

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2017 - 6:30 P.M.
DR. JOHN M. THOMASON LIBRARY
404 EAST HAMPTON STREET
OLANTA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

Mary M. Huggins, Mayor
Lossie J. Hyman, Mayor Pro-Tem
Daniel "Levi" Mims, Council Member
Mitchell L. Sims, Council Member
Rachel H. Campbell, Council Member

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a notice of the regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council was posted on the door of the Olanta Town Hall. A notice of the regular meeting was also provided to members of the public requesting copies.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Huggins called the meeting to order, and asked Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman to lead the invocation. Mayor Huggins asked a student of Olanta Elementary School, Kamelia Sweeney, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Huggins requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the March 7, 2017 regular town council meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Mims seconded the motion. The agenda for the March 7, 2017 meeting was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Huggins requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2017 regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Councilman Mims made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2017 regular meeting of Town Council. Councilman Sims seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: YARD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Johnny and Lorelee Langley received the “Yard of the Month” Award for the month of February. Mr. & Mrs. Langley could not be in attendance to receive the award, but Mayor Huggins congratulated the couple on the award. Council Member Campbell will make sure The Langleys’ receive their Certificate of Recognition.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: OLANTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 2ND QUARTER CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Mayor Huggins and Councilman Mims gave out Certificates of Recognition from the Town of Olanta to the following students, who were recognized as excellent citizens for the second quarter of the 2017 – 2018 school year:

- 4K - Daniel Mims
- 5K - Jaquez Green, Kamilya Sweeney, & Kailynn Scott
- 1st Grade - Bryson Parker & Tanner Floyd
- 2nd Grade - Malaya Leach & Isabella Mossey
- 3rd grade - Marquez Witherspoon, Jason Floyd
- 4th grade - Nalajah Harvin, Da’Naysia Frison
- 5th grade – Jayden Floyd, Jamesia Joseph, & Joselyn Tuten

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

A. OLD BUSINESS

MAYOR MARY M. HUGGINS

There was no old business to report.

B. MAYOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT

FUNDS AVAILABLE COMPARISION – JANUARY 1 – 31, 2017			
FUNDS AVAILABLE	JANUARY 2017	FEBRUARY 2017	FEBRUARY 2016
OPERATING CAPITAL	\$25,857.01	\$28,183.01	\$15,260.98
TOWN RESERVE FUNDS	\$82,944.31	\$86,726.17	\$214,020.62

1.	TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$108,801.32	\$114,909.18	\$229,281.60
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2. INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

- a. **FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2017 INCOME: \$66,497.69**
- b. **FEBRUARY 1 – 28, 2017 EXPENSE: \$61,696.44**

3. "I & I FUND"

As of 2/28/2017, the Town has \$58,553.51 in the "I & I Fund".

C. WATER & SEWER REPORT

COUNCIL MEMBER DANIEL LEVI MIMS

Council Member Mims reported that there had been some well issues with the well pump on Avondale Spur Rd. At present, we are using the stand-by well located off of Main Street. All 4 sewer lift stations were down during the month of February but have been repaired and are working fine at this time. Thanks to Lake City for helping to pump out the sewer pump station at Powell Road heading towards Lake City on Hwy. 341. Debris had gotten into the pump station and had to be cleaned out. The Town will find out where the debris is coming from and have the issue resolved. There were water leaks on Mains St. and Church St. New gaskets were needed fix these leaks. Mr. James McGee will start to change out old water meters next week.

Mayor Huggins reported that there were 33 households on the cut-off list as of February 28, 2017. Nineteen utility customers paid at least half of their balance, 10 customers paid in full, and 4 customers promised to pay the following week. This leaves the Town's utility department with a balance owed of \$1800.00.

D. PROJECT SUMMARIES

Mayor Huggins gave a report on the Highway 341 Well & Water Treatment Plant project, the Hood Street water line project, and the miscellaneous water line project. The Town had scheduled the bid opening on February 28, but had to postpone the opening until March 29, 2017. After the bid opening, we expect the contract for the well and water treatment plant to be awarded by April 30th, 2017. Construction should begin around May of 2017, and the project should be completed by January of 2018. The Hood St. and other water line expansion projects should near completion by September 2017.

E. PUBLIC SAFETY & RECREATION REPORT

COUNCIL MEMBER LOSSIE J. HYMAN

Council Member Hyman reported that he had delivered a check for \$400 to the Olanta Recreation Department as a sponsorship commitment to one of the teams. The softball and baseball teams are practicing now to get ready for the season. Anyone who is interested in sponsoring a team can pick up a form from the Olanta Town Hall.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman asked Chief Chamberlain to report on public safety for the month of February 2017. Chief Chamberlain reported that there had been no major incidents, and all had been quiet in town.

F. GRANTS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Council Member Campbell reported that the Olanta Steering Committee and the Florence County Planners will hopefully get back on track with planning for Olanta revitalization. We will continue with our planning once we can reschedule a meeting with Florence County.

Council Member Campbell met with Randy Wilson to get ideas for enhancing the town. He gave some good ideas for the entrances to the town. Hopefully we will be able to apply for grants to get this done.

Council Member Campbell asked for new members to join the Olanta Women's League (OWLs) to help the group in planning and volunteering. This group wants to keep and add to the fun events held in Olanta.

G. EVENTS

COUNCILMAN MITCHELL SIMS

Council Member Sims reported that the Town held it's first "Annual Collard Cook-Off" on February 18th. It was a big success. 13 participants entered in the cook-off.

The winner of the cook-off was Samuel Taylor, second place was Scott Reardon, and third place was David Sims. The OWLs had lunch prepared and served perlo, fatback, and corn fritters. Special thanks to all who donated their time. Big thanks to Mr. Stanley McKenzie who helped so much with getting judges and donating all of the collards. Thanks, too, to the bluegrass group, *Subject to Change*. They were great, and the crowd loved them. Thanks also to DJ Danny Rogers for participating in the event. We appreciate you all donating your time to help.

We will be working on a perlo cook-off and some sort of flower, craft, and produce fair for the summer. If anyone has anything in mind for events you'd like to see in Olanta, please contact Councilman Mitchell Sims.

The OWLs are having the "Annual Easter Eggstravaganza" again this year on April 15th. It will follow the same format as last year. It's a great time for kids and adults alike.

Mayor Huggins reported that the Lion's Club will be having their "Annual Spaghetti Dinner" on March 9th. Please make an effort to support the annual lunch and dinner. Also, a reminder that Jeff McKay of the Northeastern Strategic Alliance will be in Olanta on March 14th at 10:00 AM at the *Dr. John M. Thomason Library* to share important data about Olanta. If you're interested in possibly making a business venture in the Town of Olanta, you will not want to miss this.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one signed up for public comment.

I. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Huggins asked for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Mims made a motion to adjourn, and

Council Member Campbell seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.