

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
November 11, 2014
John M. Thomason Library

- I. **PRESENT:** Mayor Mary M. Huggins, Mayor Pro-Tem Lossie J. Hyman, & Council Member Tripp Welch were present.
- II. **PRESS PRESENT:** Donna Tracy of the *Lake City News & Post* was not present.
- III. **PRIOR NOTICE:** *Lake City News & Post* was notified of the meeting, and a Notice of Meeting/Agenda was placed on the Town Hall door.
- IV. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Huggins called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Mayor Huggins requested that anyone in attendance with questions or comments please sign up for public comment. Prayer was led by Councilman Hyman, and the Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Huggins requested that all in attendance remember our veterans as we said the Pledge, as it was Veteran's Day.
- V. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mayor Huggins requested a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Councilman Hyman made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Welch made the second motion. There were no objections to the vote.
- VI. **APPROVAL of MINUTES for 11/11/2014:** The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from 11/11/2014. Councilman Hyman made the first motion to approve the minutes from the 11/11/2014 regular town council meeting. Councilman Welch made the 2nd motion to approve the minutes. There were no objections to the vote. (Minutes approved at 6:36 p.m.) _____ (Clerk's Initials) _____ (Mayor's Initials)
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Mayor Huggins reported that she met with the architect, Scott Collins of Collins & Almers concerning the new town hall. The architects are working on developing the documents which would include the as-built plan, demolition plan, proposed plan, interior schedule, finishes & improvements, and exterior elevations and improvements. Scott Collins asked that the Mayor do a "walk-thru" at the new town hall and make a list of the changes that need to be made. Mr. Collins will be reviewing the notes and making the needed adjustments. If all goes well, Mr. Collins would like to have the bidding process started by the end of November.
 - B. Mayor Huggins gave a report on the OES gym situation. In talking with some of the engineers concerning the gym, Mayor Huggins found that the Town is behind

on asbestos surveys that are to be done every three years for the gym. Mayor Huggins has contacted three engineers to come and look at the building and give the Town bids on doing the asbestos survey. Once those bids are received, the Town will know which steps to take next with the gym.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Mayor’s Financial Report

<i>TIME PERIOD</i>	9/30/2014	10/31/2014	10/31/2013
<i>OPERATING CAPITAL</i>	\$25,111.44	\$22,563.67	\$30,235.13
<i>TOWN RESERVE FUND</i>	\$198,565.68	\$194,319.25	\$195,933.20
<i>TOTAL</i>	\$223,677.12	\$216,882.92	\$226,168.33

INCOME FOR OCT. 2014	EXPENSES FOR OCT. 2014
\$59,951.58	\$67,292.52

B. Water & Utilities Update:

1. Councilman Coker and Councilman Mims were not present, Councilman Mims gave the Mayor a water & utilities report prior to the meeting.
2. Councilman Mims reported on the following:
 - a. The fire hydrant that needs repair is not fixed yet. The Town should have all three of the bids to repair the fire hydrant by the end of the week and will make a decision from there.
 - b. There are 55 people on the cut-off list with an outstanding amount of \$6,700.00 owed. Per Joyce, utility payment cashier & Police Clerk, the Town has collected more money this year towards outstanding debt than in while.
3. Mayor Huggins reported on the water expansion project. The project is part of the penny sales tax. The plans for the project are for Central Road and Hood Street water loop. The Town has \$440,000.00 for that project. The Town also has \$500,000.00 in penny sales tax funds for the McKenzie Road and Butler Scurry Road water expansion project, as well as \$65,000.00 for the Olanta Rural Fire Department water expansion project. Councilman Hyman and Mayor Huggins met with the engineer and got the plans for the layout and the cost for each item. Obtaining the permits should take about 2 months, and upon the completion of such, the engineer will begin with the projects.

C. Public Safety & Recreation Update:

1. Councilman Hyman did not have a Public Safety & Recreation update.
2. Chief Chamberlain reported that everything has been peaceful since the last meeting. There has been a rise in traffic violations. Court went well for the month.
3. Councilman Hyman passed out a schedule for the police department for the month of November.
4. Rebecca Yates with the Olanta Recreation Department gave a recreation update. This year the Recreation Department finished up with more funds than last year. They finished the season with over \$1,500.00 in the bank. The Trophy ceremony for the end of season will be at a local church, Restoration and Deliverance. The next season is baseball, and registration will begin in January.

D. Grants, Events & Economic Development:

1. Mayor Huggins reported that the Town is applying for a \$5,000.00 Palmetto Pride Grant. If obtained, this grant will be used at the new town hall as part of the phase 2 landscaping plan as part of a continuation to a Palmetto Pride grant that was received 2 years ago. The Palmetto Pride grant that was received was used to install a sprinkler system and to plant shrubbery. Phase 2 of the project will be to continue with landscaping work that needs to be completed at the new town hall. Mayor Huggins asked Marcia Labombard who has been working on this particular grant to give an update. Ms. Labombard reported that the grant would be used for some modification of the existing sprinkler system and to continue with rehabilitation of the flower beds, etc. that need attention. Mayor Huggins thanked Marcia Labombard and Patsy McCutcheon for their assistance with this project.
2. Mayor Huggins read a letter the Town received from the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority. The letter was to inform the Town of being awarded a \$161,000.00 basic infrastructure grant for the Avondale Drive and Powell Road pump station project. This project is going to give the Town 4 new pumps at these 2 locations in hopes that we won't have any more problems having our sewer pumped to Lake City. Mayor Huggins recognized Hanna Engineering for all of their hard work in helping the Town get the SCRIA grant.
3. Mayor Huggins gave an update on the well project. The environmental review for this grant is underway now, and some of the responses of the agencies have already been sent in to the SC Department of Commerce. As

soon as all of the reviews from the environmental agencies have been turned in, the Town will be able to proceed with the purchasing of the land and begin construction.

4. Mayor Huggins informed of an upcoming event, Olanta's 5K Roar and Run, which will be December 13th, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Olanta Ball Field. This event is sponsored by Olanta Family Care, a division of Genesis Health Care, and The Citizens Bank. The entry fee is \$15, and donations are accepted. Mayor Huggins encouraged all that could to participate.
5. Mayor Huggins asked Joseph Kennedy, Library Branch Manager, to report on any upcoming events at the library. The upcoming events are as follows:
 - a. The events for the month of November 2014 are the usual programs, such as Board Game nights and Family Movie Event nights.
 - b. Mr. Kennedy reported that the library had a great turnout for the Veteran's Day program. There were approximately 55 people in attendance. Mr. Kennedy thanked the Friends of the Olanta Public Library and the Town of Olanta for sponsoring the event.

E. Ordinances & Technology Update:

1. Mayor Huggins introduced to the council a map that was presented to the Town outlining the Town's flood zones. This map was brought about by the Federal Insurance Administration. In June of 2014, the NFIP released a new flood map which includes Florence County and now the town of Olanta. Tripp Ward, Stormwater Manager of Florence County Engineering brought this map and explained that any municipality that receives this map must adopt the county and FEMA's resolutions and ordinances to support the map. As far as zoning and building, the town of Olanta goes under the ordinances of Florence County, thus we must meet Florence County and SC DHEC requirements. In order to apply for participation in the flood zone program, the Town must go through certain steps. The first step is to pass the FEMA Resolution of Intent and have the first reading of the FEMA Ordinance. Mayor Huggins read a portion of the NFIP FEMA Resolution, and requested a motion to accept the resolution for FEMA. Councilman Welch made a motion to accept the resolution for FEMA. Councilman Hyman made a second motion to accept the resolution, and there was no opposition. Upon passing the resolution for FEMA, there must be a first and second reading of the FEMA Ordinance. Councilman Welch gave a reading of the FEMA Ordinance. Mayor Huggins requested a motion that the first reading of the FEMA Ordinance be passed. Councilman Welch made a motion to accept this reading as the first reading for the FEMA Ordinance, Councilman Hyman made a second motion, and there was no opposition. After all the paperwork is completed for the NFIP, residents of Olanta will be able to apply for Flood Insurance. The next step is to take care of the resolution of intent and

ordinance for the County. Mayor Huggins read Florence County's Resolution of Intent and requested a motion to pass the County's resolution of intent. Councilman Welch made a motion to accept the county's resolution of intent followed by a second motion by Councilman Hyman, and there was no opposition. With the passing of the resolution of intent for the county, there must be a reading of the county's ordinance in reference to the flood zone map. Councilman Welch gave a reading of the county's ordinance. Mayor Huggins requested a motion to accept this reading as the first reading of the county's ordinance. Councilman Hyman made the first motion to accept the first reading of the county's ordinance, Councilman Welch made a second motion, and there was no opposition.

2. Mayor Huggins addressed Ms. Felder's request at the last council meeting for lights to be turned on at the ball field. This issue had been addressed previously by Mayor McCutcheon. Mayor Huggins relayed the costs of turning the lights on. The Mayor suggested the walkers and Councilman Hyman ask the county about assistance with payment for use of the lights. Councilman Hyman stated that he would do some research to see if the county can provide any assistance with having the lights turned on at the ball field.

F. Public Comment

1. Toni Felder asked what the population of Olanta is. Mayor Huggins reported that the population is 567, and the Town has 337 water customers. Ms. Felder requested that Mayor Huggins consider having a Zumba class brought to the town. Ms. Felder had a written statement requesting use of the old library to hold a Zumba class. Mayor Huggins requested that copies be made of the written statement so Council could study it. Mayor Huggins requested that Councilman Hyman meet with Ms. Felder concerning the logistics and that the topic be revisited at the next council meeting.
2. Jackie Hardy requested to use the old library for gathering back to school supplies for the local children, as well as for other community events. Mr. Hardy stated that he is involved in several different community groups that have events coming up in the future.
3. Joseph Kennedy informed all that there was a list of all programs at the library available at the library desk. He also stated that at 2:30 pm on Sunday, there would be an informative session for veterans needing monetary assistance.
4. Rebecca Yates inquired about using the old ball field because they plan to have larger participation and will need more fields for the teams to practice on. Mayor Huggins asked if there were lights at that field. Ms. Yates stated that with practice being in the summer months, they would not need lights. Florence County told the recreation department to address use of the field with the town as it is owned by the town. Mayor Huggins requested that

information regarding this be written up and given to Councilman Hyman in order to have something written to present to the council at the next meeting.

5. Jim Smith stated that Ms. Yates may want to check back with the county concerning use of the ball field because bathrooms must be provided. Mr. Smith also asked for an update on the installation of surveillance cameras in the town. Chief Chamberlain reported that the installation was on go until the town hit a road block with Duke Energy. Duke Energy has many requirements regarding putting the cameras on their poles. Mayor Huggins has forwarded Duke Energy's contract to the town lawyer. The Mayor hopes to be able to come to a compromise with Duke Energy so the cameras can be utilized.

G. Adjourn: Mayor Huggins requested a motion to adjourn. Councilman Welch made a motion to adjourn followed by a second motion by Councilman Hyman. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.