

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
April 1, 2019– 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

REGULAR SESSION

Barnwell City Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Marcus Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, 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, 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 Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilman Barker led in prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2019 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2019 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

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**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2019 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 18, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Barker made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2019 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**MOTION TO RECONSIDER A MOTION MADE AT THE MARCH 4TH CITY
COUNCIL MEETING TO GO TO FLAG FOOTBALL FOR AGES 12 AND UNDER**

Councilman Walling stated that he was one of the Councilmen that voted in the majority for flag football for 12 and under. Councilman Walling made a motion to reconsider that motion. Councilman Walling stated that his basis for the motion to reconsider is that he has heard from some citizens that are concerned with the decision to no longer have tackle football. He would like to reconsider tackle football for 11 and 12 year olds. However, additional criteria will have to be met in order to continue with tackle football. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker. Discussion followed. The vote was three in favor and four opposed. Therefore, the motion was not approved. Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Councilman Black, Councilman Dozier, and Councilman Pattillo voted in opposition.

FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION 2019-2

Administrator Zawacki read the resolution designating April 2019 as Fair Housing Month. Councilman Walling made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Director of Public Works Philip Stanley updated Council on the agreements between WWTP and Orchids. He stated that the water department is working to replace outdated fire hydrants.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Walling) – Mosquito spraying will begin shortly.

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Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Pattillo and Walling) – Recreation Director Pamela Davis updated Council on baseball, the upcoming Bunny Brunch and Egg Hunt, and the \$10,000 Fishing Derby. The softball tournament scheduled for March 30th, was cancelled.

Police (Councilmen Black and Barker) –Police Chief Brian Johnson stated that the police department is SLED and CJIS compliant. Tonya Carroll is retiring on April 11th. Heather Still has been hired to replace her. There is still one opening for a police officer. Chief Johnson updated Council on the gang situation in the area. The last week has proven that we do have a problem. It will take multiple community wide effort to address the problem. Chief Johnson gave Council the most comprehensive study that he could find on gangs. He asked Council to pay attention to Chapter 7. There has been discussion with the sheriff's department about a new gang task force. Chief Johnson believes that we should consider that as an option. There is also a new program like DARE called GREAT that focuses on gangs that should be considered.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Walling) – Chief Tony Dicks stated that the fire hydrant that was installed on Marlboro Ave behind the high school takes care of all the hydrants on Marlboro Ave. The service truck that was approved from last year is finally coming in. Discussion followed concerning what will be done with the old truck.

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Kim Vargo reminded Council that the service truck for the fire department was budgeted in last year's budget, but the expense will show this year.

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

Community Development & Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Lynn McEwen updated Council on upcoming events. The new Pick Up for Pride activity called Make a Difference Monday will start next Monday afternoon from 4:00 until 5:00 with cleanup of the downtown area. Cleanups will be scheduled for every 2nd Monday with different areas of the City being targeted. The Spring Fling is scheduled for Thursday April 25th from 5:00 until 7:00 with entertainment by James Gardner and a number of outside activities.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- The construction of the new police station is still on schedule for an August completion. All the support walls are in place and trusses will be placed this week.
- The new WWTP sludge tank contractor will mobilize this month and plans to have the project completed in November. The construction contract is \$878,650 with \$500,000 funded with a grant from Rural Infrastructure Authority.
- We will start negotiations with Republic Service on the garbage contract which expires this August. We must give Republic a 90-day notice if we plan to bid the contract this year. The current contract gives the City the right to extend the current contract for an additional 5 years.

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- We are getting quotes from LSCOG for the 10-year update of the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning ordinance. We are also getting quotes for the recodification of the Barnwell Code of Ordinances. These costs will be included in next year's budget.
- I had an arborist look at all the trees at the proposed fire station location. The good news is the large live oaks at the corner of Washington and Burr are healthy and will stay. The large live oak next to the police admin building is hallow and will have be taken down. The rest of the trees are water oaks, and these will also be removed.
- We had the bid opening for our surplus items on Thursday. The total bids amounted to \$3,035.
- Our audit presentation for 2018 will be at the May 6th meeting.
- Administrator Zawacki stated that he will be on vacation the week of the April 15th

Councilman Barker requested that Reverend Brendolyn Jenkins Boseman's request to have a street renamed after her mother be placed on next month's agenda.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer