

THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, January 5, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

Town of Olanta Town Hall

103 Park Avenue, Olanta, SC 29114

PRESENT:

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

Josh Jones, Council Member

Jennifer Kennedy, Council Member

Leanne Beard, 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.

Council Member Beard gave the invocation. Mayor Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-THURSDAY, January 6, 2023, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the January 5, 2023, regular town council meeting. Council member Beard made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The agenda for the January 5, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 1, 2022, REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2022, regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Jones made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2022, regular meeting of Town Council. Council Member Kennedy seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Special Recognition

Woody Floyd was chosen for Yard of the Month.

Old Business

SRF GRANT LIFTSTATION REPLACEMENT

Mayor Welch informed the council that March 6, 2023 is the final date on this grant. Fence will be repaired soon.

NEW SRF GRANT

Mayor Welch informed the council that a new SRF grant for \$1 million dollars for lead/copper line inventory/improvements is in progress.

New Business

- A. **Selection Of Mayor Pro Tem.** Current Mayor Pro Tem, Levi Mims, was nominated. Mayor Welch requested a motion to reinstate Current Mayor Pro Tem, Levi Mims. Council Member Beard made a motion to approve current Mayor Pro Tem Mims reinstatement. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- B. **Selection of Town Attorney.** Mayor Welch requested a motion to retain current Town Attorney, Jim Peterson, Council Member Beard made a motion to retain current Town Attorney, Jim Peterson. Council member Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- C. **Selection of Town Accountant.** Mayor Welch requested a motion to retain the current Town Accounting Firm, Newell/Richardson. Council Member Jones made a motion to retain current Town Accounting Firm, Newell/Richardson. Council Member Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- D. **Waste Management increase request.** Mayor Welch informed the council that Waste Management has asked for a rate increase of \$1.70 per residential roll cart. Mayor Welch informed the council that there are 2 years left on the contract. Mayor Welch will talk to Waste Management about the fuel surcharge. Rate increase will be discussed during the February 2, 2023, Town Council meeting
- E. **The Citizens Bank Liaison.** Mayor Welch requested a volunteer liaison for The Citizens Bank. Council Member Jones volunteered to be the Liaison.
- F. **First reading of code of ordinance changes.** Mayor Welch informed the council that the Town Attorney, Jim Peterson, had addressed the unconstitutional ordinances. Ordinance 2022-01 first reading by Mayor Welch. Mayor Welch requested a motion to accept Ordinance 2022-01 as written. Council Member Jones made a motion to accept Ordinance 2022-01 as written. Council Member Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Part Time/Full Time Employee-Police and Utility (2023 New Hires). Mayor Welch proposed hiring a part-time police officer. The new hire would work approximately 28 hours a week scheduled around Chief Horton's hours.

H. Mayor's Financial Report. Attached

I. Reports From Council

1. **Water and sewer report.** Mayor Welch reported multiple water leaks during the past month's freezing temperatures.
2. **Public Safety.** Mayor Welch reported a quiet month.
3. **Grants & Economic Development Report.**
 - i. **Raines Building Update.** Mayor Welch reported that he is waiting on a rendering of the project from Gilbert Construction.
 - ii. **Gathering Spot Building Update.** Council to get an update on project from Rachel Campbell.
 - iii. **Smith Building Update.** Mayor Welch informed council that Smith Buildings are cleaned out.
4. **Events Report.** Mayor Welch informed council that an Events Planning Meeting is Scheduled for January 10, 2022 at 6:30. This meeting is open to the public. Collard Cook Off scheduled for February 18, 2022, from 10am-2pm. Christmas on Main had a good turnout.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURN

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

MAYORS FINACIAL REPORT

Money On Hand---\$76,056.35

Invoices to be paid---~\$13,000.00

Accounts Receivable---\$20,087.15

Total---\$83,143.50

Beautification---\$24,208.97

OWLs Account---\$4,590.41

ODC---\$20005.17

ARP Fund Account---\$262,281.17 (I still need to put \$15,018.83 to have the amount)

Loan for Hwy 341 Well-\$107,996.80