

# Johnston Town Council

## Meeting Minutes

### June 10, 2024

*The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, June 10, 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, Annette Holloway, Neil Cunningham, Al Jenkins, Willie Bethay, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.*

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the June 10, 2024 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

#### **Public Comments:**

Willie Bethay complimented on the progress the town is making look better and also had some concerns about funds for businesses around town and truck waste spilling in town.

Al Jenkins introduced himself as the representative for the Senator in this area and offered assistance with any federal issues that the governing body might encounter.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the May 13, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes with corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Council reviewed the May bills.

#### **Old Business**

- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Approve Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-2 FY2024/25 Annual Budget. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Berry, to Approve Second by Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-3 Planning and Zoning. The motion was passed unanimously.

# **Johnston Town Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **June 10, 2024**

- A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Approve Seconded Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-4 Flood Prevention Update. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **New Business**

- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Approve Demolition Bid for removal of the Edward's Building. The low bid being \$60,595. The motion passed unanimously.
- The town's administrator, Roger Leduc, presented "Smart Cop" integrated information software for the Police Department. A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Burton, to Approve "Smart Cop". The total of this being \$18,271 with an annual maintenance fee of \$3000 from ARP funds. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Leduc also presented the FY2022/23 Audit for the town. Leduc stated that the town's received a clean audit with no problems found.
- A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Burton, to Approve purchase of Utility Trailer for Public Works from 3 Star Vinyard. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Felder, to Approval First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-5 Nuisance Ordinance Amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Councilman Burton reported 8 fire calls and 2 drills since last meeting.
- Councilman Miller updated everyone on progress being made at the Warehouse building.
- Councilman Burton further updated everyone of Warehouse progress including plumbing and electrical work being done and reassured everyone that everything is coming along great.
- Mayor Holmes added that the intention was to do things the right way and also make the downtown area more appealing and bring traffic.
- Councilman Berry reported 524 dispatched calls, 190 of those being patrol checks. The Police Department is still currently fully staffed.
- Councilman Felder expressed that Public Work needs a new truck that can be used for various jobs around town.

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

# **Johnston Town Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **June 10, 2024**

- Councilman Burton revisited a concern from last meeting regarding a drainage problem adjacent to his property that is rapidly becoming an environmental hazard. Burton also expressed that the Hometown Hero banners were a “hit”; Mayor Holmes and Chief Perry agreed.
- Councilman Berry shared concerns on the condition of the playground equipment at Citizens Park and is looking to use HATS funds to get more tables for the park.
- Councilman Miller inquired on if the Citizens Park was first come first serve for events. Council agreed.
- Councilman Berry questioned how residents will find out about new garbage pickup schedules. Mayor Holmes replied stating that something will be put on the website and Facebook page about it.
- A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Berry, to go into Executive Session on Contractual Matters. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, exit Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. No action came from Executive Session.
- A motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Burton, to make all garbage services \$12 per month for the first can, \$15 per month for any further cans. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Holmes thanked Roger LeDuc, Council, and Administration for their good work.

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 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton  
Municipal Clerk