

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, January 8, 2024 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, Neil Cunningham, Annette Holloway, Tracy Hamilton, Debra Aston, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the January 8, 2024 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Annette Holloway thanked Council for approving her event and expressed that she'd appreciate if everyone attends. Ms. Holloway also requested a thoughtful donation from the town.

Tracy Hamilton thanked Council for getting a light put in her yard for safety purposes.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Berry, to approve the December 11, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Council reviewed the December bills.

Old Business

- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve Second Reading and Adoption of Business License Class Update Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Holmes asked Council to observe their ward for any possible parcels that are nuisances.
- Mayor Holmes discussed information on a USDA Grant concerning selling older police cars.

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New Business

- Mayor Holmes advised everyone that the next Budget Workshop will be March 4, 2024.
- Mayor Holmes and Council discussed whether to consider contracting the garbage services out.
- Following brief conversation, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve estimate for additional cameras in town, that total being \$1,610.01. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder to go into Executive Session concerning Personnel Matters. The motion passed unanimously. Once finished, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Miller to come out of Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.
- A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Felder, to donate \$150 to Ms. Annette Holloway for her upcoming event.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 11 fire calls, and 1 drill.
- Councilman Berry reported 301 dispatch calls for the Police Department, 86 of those being traffic stops and 87 Patrol checks. Berry also reported the Police Department's 2 new officers will be attending the academy soon.
- Councilman Felder reassured everyone that Public Works will be still be on the job, regardless if the garbage pickup is contracted out.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Berry expressed appreciation to Tracy Hamilton for bringing positivity to the meeting.
- Councilman Burton stated that he's glad to see the town moving in a better direction.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes stated that he's hoping to see the LED Sign work start soon. He also expressed appreciation to everyone for attending and reminded everyone of the upcoming Budget Workshop in March.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Berry to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk