

**THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, August 3, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**

**Town of Olanta Town Hall**

**103 Park Avenue, Olanta, SC 29114**

**PRESENT:**

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

Jennifer Kennedy, Council Member

Josh Jones, 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 Kennedy gave the invocation. Mayor Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA–THURSDAY, August 3, 2023, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the June 1, 2023, regular town council meeting. Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Kennedy seconded the motion. The agenda for the August 3, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 1, 2023, REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023, regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Kennedy made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023, regular meeting of Council Member Jones seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Special Recognition**

Postponed until the September Council meeting.

## Old Business

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

Mayor Welch informed the council that the inventory phase of the project is close to completion.

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

Mayor Welch informed the council that a copy of the expansion map is available at town hall. The expansion consists of approximately 10 miles of new water line connecting the town of Olanta to the towns of Coward and Barrineau. Estimated completion by 2025.

## New Business

### A. COMMUNITY CENTER PLANS AND DISCUSSION

Josh of Gilbert Construction discussed with the council the construction allowances. The building is a forty by eighty metal building with 149-person capacity. Site work to begin in 6 to 8 weeks from the signed contract, approximately mid-September. Duration of project is 6 to 8 months from groundbreaking. Mayor Welch requested a contract. There were no questions from the Council.

### B. TANK MAINTENANCE DISUSSION

Alex of American Tank Maintenance presented a power point to the Council. Mayor requested a copy of the power point.

### C. FLORENCE COUNTY AND TOWN OF OLANTA JOINT TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT.

Mayor Welch executed the reading of the Florence County and Town of Olanta Joint Tax Collection Agreement. Mayor Welch requested a motion to accept the agreement as read. Council Member Jones made a motion to accept the agreement as read. Council Member Kennedy seconded the motion. The agreement was unanimously approved.

### D. ACCOUNTING DISCUSSION

Mayor Welch informed the Council that the year 2022 audit had not been completed by accountants Newell and Richardson. Mayor Welch informed the Council that the Town Clerk, Greg Alexander will be training to do the Quarterly taxes and W-2s. Mayor is meeting with Robin Poston of Harper,

Poston and Moree P.A. to discuss completing the audits for 2022 and 2023. There were no objections from the council.

**E. OLD LIBRARY (SELL/KEEP)**

Mayor Welch asked the Council if the Town of Olanta should sell or keep the old library property. Council Member Jones suggested to sell the property and Council Member Kennedy agreed. Mayor requested recommendations for appraisal. Town Clerk to check with Craig Floyd for appraisal.

**F. MAYOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT**

ATTACHED

**G. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL**

1. Water & Sewer Report – No report
2. Public Safety – No report.
3. Grants & Economic Development Report.
  - i. Gathering Spot Building Update. Mayor Welch informed the Council that Burt Kellahan will be submitting a letter to CBDG to notify them that the buildings are structurally safe.
  - ii.
4. **Events Report**
  - a. Gator Festival meeting set for August 15 @ 6:30
  - b. Date for Christmas on Main will be set at events meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURN**

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