor Holmes advised Council that the town will sell two police cars and keep one car as spare as needed. The cars will be sold on “govdeals.com”
- (c) A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Burton to Approve a Request from Annette Holloway, on condition that she turns in the request on paper. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 15 fire calls and 2 drills since last meeting.

Office of Town Council

- None.

Mayor’s Report

- Mayor Holmes thanked everyone for their support in the election and mentioned that the Peach Blossom Festival will be held the first Saturday in May.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:12PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk