

**THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, February 6, 2025, 6:30 P.M.**

**Town of Olanta Community Center**

**215 Main St, Olanta, SC 29114**

**PRESENT:**

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

Josh Jones

Marsha Jordan

Levi Mims

**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.

Mr. Pat Godwin gave the invocation. Mayor Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA–THURSDAY, February 6, 2025, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the Feb 6, 2025, regular town council meeting. Council Member Jordan made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Mims seconded the motion. The agenda for the Feb 6, 2025, meeting was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 2, 2025, REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the Jan 2, 2024, regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Jones made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the Jan 2, 2025, regular meeting of Council. Council Member Jordan seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Special Recognition**

Yard of the month: – Tameka Goodman – 220 W Hampton St.

## Old Business

### A. SRF GRANT 210006-04 LEAD/COPPER LINE INVENTORY

Mayor Welch informed the council everything is completed except the service taps. The only thing is holding up the progress is the permits from DHEC.

### B. SCIIP GRANT A-23-C154 WATER EXPANSION UPDATE

Mayor Welch informed the council that there has been about 15,000 ft of water lines, no taps and 7 fire hydrants. Total feet of pipe to be installed is 62,000.

### C. CDBG Grant – Gathering Spot

Mayor Welch informed the council that the work has begun. The sign will be hung this weekend or the first of next week. The ribbon cutting ceremony is TBD.

### E. Old Town Hall

Mayor Welch informed the council that the building sold has fallen through. Ken showed it yesterday and an offering of 40,000. Counteroffer was made at 55,000. When ever the old town hall is sold, Mayor Welch would like to convey plot number 04520-03-081 to Mrs. Elaine Kirby. The motion was approved unanimously.

### C. Old Library

Mayor Welch asked the council if they had any bids. Council member Jordan has 2 quotes. One from McCrackin Sheet Metal out of Aynor – \$25,000 for roof replacement. Second one from Eagle Pro Construction out of Lake City – flat roof with sheds – \$37,450.00 and gable roof with sheds - \$40,000. Mayor Welch would like another bid.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. Florence County Water Authority Creation

Mayor Welch informed the council he met with Kevin. A water authority will pay the town a franchise fee and Olanta would have a member on the WA board. Mayor Welch would like to what the water authority would have to say. Mayor Welch asked council would they be okay with him looking into this more. Mayor Welch is going to have Kevin set up the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

### B. Florence County Sheriff's Office Acquisition of Town Policing Duties

Mayor Welch informed the council he met with Sheriff TJ Joye, Kevin and Chief Deputy. List of questions are attached. The Mayor made a motion to decline the Sheriff's Office Acquisition to acquire the police department. Council Member Mims made a motion to decline the acquisition. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**C. Taxable Income Discussion**

Mayor Welch turn this one over to council member Jordan. She states that it has been in the practice of the Town of Olanta not to report council's salary of \$500.00 a year. It is under the \$600.00 limit. All council will be getting a W2 to have filled out for the new tax year.

**D. Tax map number 04520-03-081**

Mayor Welch informed the council that whenever the old town hall is sold, he would like to convey plot number 04520-03-081 to Mrs. Elaine Kirby. The motion was approved unanimously.

**E. Grocery Store**

Mayor Welch informed the council he has begun talking to Charlie Barrineau with the MASC. Mayor Welch would like to the opportunity to pursue that more.

**F. FY 2023 Financial Audit Complete – Internal Control Policies – Committee Meeting Scheduled**

Mayor Welch informed the council that the first internal control was being rescheduled due to the snow. The new meeting date is February 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM

**G. Mayors Financial Report.**

Not Available

**H. Reports From Council**

1. Water & Sewer – No report
2. Grants & Economic Development – Next meeting is Feb 19th
3. Public Safety – Few glitches with Lawtrak. 197 is still being worked on. Should have a report of tickets done.
4. Events Report
  - a. Gator festival – Need someone who can head this up.
  - b. Main Street: Thursday Night Live 2025 Events – Starting on April 24th

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURN**

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