

**THE OLANTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, November 2, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**

**Town of Olanta Town Hall**

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

**PRESENT:**

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

Josh Jones, Council Member

Jennifer Kennedy

Leighann Beard

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.

Council Member Kennedy gave the invocation. Mayor Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the agenda as presented for the Nov 2, 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 Nov 2, 2023, meeting was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 5, 2023, REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Welch requested a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2023, regular meeting of the Olanta Town Council. Council Member Kennedy made a motion for Council to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2023, regular meeting of Council Member Beard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Yard of the month:

## Old Business

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

Mayor Welch informed the council that the engineering phase of the project is close to being finished. There will be repairs on Liberty and Baker.

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

Mayor Welch informed the council that the surveyors are working on the last sections. Project should go out for bids in April of 2024 with a projected project start in June of 2024. 18 months to complete. December 2025

### C. COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

Mayor Welch informed the council that the sitework had been completed. The pad should be poured in the next couple of weeks. Brick samples available for the council's viewing.

### D. USDA GRANT FOR SEWER JETTER

Mayor Welch informed the council that the final paperwork had been submitted to USDA on November 3.

### E. CDBG GRANT – GATHERING SPOT

Mayor Welch informed the council that Kim Etheridge has received all the paperwork needed.

## New Business

### A. TOWN CODE ORDINANCE FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Welch executed the reading of the Town Code Ordinance. Mayor Welch requested a Motion for approval as read. Mayor Pro-Tem made a motion for approval. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The Ordinance was approved unanimously.

### B. JOINT AID AGREEMENT WITH CLARENDON COUNTY

Mayor Welch executed the reading of the Joint Aid Agreement with Clarendon County. Mayor Welch requested a Motion for approval as read. Council Member Beard made a Motion for approval. Council member Kennedy seconded the motion. The agreement was unanimously approved.

**C. PROPERTY – 04610-03-016 AND 04610-03-014 \$35,000.00**

Mayor Welch asked the council if the town should counter offer the \$35,000 asking price. The Mayor and Council decided to wait for the asbestos test results before countering on the .85 acres and building.

**D. 2023 GATOR FESTIVAL UPDATE-2024 GATOR FESTIVAL PLANNING**

Mayor Welch briefed the council on the 2023 Gator Festival. The Mayor said in his opinion that it was one of the largest turn outs in recent memory. Gator festival planning meeting is scheduled for Jan 16, 2024.

**E. OLD LIBRARY APPRAISAL-IS IT DONE? GET A NEW APPRAISER?**

Town Clerk Alexander informed the Mayor and the Council that Due to a death in the appraisers' family, Craig Floyd, the town had not received the appraisal yet. Should have it by the next council meeting.

**F. MAYOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT**

Not available.

**G. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL**

1. Water & Sewer Report – Mayor Pro-Tem Mims informed the Council of a leak on Baker which should be repaired with the Lead/Copper line inventory
2. Public Safety – No report.
3. Grants & Economic Development Report. No report
4. Gathering Spot Building Update. See old business letter E.
5. Events Report
  - a. Gator Festival meeting set for January 16, 2024
  - b. Future plans for events on Main Street.

Todd Ham will lead a committee to plan Olanta after 5 with bands and food trucks held at the town stage. Starting in Apr of 2024

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURN**

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