

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and BUDGET WORKSHOP of
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 24, 2018 – 5:30 PM**

MEETING LOCATION
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met for a Budget Workshop 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, and Billy Dozier,

Council Members Absent: Steve Walling

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

Mayor Rivera called the workshop to order and Councilman Barker led with a prayer.

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to go into executive session to review salaries. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

City Administrator Zawacki and Clerk & Treasurer Vargo reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year ending September 30, 2020 with Council. Employer contributions for state retirement increased by 1%. Group health insurance rates remained the same. Insurance premiums for policies with the Insurance Reserve Fund increased 15% to 25%. A 2% salary increase will be included in the proposed budget.

The proposed General Fund budget included a tax increase of 1.6 mills for operations and no increase for debt service. This will increase the total millage rate from 75.6 mills to 77.2 mills. There was also a proposed increase in sanitation fees. The current collection contract will expire August 31, 2019. The City has advertised for bids with a bid opening on July 12, 2019. It was decided to set the amount of the increase after the bids are reviewed. Expenditures were reviewed by line item. A transfer from reserves will be used for any anticipated shortfall. The proposed Water and Sewer Fund budget did not include any rate increases. Revenues were increased due to more usage than anticipated by the paper plant. Additional expenses for this

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fund include the purchase of a roll off truck and dumpsters to haul off sludge, a chlorine storage building, and the City expense of the grant to build a sludge holding tank.

Cash balances were reviewed for all funds.

A special called meeting was set for Monday, July 15, 2019 for the first reading of the budget ordinance.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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