

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL  
February 4, 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, and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: Steve Walling

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Brian Johnson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Director of Public Works Philip Stanley, Recreation Director Pamela Davis 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**

Barnwell County Council Chairman Ben Kinlaw thanked Council for their service to the City. He said he wanted to see a coordination of effort between the County and the Municipalities. He has been networking to make Barnwell's presence known to SRS and the nuclear industry.

Barnwell County Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen gave Council information on the new federal mandated child support system.

Newly elected Barnwell County District 4 Councilman Daniel Alexander introduced himself on a professional level and said he looks forward to working with all the municipalities to move Barnwell County forward.

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Barnwell County Administrator Tim Bennett updated Council on the renovation of the courthouse funded by the capital project sales tax, the newly formed EMS committee, and a feasibility study on the multipurpose arena.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2019 REGULAR SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2019 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE POLICY CHANGE**

Human Resource Director Lynn McEwen informed Council that direct deposit for payroll has been on a volunteer basis. There is a small number of full-time employees still receiving a check. This creates additional work processing the weekly payroll. She has met with the finance committee and they have made a recommendation to make direct deposit for payroll for full time employees mandatory. Councilman Black made a motion to adopt the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

**REAUTHORIZATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF BARNWELL AND THE BARNWELL COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**

Councilman Dozier made a motion to reauthorize the memorandum of understanding. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. The rate remains the same at \$400 per case.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

- Gave an update on the progress of the construction of the new police station.
- We are still waiting on payment and performance bonds from the contractor for the digester.
- Repair on the Main St sewer line will begin on February 11<sup>th</sup> and should take about 4 days to complete.
- We are still working with Orchids on their pretreatment plant.
- DHEC will not allow Milliken wells 1 and 4 to be used as potable water wells due to their age. Four of the five Milliken raw water wells have been closed and finished. The last one will be closed as weather permits.
- The water department has received their new backhoe and the wwtp has received their new service truck.
- The field portion of the financial audit is complete. The auditors are putting together the financial statements and are expected to present them at the next Council meeting.

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## **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) – Recreation Director Pamela Davis informed Council that the basketball season was winding down with all stars beginning next week. The Daddy Daughter Dance scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup> has been sold out. LPSC is being prepared for baseball season with laser leveling of the fields scheduled for next week. The LeBon Joye baseball camp scheduled for March has been cancelled due to a conflict in his schedule. A sports testing day was hosted at the LPSC last weekend.

Police (Councilmen Black and Barker) –Police Chief Brian Johnson submitted a report to Council addressing the decrease in fine collections.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Walling) – No Report

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) –No Report

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

Community Development & Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – No Report

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Black made a motion to go into executive session for a legal opinion on the EDC lawsuit. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

## **ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

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Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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