

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL  
January 7, 2019– 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:  
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

**REGULAR SESSION**

Barnwell City Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr. presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Harris T. Barker, W.C. Black, Robert Pattillo, Steve Walling, and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Brian Johnson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Director of Public Works Philip Stanley, and Community and Development Director Lynn McEwen

Mr. Jonathan Vickery of the People Sentinel was also present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams called the meeting to order. Councilman Barker led in prayer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Reverend Rob Lane, founder and director of Mount Salem Ministries, introduced himself to Council. They are a non-profit ministry that provides food, shelter, and clothing to the needy and the poor with support from churches and pledge partners. They have been operating a homeless shelter in Aiken County for 13 years and opened a shelter in Barnwell County 6 months ago. Barnwell Police Officer Calvin Coach stated that there were 19 homeless people living in tents in various places within the city limits of Barnwell when a count was done two years ago. Officer Coach said his family plans to donate to the ministry and encouraged others to do the same.

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**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2018 REGULAR  
SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2018 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

**PROCLAMATION NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams read and signed a proclamation recognizing January 20-26, 2019 as School Choice Week.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

-RIA has approved the construction contract to Gene Ray Fulmer Construction Company in the amount of \$878,650 for the WWTP sludge holding tank. We can move forward with the award and the notice to proceed. A pre-construction conference will be scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

-Orchids has requested a two-week extension to complete their wastewater pretreatment plant. We have approved the extension until January 16<sup>th</sup>.

-We are still having major run-off issues from the solar plant on Barwick Rd. They have corrected the problem on Apple St, but we still have major problems on Cherry St. and Corley Heights-Richardson Rd.

- We have had some rain delays on the construction of the Police building. They put in the rebar today. This will be inspected tomorrow, and they will pour the foundation on Wednesday.

-We are hoping to see proposals from contractors on the Fire Station by the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. The asbestos abatement has been postponed until we get a better idea on the cost of construction.

-The election for Mayor will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The first notice will be in the paper this Wednesday and the second notice will run January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Filing is open from January 14<sup>th</sup> through noon on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Whoever wins this election will be up for election again in November, along with Councilmen. Black, Walling, and Williams.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Walling) – No Report

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Pattillo and Walling) – Administrator Zawacki read a statement from Recreation Director Pamela Davis. Basketball games begin tonight, and the season runs through February 11<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events include the Daddy Daughter Dance on February 8<sup>th</sup> and the LeBon Joye Baseball Camp at Lemon Park on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

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Police (Councilmen Black and Barker) –Police Chief Brian Johnson informed Council that one officer has resigned, and he has hired certified officer DJ Boots from Blackville to replace him.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Walling) – No Report

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) –Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo gave Council, as the Audit Committee, a letter from CC McGregor in reference to the fiscal year ending 9-30-18 audit which will begin next week.

Building and Planning (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

Community Development & Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Director Lynn McEwen informed Council that Rita Morris, who has cleaned for the city for over 30 years, retired effective January 4<sup>th</sup>. A reception for former Mayor Edward Lemon will be held in Council Chambers on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 to 6:00.

### **ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

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Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer