

THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, March 2, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

Town of Olanta Town Hall

103 Park Avenue, Olanta, SC 29114

PRESENT:

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

Leighann Beard, Council Member

Josh Jones, Council Member

Jennifer Kennedy, 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, March 2, 2023, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the March 2, 2023, regular town council meeting. Council member Jones made a motion to approve the agenda. Council member Beard seconded the motion. The agenda for the March 2, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 2, 2023, REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023, regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Jones made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023, regular meeting of Town Council. Council member Beard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Special Recognition

Mitchell Sims was chosen for Yard of the Month.

Old Business

A. SRF GRANT LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT

Mayor Welch informed the council that the project is completed except for the punch list.

B. SRF GRANT 210006-04 LEAD/COPPER LINE INVENTORY

Mayor Welch informed the council that Eastern Engineers is finishing the surveys.

C. RIA GRANT MONITORING UPDATE

Mayor Welch informed the council that RIA grant monitoring is complete.

New Business

A. SECOND READING OF CODE OF ORDINANCE FOR CABLE FRANCHISES

Mayor Welch executed the second reading of the Code of Ordinance for Cable Franchises. Mayor Welch requested a motion for the Council to accept the Ordinance as read. Council Member Jones made a motion to accept the Ordinance as read. Council Member Beard seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

B. WASTE MANAGEMENT INCREASE REQUEST

Mayor Welch informed the council that council is waiting for a response from Management about council's counteroffer. Request is tabled.

C. BEGIN PREPARAING FY 2024

Mayor Welch informed the council that he will start preparing the 2024 budget. Mayor Welch requested any input from the council within the next couple of weeks. The preliminary budget should be ready at the next council meeting in April.

D. Mayor's Financial Report. Attached.

E. Reports From Council

1. **Water and sewer report** No updates.
2. **Public Safety.** Chief Horton informed the Council that the new police vehicle would be delivered within 2 weeks. Mayor Welch informed council that the Dodge Charger would be prepared to sell.

3. Grants & Economic Development Report.

- i. **Gathering Spot Building Update.** Mayor Welch informed the Council that the structural engineer reported that the walls on either side of the Gathering Spot would have to come down. Charlie Dorn Smith owns these 2 walls.

4. Events Report

- a. Mayor Welch reported on the February 21 Gator Festival Meeting with Jenna from Turbeville. Dates are Oct 26 – Oct 28, 2023. Next event meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2023.
- b. Mayor Welch reported that we would be going forward with Christmas on main scheduled for December 2023.
- c. Mayor Welch reported that the Collard Cook-off was a great success.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Tonnie Felder asked about emergency preparedness shelters. Mayor Welch informed Mrs. Felder that the closest shelter is the Lake City High School. Mrs. Felder also asked about the Pee Dee Action Committee. Mayor informed Mrs. Felder that the Council decided not to participate in the Pee Dee Action Committee's program due to wait time for payment and there is no office in Olanta.

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.