

# **Johnston Town Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **October 21, 2024**

*The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, October 21, 2024 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Burton, Miller, and Nicholson. Councilmen Felder and Nicholson were absent. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Jerome Childs, Mary Felton, Annette Holloway, Neil Cunningham, Darlene Smith, Debra Aston, Karen Hensen, Valerie Umsted, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.*

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the October 21, 2024 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

#### **Public Comments:**

- Ms. Annette Holloway requested permission to hold a “Unity Celebration” on January 18, 2025. She also inquired about the status of work going on at the Warehouse. Mayor Holmes suggested that Ms. Holloway put her request in writing and will give an update on the warehouse in later business.
- Mr. Jerome Childs voiced concerns with the Hometown Heroes on the removal of the Hometown Heroes banners after a short period display. Mayor Holmes addressed timing as a key element of removal of the banners and the agreement of all three municipalities to display them at the same time.
- Ms. Mary Felton inquired about garbage pickup regarding her church. She was advised that since churches are exempt from taxes they will have to secure garbage pickup.

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 September 9, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Berry, to approve the September 2024 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the September bills.

#### **Old Business**

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- (a) Mayor Holmes reported storm damage to the roof of the Warehouse, however, progress is still being made, including bids on flooring and assistance from Edgefield County with funds.

#### **New Business**

- (a) Mayor Holmes reported storm damage to various town properties including Town Hall, the Garden Hall, and Citizens Park.
- (b) Valerie Thomas, the Dumpster Depot Territory Sales Manager, attended to report the change ownership of the company to Capital Waste Services, but no change to the service.
- (c) Mayor Holmes commended the Johnston Fire Department on help with storm cleanup.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Councilman Burton reported 22 fire calls, 1 training, and 3 drill since last meeting. He also suggested that residents with trash bins to be replaced should place them upside down on the curb.
- Councilman Miller thanked everyone for the work and effort and stated it was good to see folks helping out.
- Councilman Berry reported 630 dispatched calls, 365 being patrol checks and 108 being traffic stops.
- Councilman Felder requested an update the Gator for Public Works and also wanted to give Public Works a “pat on the back” for their work and effort.

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

- Councilman Burton expressed that he wanted to participate in feeding the town during the storm and made it happen.
- Councilman Berry requests that something is added to the sign thanking those who helped with cleanup after the storm.

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

- Mayor Holmes thanked everyone who helped give away food and donated items after the storm. Holmes then called for a moment of silence for the 2 firemen that lost their lives in storm cleanup in an adjacent county.

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 7:45 PM.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton  
Municipal Clerk