

# **Johnston Town Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **October 9, 2023**

*The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, September 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, Darlene Smith, Louvenia Gordon, Annette Holloway, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.*

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the October 9, 2023 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 Berry, seconded by Councilman Burton, to approve the September 11, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes, with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

The September 2023 Financial Report and Bills will be presented at the next Council Meeting.

#### **Old Business**

- After some discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to approve acquisition of a fourth Welcome Sign to go along Highway 121 toward Saluda. Half the amount had already been paid at the time of order. The town is hoping that the Johnston Development Corporation will assist in paying the shipping cost of the amount. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **New Business**

- Following a brief discussion regarding the town's former auditor, A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve Highsmith & Highsmith as the town's new auditor for the Fiscal Years 2023, 2024, 2025. The amount being \$6500 per year. The motion passed unanimously.
- The town's administrator, Roger LeDuc, presented potential projects associated with the town's effort to attract more business, visitors, and residents. Mr. LeDuc

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addressed several topics, including the Warehouse Renovation Project, The Edwards building, nuisances, loans for business owners, and committees for the town.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Councilman Burton reported 8 fire calls and 2 drills since our last meeting.
- Councilman Berry reported that the signs for Citizens Park were supposed to be installed last week, however one was cut wrong, so it should be done this week.
- Councilman Berry reported a very busy month with 293 dispatch calls for the Police Department, 82 of those being traffic stops and 61 Patrol checks. Berry also reported that Chief Perry has a doctor's appointment next week to get his return-to-work status and upcoming interviews for 2 vacancies in the Police Department.
- Councilman Felder reported that Public Works trash truck is being worked on, and that they are looking to hire 1 more employee.

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

- Councilman Burton commended Mr. LeDuc for attending and giving his advice.

#### **Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Holmes thanked Mr. LeDuc for his advice on bringing in business, visitors, and residents into town. Holmes also thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton  
Municipal Clerk