

**MINUTES FOR THE THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL
DR. JOHN M. THOMASON LIBRARY
404 EAST HAMPTON STREET
OLANTA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

Michael W. Welch, Mayor
Jack Hyman, Mayor Pro-Tem
Rachel H. Campbell, Council Member
Mitchell L. Sims, 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 Welch called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their attendance. The mayor asked Council Member Campbell to lead the invocation. Mayor Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2018 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the April 12, 2018 regular town council meeting. Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Sims seconded the motion. The agenda for the April 12, 2018 meeting was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2018 regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Campbell made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2018 regular meeting of Town Council. Council Member Sims seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

A. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to report.

B. MAYOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

FUNDS AVAILABLE COMPARISION – MARCH 2018			
FUNDS AVAILABLE	FEBRUARY 2018	APRIL 12, 2018	MARCH 2017
OPERATING CAPITAL	\$183,340.13	\$133,819.99	\$33,744.26
TOWN RESERVE FUNDS	\$134,267.21	\$106,387.82	\$69,284.59
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$317,607.34	\$240,207.81	\$121,575.50

WATER & SEWER REPORT

COUNCIL MEMBER DANIEL LEVI MIMS

Council Member Mims was not present to give a report for the water and sewer department.

Mayor Welch gave a report on the current water and sewer projects going on in Town:

Project 14157: Highway 341 Well and Water Treatment Plant:

- Received a CDBG grant for \$750,000 and a Penny Tax grant for \$750,000. The value of the CDBG grant was later increased to \$1,000,000 in October 2017 after meeting with the funding agency about the project needs.
- This project will include a new well and water treatment facility as well as a new water line along Hwy 341 from Alice Myers Drive to the new well site.
- Bids were received for the project on March 29, 2017. The bids came in higher than expected. In order to attempt to get the project within budget, the bids were rejected and some minor plan modifications have been made.
- The project was re-bid on August 17, 2017 and all paperwork was submitted to Department of Commerce to receive final permission to award contracts.
- Permission to award contracts was received on November 6, 2017 and contracts were immediately sent to A.C. Schultes of Carolina, Inc. for execution.
- Once contracts were received back from the contractor, a preconstruction conference was held on December 12, 2017.
- The construction contract for this project started on February 26, 2018. This puts the project completion date as October 24, 2018. The contractor is awaiting well casing materials and plans to start drilling the new well in March 2018.

Project 14158: Miscellaneous Water Lines:

- Received three Penny Tax grants for \$440,000, \$500,000 and \$65,000 respectively.
- This project will include new water lines along Central Road, McKenzie Road, a portion of Butler Scurry Road and will extend a new line to the fire station.
- Bids were received for the project on March 29, 2017. The project was awarded to the low bidder Southern Fiber Construction & Management Co., LLC.
- A pre-construction conference was held on June 14, 2017.
- Construction is approximately 95% complete. A permit to operate the water lines was received from SCDHEC on March 1, 2018 and the contractor plans to proceed with final water service connections the week of March 5, 2018. Once all connections are made, the contractor will work on final cleanup and stabilization of the project area as well as any remaining construction punch list items.
- This does not include the fire station water line. It is completely installed, but cannot be tested and put into service until the water line being installed under the Water Treatment Plant project is completed later this year.

Project 15175: Hood Street Water Line:

- Received a CDBG grant for \$401,940.00.
- This project consists of a new water line along Hood Street.
- Bids were received for the project on March 29, 2017. The project was awarded to the low bidder Southern Fiber Construction & Management Co., LLC.
- A pre-construction conference was held on September 7, 2017.
- Construction is approximately 95% complete. A permit to operate the water lines was received from SCDHEC on March 1, 2018 and the contractor plans to proceed with final water service connections the week of March 5, 2018. Once all connections are made, the contractor will work on final cleanup and stabilization of the project area as well as any remaining construction punch list items.

Project 16193: 150,000 Gallon Water Tank:

- An SRF application in the amount of \$1,324,000.00 was submitted on March 31, 2015 for a new 200,000 gallon elevated water tank to be located on the same property purchased for the well and water treatment plant. Olanta was approved for \$926,000 in principal forgiveness funds for the tank.
- In order to expedite the process and plan for options if the RIA grant was not approved, the project was bid with various sizes of tanks. Bids were received on April 5, 2017. In May 2017, RIA once again did not approve the grant application.
- The decision has been made to award the project to the low bidder Phoenix Fabricators & Erectors, Inc. for a 150,000 gallon tank. This will get the maximum

capacity tank possible within the limits of the \$926,000 funding available for the project.

- Contracts have been awarded for the project. A pre-construction conference was held on August 2, 2017.
- The tank foundation consists of 32 piles that each go about 50 feet deep into the ground. The contractor has completed the piles. The next step is to install the concrete foundation that will connect to these piles.
- The first level of the base foundation that connects to the 32 piles is now complete and the contractor is forming up the walls of the foundation in preparation for the next concrete pour on March 9, 2018. The beaver dam issue that was preventing the site from properly draining has also now been resolved.

PUBLIC SAFETY & RECREATION REPORT

MAYOR PRO-TEM JACK HYMAN

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman reported that the recreation department is gearing up for the spring.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman asked Chief Coleman to give a report for the police department for the month. Chief Coleman reported he and Florence County Narcotics had made some arrests at the empty lot across from the Dollar General. Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman stated that he had seen several log trucks speeding on Hwy. 301. Council Member Sims asked Chief Coleman if it would be possible to set up a road block on Cale Yarborough Hwy. coming into Olanta. A local citizen has complained about cars speeding coming into and leaving Town. Chief Coleman stated that he would keep a close eye on Hwy. 301 and Cale Yarborough Hwy. in an effort to deter speeding through Town. Council Member Campbell asked Chief Coleman to check on the light pole at the gazebo on Main Street. Council Member Campbell would like to have power connected to the light pole at the gazebo, because it has become a hangout for stragglers at night. Chief Coleman will review the list of street lights the town pays for and will look into getting power connected to the light pole at J. Kelton Floyd Memorial Park.

GRANTS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Council Member Campbell reported that there have been some developments with the gazebo project. Mrs. Campbell is looking at pricing for construction of a stage in place of the gazebo. The stage would consist of a concrete slab about two feet off the ground, wood beams, and a tin roof.

Council Member Campbell continues to pursue funds to secure a “Master Plan” for the Town of Olanta. Mrs. Campbell will continue to apply for grant money and hopes to have some fundraisers around Town to build up funds.

EVENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL SIMS

Council Member Sims reported that the “Annual Eggstravaganza” was a big success. The Town had more participants this year for the event. Kids and parents alike enjoyed an egg hunt, carnival games, and a hotdog lunch.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Campbell signed up for Public Comment. Mrs. Campbell asked everyone to stop by and support her family’s lemonade stand fundraiser on Saturday, April 14th. Mrs. Campbell’s children and friends will be selling lemonade to raise money to purchase wheelchairs for those in need.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Welch asked for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Campbell made a motion to adjourn, and Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the vote, and the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mitchell Sims", is located in the bottom right corner of the page.