

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
May 3, 2021 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Alicia Davis, Billy Dozier, Peggy Kinlaw, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, and City Attorney Thomas Boulware

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilman Dozier led in prayer.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE UPDATED 2021 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Administer Lynn McEwen asked if there were any comments on the updated plan. There were no comments.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

OATH OF OFFICE – POLICE OFFICER ERNEST “RAY” LEWIS

Mr. Boulware administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Ernest “Ray” Lewis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT SCHOLARS

Cameron Porter and Cordero Ransom were recognized as the Student Scholars for May.

BUSINESS RECOGNITION AWARD

Guinyard and Sons Funeral Home was recognized for the month of May.

INSURANCE RENEWAL INFORMATION – SAM PLEXICO

Mr. Sam Plexico, from Southeastern Insurance Consultants LLC, informed Council that there would be no rate increases or changes in coverage for the City's July 1, 2021, renewal with BCBS of SC. This is the fourth year in a row that there have been no increases.

PROPOSAL FOR THE GUARD SHACK BY THE BARNWELL COUNTY MUSEUM

Mr. Milton Hardin, Chairman of the Barnwell County Museum, spoke about the old guard shack that was used as the police station. He introduced Mr. Ed Connelly who will repair and restore it at his own expense. The guard shack is owned by the Barnwell County Museum. Once the work is completed, they would like permission to place it back on the Circle. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve placing the completed guard shack back on the existing pad on the Circle. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2021, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2021, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 12, 2021, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Kinlaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE BARNWELL COUNTY NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – RESOLUTION 2021-03

Mayor Rivera made a motion that the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan be read by title only. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the resolution by title only. Councilmember Dozier made a motion to approve the Barnwell County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan – Resolution 2021-03. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-06 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Councilmember Kinlaw made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2021-06 “AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ENABLING ACT OF 1994”. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dozier and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-07 A CALL FOR A REFERENDUM ON THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION FOR A VOTE ON SUNDAY SALES OF ALCOHOL IN THE CITY LIMITS OF BARNWELL

Mayor Rivera made a motion to read Ordinance 2021-07 “AN ORDINANCE CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE MAY ISSUE TEMPORARY PERMITS

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021

FOR THE SUNDAY SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISES AND OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IN THE CITY OF BARNWELL” by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Rivera stated that he had reached out to businesses in the community and most felt that it would be beneficial to the businesses. Discussion followed. Councilmember Dozier made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2021-07. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody. The motion passed 4 to 3 with Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Councilmember Kinlaw, and Councilmember Pattillo voting against the motion.

SCHEDULE FOR BUDGET WORKSHOP AND DEPARTMENT HEAD EVALUATIONS

Administrator McEwen stated that she has provided Council with available dates for the budget workshop. Mayor Rivera said he would like for department heads to come to the workshop and share what their plans are for their department and give some type of presentation. The workshop is scheduled for June 9th and 10th at 5:00 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Mayor Pro Tem Williams read a report provided by Director Philip Stanley updating Council on changing from chlorine gas to liquid bleach at the wastewater treatment plant and upcoming mosquito spraying.

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

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Councilman Moody read a report provided by Director Keith Parks updating Council on recent and upcoming events.

Police (Councilmembers Moody, and Davis) – Interim Police Chief Miller stated that the department is still short two officers.

Fire (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmen Moody, and Dozier) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for activity during the month of April 2021. The department is still short one employee. The City has received a VSafe grant in the amount of \$27,498.48 for protective clothing and portable radios.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Kinlaw and Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmembers Kinlaw and Davis) – No Report

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Work is continuing at Fuller Park. The playground is almost complete and the splashpad sidewalk was poured today. Testing for water and electrical will be done next week. We will clean up the area and prepare for sod, rock, and sidewalks. The restrooms will be coming in June. We will also begin working on the expansion of the parking lot.
- Make a Difference Monday will be held next Monday, May 10th, from 4-5 pm, weather permitting. We will meet at Life Tabernacle Church on Clinton St. and head towards the creek.
- June 25th will be our Independence Day Celebration at Veteran's Park, from 6-9:30 pm. We are partnering with the Barnwell Development Association to provide food and entertainment. The City will be hosting the fireworks that evening. This is also in conjunction with the State Rookie League Baseball Tournament which will start that weekend. We will invite the league teams to come out and be introduced at Veteran's Park before the fireworks show.

ADJOURN

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021