

REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016 - 6:30 P.M.  
*DR. JOHN M. THOMASON LIBRARY*  
404 EAST HAMPTON STREET  
OLANTA, SOUTH CAROLINA

PRESENT:

Lossie J. Hyman, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Levi Mims, Council Member  
Mitchell L. Sims, Council Member  
Rachel H. Campbell, Council Member

ABSENT:

Mary M. Huggins, Mayor

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 Pro-Tem Hyman called the meeting to order, and provided the invocation. A student from Olanta Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the December 6, 2016 regular town council meeting. Council Member Mims made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Sims seconded the motion. The agenda for the December 6, 2016 meeting was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2016 regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Campbell made a motion requesting Council to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2016 regular meeting of Town Council. Councilman Sims seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

MAYOR’S FINANCIAL REPORT:

FUNDS AVAILABLE COMPARISON – NOVEMBER 1 – 30, 2016			
NOVEMBER 2016	OCTOBER 2016 FUNDS AVAILABLE	NOVEMBER 2016 FUNDS AVAILABLE	OCTOBER 2015 ANNUAL FUNDS RECAP
OPERATING CAPITAL	\$44,184.11	\$24,212.33	\$ 30,978.81
TOWN RESERVE FUNDS	\$135,000.88	\$173,870.93	\$237,154.05
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$179,184.99	\$198,083.26	\$268,132.86

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER CITIZENSHIP AWARDS (Presented to Olanta Elementary School Student Recipients)

COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Council Member Campbell welcomed Ms. Cutina Barrineau, Principal of Olanta Elementary School, as well as all Olanta Elementary School students and parents in attendance for the meeting. Council Member Campbell thanked the students receiving awards for being great citizens and presented each student with a “Citizenship Award Certificate” from the Town of Olanta. The recipients for the 2017 First Quarter Citizenship Awards are as follows:

- Kaitlynn Cooper
- Taylor McCutcheon
- Clay Nettles
- Cheyenne Gibson
- Tamer Floyd
- Rebecca Brockington
- Vernaisha Wilson
- Jason Floyd
- Rance Brown
- Ava Cook
- Kenyon McFadden
- Tobias Hudson
- Jayden Floyd
- Iyanna Mills
- Maxie Harrison

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION: YARD OF THE MONTH WINNER**  
COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Olanta citizen, Mrs. Anne Blankenship, received the award of “Yard of the Month” for the month of December. Mrs. Blakenship could not be in attendance to receive the award, but Council Member Campbell presented a picture of Mrs. Blakenship in her award-winning yard with the “Yard of the Month” sign.

**WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT:**  
COUNCILMAN DANIEL LEVI MIMS

Councilman Mims reported that there was one water leak on Red Road and it was fixed by Mr. McGee. Other than that, everything has been running smooth and there were no other problems.

Councilman Mims reported that there were 26 households on the cut off list as of November 17, 2016. Three paid in full, 21 paid half or more, and there were two customers that had to have their meter cut off. The total owed for this month is \$2100.00.

**PUBLIC SAFETY & RECREATION REPORT:**  
MAYOR PRO-TEM LOSSIE J. HYMAN

Mayor Pro-Tem Hyman reported that the recreation department football season is over, and they are now practicing for the upcoming Spring season.

Chief Chamberlain reported that there had been no incidences during November, and things in Town had been relatively quiet. Chief Chamberlain reported that traffic had been a little heavier through Town due to the holidays.

**GRANTS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORTS:**  
COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Council Member Campbell gave report on all current projects in the Town, noting that not much had changed with any of the grant projects (other than the SCRIA grant for new sewer pumps), as the Town was still waiting on clearance of permits by the SC Department of Commerce. Following are the project summaries as provided by Hanna Engineering and reported by Council Member Campbell:

**Project 14157: Highway 341 Well and Water Treatment Plant:**

- Received a CDBG grant for \$750,000 and a two Penny Tax grants for \$750,000 and \$65,000 respectively.
- 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 Fire Station.

- The Department of Commerce completed the environmental review process on July 12, 2016 and approved the site. The land acquisition/purchase process can now begin. The Town is currently working with Shannon Munoz at Pee Dee COG in order to complete the process. Assuming the land purchase can be completed by end of September 2016, the project can be advertised for bids to secure a contractor in October 2016. Permit packages were completed and submitted to DHEC and DOT in April 2016. Approvals have been received for the DHEC groundwater permit and the DHEC stormwater permit. Awaiting approvals on the DOT encroachment permit. Both agencies are requiring proof of land ownership before they will issue the permits. Closing on the property was on October 19, 2016. Bids are set to go out to contractors in December 2016.

**Project 14158: Miscellaneous Water Lines:**

- Received two Penny Tax grants for \$440,000 and \$500,000 respectively.
- This project will include new water lines along Central Road, McKenzie Road and Butler Scurry Road along with a connection to Barrineau's water system on Central Road.
- We have received all permit approvals.
- The current goal would be to advertise the project for bids to secure a contractor in December 2016 to coincide with the new well and water treatment plant bidding. The Town will need to submit a final customer signup list along the water line routes as soon as possible so that they can be included on the plans.

**Project 14163: Avondale Drive and Powell Road Pump Stations:**

This project has been completed.

**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.
- We have received all permit approvals.
- The current goal would be to advertise the project for bids to secure a contractor in December 2016 to coincide with the new well and wtp bidding.

**Project 16193: Future 200,000 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 being purchased for the well and water treatment plant. Olanta has been approved for \$926,000 in principal forgiveness funds (meaning it does not have to be paid back) and up to \$398,000 in a low interest loan if needed for the new tank.
- In order to eliminate the need for the \$398,000 loan, we will plan to submit for a RIA grant in September 2016 to use in conjunction with the \$926,000 in SRF principal forgiveness funds.

- A preliminary engineering report was submitted to DHEC SRF staff for review on January 30, 2016.
- On April 26, 2016, we received approval from DHEC SRF staff on the preliminary engineering report and also received an environmental categorical exclusion on the project. This basically means that the Town is free to proceed with design/permitting and eventually construction.
- Soil borings have been completed on-site to determine tank foundation design.
- We submitted a final construction permit package to DHEC SRF staff for review on June 3, 2016. Approval was received on July 8, 2016.
- The town did not receive the RIA grant which was intended to be used in conjunction with the SRF Loan.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

COUNCIL MEMBER RACHEL H. CAMPBELL

Council Member Campbell reported that she had met with Briana Dennis of the Kelly Center for Enterprise and Innovation at Francis Marion University. Since the Town did not receive the \$25,000 Hometown Economic Development Grant from the Municipal Association of SC, Council Member Campbell is now trying to piece together small pieces of the master plan for the entrances to the town. It would be favorable to do this and spend little or no money. Francis Marion University may be able to assist in getting surveys out to the residents of Olanta in an effort to assess the needs of Town citizens. Also, Randy Wilson who did the entrances to Lake City has mentioned that he may be able to assist the town and do the work pro bono.

**EVENTS:**

COUNCILMAN MITCHELL SIMS

Councilman Sims reported that there will be a Christmas event sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary Group of Olanta. The event will be December 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Main Street at the gazebo in Olanta. Several activities are planned which will include Christmas tree lighting, Christmas tree contest, s'mores and hot chocolate, candy and songs by local citizens. Another event planned for January is a perlo cook-off. A date will be given at a later time, and letters will be put in the water bills to let everyone know.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mrs. Tonie Felder thanked Councilman Sims and his wife, Shannon, for all their hard work after Hurricane Matthew. They went above and beyond for not only feeding the linemen, but reaching out to the community to provide hot meals. Many were thankful for all they did.

ADJOURN:

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