

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2024

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, March 11, 2024 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Burton, Berry, Miller, and Felder. Councilman Nicholson was absent. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Captain Gentry, Patrol Officer Davis, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the March 11, 2024 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Hearing no 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 February 12, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Miller, to approve the February 2024 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the February bills.

Old Business

- Mayor Holmes mentioned the status of the town's electronic sign, scheduled training for those who will operate the sign, and called on Council to assist in developing parameters for sign usage. More discussion will most likely take place later.
- Mayor and Council had a brief discussion that then determined that the next Budget Meeting Date will be Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 5:30 PM.

New Business

- The town's administrator Roger Leduc and Mayor Holmes collaborated in the making of an ordinance for the use of downtown businesses (BD-1) to use the upper level of their buildings as a rented living space. A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Burton, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-1 Upper Story Dwellings. The motion passed unanimously.

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- Mayor Holmes called on Council to assist in filling three Planning and Zoning Commission seats.
- Annually, Mount of Olives Cemetery submits a request for the town to assist funding the landscaping and maintenance for them and Mount Nebo. A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Berry, to approve a contribution of \$450.00 to each cemetery. The motion passed unanimously.
- Council briefly discussed third party garbage collection for the town. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Consider Approval to issue an RFP for Residential Garbage Collection. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 9 fire calls, and 2 drill.
- Councilman Miller updated everyone on the Warehouse Project. He reported a setback in regard to renovation work on the warehouse associated with flooring repair.
- Councilman Berry reported 227 dispatched calls for the Police Department, 67 of those being traffic stops and 55 patrol checks. Berry also introduced the department's newest Patrol Officer, Micah Davis, and that the department will be at full strength once Officer Winston graduates the academy this week.
- Councilman Felder reported that Public Works is doing just fine.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Burton continuous plumbing problems at the Library that has resulted in overflow damaging the carpet. He and Mayor Holmes are planning to meet with a flooring professional to determine what corrective action to take.
- Councilman Berry expressed that he appreciates the sign being hung up at Citizens Park.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes thanked Council and the ladies in the office for their work and effort. He also thanked Doug Landreth for the meal he prepared for the town employees.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk