

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2025

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, July 14, 2025 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Burton, Miller, Berry, Felder, and Nicholson. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Karen Jensen, Neil Cunningham, Robert Gallenz, Darlene Smith, and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Holmes called the July 2025 Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Robert Gallenz mentioned a plethora of things including traditions from his hometown regarding the cold weather.

Karen Jensen inquired about emergency signals and what each signal meant. Mayor Holmes advised Ms. Jensen that a continuous siren would signify a tornado and the other siren would signify a fire. She also asked for clarification in regard to trash pickup and zoning ordinances.

Hearing no other 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 June 9, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to approve the June 2025 Financial Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the June bills.

Old Business

- (a) Following brief discussion of the status of the Medical Building, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to Approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-3 Medical Building Sale. The motion passed unanimously.
- (b) Mayor Holmes gave an update on the Edwards Building, stating that the removal of the building is projected to be completed by the end of tomorrow.
- (c) Mayor Holmes also gave an update on Warehouse A, stating that the renovations were progressing satisfactorily.

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New Business

- (a) Mayor Holmes announced that the Self Regional Hospital will be bringing their bus services to Johnston and are actively on the search for a place to be parked.
- (b) A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Felder, to go into Executive Session on a Personnel Matter. The motion passed unanimously. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Felder, to come out of Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. No action was taken while in executive session. Briefly after, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Miller, to agree to compensate Chief Perry on additional labor whilst being short of staff. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 11 fire calls and 2 drill since last meeting.
- Councilman Berry reported 510 dispatched calls since last meeting, 338 being property checks. Berry also stated that the Police Department still has 2 vacancies. Berry also informed council that all parts for computers for police cars have come in.
- Councilman Felder gave a brief update on the progress of fixing the leaf machine and other tools for Public Works.
- Councilman Burton inquired on the whereabouts of the former trash truck.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Burton expressed satisfaction in the progression of yards around town.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes reported that the owner of Paparoni's is in the works of making extra space for the restaurant. He also thanked everyone for attending this month's meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Berry, seconded by Councilman Nicholson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk