

May 3, 2010

The following are the minutes of the Regular Scheduled Monthly Meeting of the Barnwell City Council held at the Barnwell City Hall on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 6:30 pm.  
Minutes on tape.

Present were Mayor Edward Lemon, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams, Sr. and Council Members W.C. Black, Ben Duncan, J.T. Atkinson, and Steve Walling. Councilman Pattillo was absent.

Also present were City Administrator John Zawacki, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Todd Gantt, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and Community Development and Tourism Director Lynn Cox.

Ms Susan Delk of the People Sentinel and several citizens were also present.

Mayor Lemon called the meeting to order and led with a prayer.

Mayor Lemon requested that he be able to amend the agenda to include 4A as old business and an Executive Session for a legal opinion and a contractual matter. Councilman Black made a motion to amend the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Atkinson and unanimously approved.

#### Public Comments:

Claudette Towne: Ms. Towne presented Council with pictures of the handicap parking at Lemon Park. Ms. Towne discussed with Council the problems with the handicap parking. Ms. Towne stated that the handicap parking needs to be on the same side of the road as the park and on a smooth surface. Mayor Lemon and Council discussed what could be done about the parking problem. Mayor Lemon stated that he would send it to the Building and Planning Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2010 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting with the following changes-the lot approved to be cleaned up by Carroll & Carroll be identified as the city lot on Main St that will be used for additional parking for Lemon Park and the request for an itinerant business license was withdrawn not cancelled. The motion was seconded by Councilman Atkinson and unanimously approved.

New Business- Mayor Lemon stated that he has had several people call him and express their concerns with the Pawn Shop opening across from the Primary School. Mayor Lemon stated that there is some concern that they may be able to sell guns. Administrator Zawacki stated that the City had no jurisdiction in this matter and at this time the owner does not have a Federal Fire Arm License.

Old Business- Mayor Lemon stated that he would like to bring up under old business the request from the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute for \$500 that did not get approved at the last Council meeting. Mayor Lemon stated that the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute has done a lot for the City of Barnwell. Director Lynn Cox stated that the request was for Tourism and

Marketing. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Duncan. The motion passed with Lemon, Williams, Duncan and Walling voting yeah. Councilman Black and Councilman Atkinson did not vote.

Approval of the Shindler Extended Warranty Agreement-Administrator Zawacki stated that this is the maintenance contract for the new elevator for the next ten years. The price is \$450.00 per quarter. The old contract was \$850.00 per quarter. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the contract. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

Security Camera proposal for Lemon Park from Universal Surveillance Systems-Administrator Zawacki stated that the proposal was \$99,000.00. Administrator Zawacki stated that after reviewing the proposal, he recommends Council table the proposal. Mayor Lemon stated that he would be abstaining from the vote. Councilman Walling made a motion to table the proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

Building Inspector Status- Administrator Zawacki stated that the Building Inspector, Chief Tony Dicks, received a call from the state two weeks ago indicating that due to not having taken the commercial courses within the required period of time, his provisional status for commercial inspection was being revoked. He is now a specialized inspector. He can do residential buildings and commercial structure. We do not have an inspector that can do commercial electrical, mechanical or plumbing. Administrator Zawacki stated that Chief Dicks requested that he not be considered to move into the commercial field. Administrator Zawacki stated that he would like for Council to allow him to contact inspection companies for bids. Councilman Atkinson made a motion to allow Administrator Zawacki to contact inspection companies for bids. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

Health Insurance Cost Increase for 2010-2011- Mayor Lemon stated that he was going to turn this over to the Salary and Finance Committee for their recommendation. Administrator Zawacki stated that we would have to have a decision from Council before June 1st. Therefore, we will have to have a special called meeting after the Salary and Finance Committee meets.

### **Administrator's Update**

-Administrator Zawacki stated that on April 26<sup>th</sup> the Barnwell Planning Commission received their annual mandatory training. All members were present.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that clearing for Parking Lot 4 at Lemon Park has begun; most of the trees have been removed and we will be ready to start removing the top soil in two weeks.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that the railroad ties for the Lake Park have been delivered and we should start placing these in the next couple of weeks.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that on April 27<sup>th</sup> a strong thunder and lightning storm developed over Lemon Park. As per our inclement weather policy, the Recreation Director Emily Randall shut down the park and had park patrons go to their cars. During the storm the park did receive a lightning strike that caused a small fire in the Joy Field dugout and knocked out the scoreboard. Burris Electrical, the electrical contractor that installed the scoreboard, came out the next day and repaired the damage. This shows how important it is to follow our safety policies at Lemon Park.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that due to the economic situation facing many municipalities, we will not be sending a representative from the City of Barnwell to the Municipal Association's annual meeting this year.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that as for the Census, he is pleased to announce that Barnwell County has hit a 73% level for mail participation, among the highest in the nation. The City of Barnwell is currently 22 % over the 2000 census participation level.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that the Army has suggested using the Barnwell Airport for training later this year. The first training mission will most likely come from Fort Bragg in October and will entail dropping 550 paratroopers at the airport and then convoying them to SRS thru the Snelling gate. Administrator Zawacki stated that he has included a slide presentation that explains exactly what they will do and what they think the economic benefits to the city will be. This could bring some revenue into the city through purchases, restaurants and hotels.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that the Force Main project will begin on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Badcock will be bringing in their equipment and the Force Main piping will be arriving. They have 90 days to complete the project. Administrator Zawacki stated that there will be some congestion problems down Galilee Rd and Main St from the pumping station to Brown St. as they go down the side of the road laying the new force main pipes.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that he had received a letter from LSCOG Home Consortium requesting that we reconsider participating. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion not to reconsider. The motion was seconded by Councilman Atkinson and unanimously approved.

-Administrator Zawacki stated that he received the municipal millage caps from the Municipal Association and the millage cap for 2010 for the City is zero.

## **Committee Reports**

Water and Sewer- Councilmen Black and Atkinson. No Report

Sanitation and Streets- Councilmen Black and Atkinson. Councilman Walling asked if anyone received a call from Wannamaker concerning a water leak. Administrator Zawacki stated that he would check it out. Administrator Zawacki noted that we have been testing fire hydrants.

Recreation and Parks- Councilmen Pattillo and Walling. Administrator Zawacki presented the summer brochure and discussed some of the problems at Lemon Park. Administrator Zawacki stated that we started issuing parking tickets instead of warnings. Administrator Zawacki stated that we had two near misses last year with children and elderly walking out in front of cars and this is the reason for the stricter parking policy.

Police- Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Duncan. No Report

Fire- Councilmen Walling and Pattillo. No Report

Finance and Salary- Mayor Pro-Tem Williams and Councilman Duncan. No Report.

Building and Planning-Councilmen Atkinson and Black. No Report

Community Development & Tourism- Director Lynn Cox.

Director Lynn Cox stated that we picked up 1400 lbs of trash with only thirteen volunteers and four inmates. The Palmetto Pride Grant requires us to pick up litter and more volunteers are needed. The Relay for Life was successful. Three teams stayed until 6:00 am. The amount raised was around \$31,000.00. The City of Barnwell was the top raising team. We have until August 31st to complete the year. Third Thursday will begin in May. Streets will not be closed.

Fantastic Family Fun Fest will be on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. City of Barnwell has 700 fans on Facebook. Director Cox stated that she is still working on the sign assessment. Director Cox stated that she will be going to a meeting with LSCOG to talk about a bicycle and pedestrian study that they want to do.

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Atkinson and unanimously approved. There was no action taken during executive session.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.