

# **Johnston Town Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **December 11, 2023**

*The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, December 11, 2023, at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Berry, Burton, Miller, Nicholson, and Felder. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Judy Wilson, Neil Cunningham, Debra Aston, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.*

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the December 11, 2023 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Judy Wilson, a resident of Johnston, showed concerns regarding a shooting in her neighborhood resulting in her vehicle being shot and she states she found casings around her vehicle, asked her neighbors, but no one could tell her any information.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the November 13, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Berry, to approve the November 2023 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the November bills.

#### **Old Business**

- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve Second Reading and Adoption of Nuisance Ordinance 2023-03. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Mayor Holmes, seconded by Councilman Berry to go into Executive Session regarding a Contractual Matter. No action was taken in executive session. A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Holmes updated everyone on the town's Message Board that is soon to come, stating that the process of construction will be starting soon.

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#### **New Business**

- Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Berry, to Approve First Reading of Business License Class Update Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to Approve Request from Annette Holloway regarding a “Unity Weekend” event. The event will take place Saturday, January 13, 2024 through Monday, January 15, 2024. Mrs. Holloway is requesting that Calhoun Street between Lee and Edisto Streets be closed on Saturday from 12-4 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Councilman Burton reported 11 fire calls, and 1 drill.
- Councilman Berry reported 364 dispatch calls for the Police Department, 53 of those being traffic stops and 163 Patrol checks. Berry also reported the Police Department’s 2 new officers will be attending the academy soon.
- Councilman Nicholson expressed that he’s seen significant change in his neighborhood and thanked the Police Department for their efforts.

#### **Office of Town Council**

- Councilman Burton expressed that his neighborhood is quieter, and he thinks the cameras are making quite a difference.

#### **Mayor’s Report**

- Mayor Holmes thanked the Sheriff’s Department for the help and support. Holmes also thanked the front office staff and commended Public Works work ethic while being short staffed.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Burton to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton  
Municipal Clerk