

Johnston Town Council

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2025

The Johnston Town Council held their regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, April 14, 2025 at the Johnston Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Holmes, and Councilmen Burton, Miller, Felder, and Nicholson. Councilman Berry was absent. Also present were Finance Director Belinda Cockrell, Municipal Clerk Angel Melton, Olivia Brown, Keylondria Crouch, Debra Aston and Jack Reece from The Edgefield Advertiser.

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

Prior to business, Chief Perry introduced the Police Department's newest officer Courtney Silcox. Silcox comes from Saluda Sheriff's Office where she served as a training officer.

Mayor Holmes opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comments:

Ms. Olivia Brown with "Empower Together" came to propose a community family fun day with activities including live entertainment, field day style games, free food giveaway, etc. The date of the event being July 19, 2025 from 3PM until 9PM at the Watson Park field.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Felder, to approve the March 10, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Council reviewed the March bills.

Old Business

- (a) Mayor Holmes stated that he spoke with the town's administrator, Roger LeDuc Thursday, and informed everyone that demolition is set to begin later this week.
- (b) Mayor Holmes gave an update on seeking a new resident for Dr. Morgans office stating that he's received feedback in a few areas and hopes to have more information at a later time.

New Business

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- (a) Mayor Holmes gave a brief rundown of Spectrum's contract for a Franchise in the town. A motion was made by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to Consider Approval of Spectrum's Franchise. The motion passed with 4 votes of yes and 1 vote of no.
- (b) A motion was made by Councilman Felder, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to consider Approval of the First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-02 FY2025-26 Annual Budget. The motion passed unanimously.
- (c) Annually, the Mount of Olives Cemetery and Mount Nebo request monetary assistance with landscaping the cemeteries. A motion was made by Councilman Burton, seconded by Councilman Nicholson, to Consider Approval of the Request from Mount of Olives and Mount Nebo. The total being \$450 each. The motion passed unanimously.
- (d) Mayor Holmes provided an update on SCDOT downtown parking recommendations. A motion was made by Councilman Nicholson, seconded by Councilman Burton to accept the downtown parking recommendations by SCDOT. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Councilman Burton reported 15 fire calls and 3 drills since last meeting.
- Councilman Miller mentioned a sign replacement bid at the Chamber of Commerce. The price being \$1,800. He stated that the sign will be heavier this time so it wont blow.
- Councilman Felder reported 325 dispatched calls since last meeting, 125 being traffic stops.
- Councilman Felder reported that the chipper is back up and working and that the Public Works lost one part-time employee.

Office of Town Council

- Councilman Burton complimented one of the town's police officers for their effort on a call to his home recently.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Holmes expressed that he was proud of our town and that the Veterans Banners would be up as soon as possible. Holmes also reminded everyone of the Peach Blossom Festival on May 3rd.

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 7:14 PM.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Melton
Municipal Clerk