

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2023

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, August 14, 2023, at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Berry, Burton, Miller, Felder, and Nicholson. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Assistant Chief Jeff Herlong, Debra Aston, Darlene Smith and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the August 14, 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 Burton, seconded by Councilman Berry, to approve the July 10, 2023 Council Meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve the August 8, 2023 Special Call Meeting Minutes with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Council reviewed July bills.

Old Business

- Councilman Miller presented bids for two new signs at Citizens Park. The new signs will be in In Memory of Terrence Culbreath, the town's late former mayor. The signs also will be paid using HATS Funds. A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve bids for both signs, totaling in \$1852.13.

New Business

- Mayor and Council had a brief discussion on the County Fire Contract and the changes being made, including a move to shift funds from Johnston to other departments being thwarted by a dissenting vote cast by Johnston.

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- Mayor Holmes also presented Council with two quotes for a new HVAC in the town hall front office, one being a 2 ton, the other being a 3 ton. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve quote for a 3 ton HVAC unit. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor and Council also had a lengthy discussion concerning tractor trailers parking in town. Mayor Holmes sought to find an equitable solution for all affected. Opinions on the topic were fairly mixed. Mayor Holmes asked for ideas regarding places to park the trucks.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 14 fire calls and 2 drills since our last meeting.
- Councilman Berry reported a very busy month with 222 dispatch calls for the Police Department, 45 of those being traffic stops. The Police Department is currently fully staffed. Berry also reminded everyone that the town's website is growing. Berry advised everyone of Chief Perry's procedure coming up and asked that everyone keep him in thoughts and prayers.
- Mayor Holmes advised everyone of this year's Trunk or Treat, which will be October 31, 2023, in the town square between Edisto and Lee Streets.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Burton commended the PD for putting the cones at the main intersection and inquired on if there will be lines drawn in place of the cones in the future.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes mentioned that he had been in discussion with the town's administrator, Roger Leduc, concerning ways to enforce the cleanliness of the town's residents properties. Holmes also thanked everyone for attending.

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 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk

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