

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

January 6, 2020 – 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 James Moody and Billy Dozier.

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Water & Sewer Director Philip Stanley, Community and Development Director Lynn McEwen and Police Chief Brian Johnson.

Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Administrator Zawacki administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Councilman Moody, and Councilman Black.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Councilman Black made a motion to nominate Councilman Williams as Mayor Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Rivera announced the City Council Committee members as follows:
Water and Sewer – Councilman Black and Councilman Dozier, Sanitation and Streets – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo, Recreation and Parks – Councilman Moody and Councilman Dozier, Police – Councilman Barker and Councilman Black, Fire – Councilman Barker and Councilman Moody, Finance and Salary – Councilman Pattillo and Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Building and Planning – Councilman Black and Councilman Dozier, Community Development and Tourism – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2019 REGULAR SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2019 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2019 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL TO SELL USED CITY COMPUTERS

Administrator Zawacki asked for Council approval to sell fifteen computers and twelve phones. They are obsolete since the software packages have been updated and new computers have been purchased. Councilman Dozier made a motion to put them up for sale. Mayor Pro Tem asked if they had to be sold in a block. Mr. Zawacki stated that they did not. Mr. Zawacki also stated that the ones that cannot be wiped will have to be scrapped. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Philip Stanley updated Council on a tree that fell on a main power line causing a power outage. The WWTP and Cascades were hit hard, but everything is recovered. The WWTP sludge tank project is almost finished.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – None

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Lynn McEwen read a report from Recreation Director Pamela Davis updating Council on December recreation programs. Breakfast with Santa was a huge success. The Candy Cane Hunt was cancelled due to weather conditions and the Lighted Boat Parade was cancelled due to lack of participation. Basketball games are starting tonight, and Lemon Park is being prepared for the upcoming baseball and softball season. The Dixie Youth State Tournament will be held at Lemon Park in June.

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – Administrator Zawacki stated that the old police administrative building has been torn down.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) - None

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – None

Building and Planning (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Councilman Dozier updated Council on the first meeting on the new fire station. The initial costs were too high, so they are going over the plans to bring the cost down.

Community Development & Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier) – None

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- We have received all of the RIA funding for the WWTP sludge tank project. We have had our closeout audit with RIA. Once final payment is sent to the contractor, documentation will be sent to RIA and we will receive a closeout letter.
- The asbestos has been removed from the old fire department building. The air samples have been returned and everything is clear.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of the BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
January 30, 2020 – 9:30 AM**

MEETING LOCATION
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Marcus Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Harris T. Barker, W.C. Black, Billy Dozier, and James Moody

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo

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

The news media were notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Black made a motion to go into executive session for final interviews for HR Department Director. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

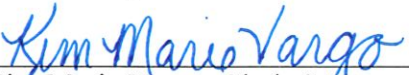
Council returned to open session.

Administrator McEwen informed Council that Barnwell County Administrator Tim Bennett wanted to have a meeting with county council and all of the municipal councils to discuss effective ways to communicate. Two dates were provided. Ms. McEwen will inform Mr. Bennett which date will be best for the City once everyone checks their schedules.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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January 30, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
February 3, 2020 – 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, James Moody and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Recreation Director Pamela Davis and Police Chief Brian Johnson.

Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments

Mayor Rivera welcomed and congratulated the Barnwell High School State Champion Cheerleaders. He presented their coach, Amy Williams, with a bouquet of flowers and the cheerleaders with a gift card.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2020

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 30, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read Ordinance No. 2020-1 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-3, TO UPDATE THE RATE SCHEDULE AND CLASS SCHEDULE BASED UPON RECENT STATISTICAL DATA RELATING TO NAICS CODES BY REPLACING APPENDIX A AND B WITH ATTACHED 2019 APPENDIX A AND B" by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance No. 2020-1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION OF THE SPLASH PAD RECOMMENDATION FROM ENGINEER TILDEN HILDERBRAND

City Administrator Lynn McEwen informed Council that Mr. Tilden Hilderbrand was asked for a recommendation on where to place the splash pad at Fuller Park. His location recommendation was given to Council. The building/recreation committee met this afternoon. They would like to see the splash pad moved closer to the parking area. They looked at several pictures and are planning on visiting Aiken and Orangeburg to view their splash pads. These cities have different sized splash pads and will give the committee an idea of the specifications for Barnwell. They would also like to use a nature inspired theme and expand the parking lot. The Fuller Park splash pad and playground equipment are Capital Project Sales Tax Project #2. We will ask the County for permission to have the Fuller Park restrooms moved from Capital Project Sales Tax Project

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2020

#4 to be included with Project #2, so all the improvements to Fuller Park can be completed at the same time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

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

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Recreation Director Pamela Davis informed Council that the basketball season was finishing up and three teams will be going to All Stars. She has sent out a basketball survey to parents to see how the program could be improved. The Daddy-Daughter Dance is sold out. It will be held February 7th. New discs have been purchased for the Disc Golf Course at Fuller Park and we are looking at the possibility of starting a Disc Golf League.

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – Police Chief Brian Johnson informed Council that he had hired a new officer and are currently fully staffed. The new officer speaks Spanish which will be a great asset to the department. They are organizing the evidence room in the new building using the same system as SLED. They are also organizing the police records in conjunction the State Archives record retention schedules.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) – 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 Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- We received a \$5,400 Palmetto Pride Grant. This will be used to purchase trash cans that will be permanently installed in the parking lots at Lake Edgar Brown. We will also purchase more pick-up sticks. The next MADM will be next Monday at 4 pm on Wellington between Anthony's and Marlboro Ave. A Saturday morning cleanup will be scheduled for April or May.
- Planning Commission meetings have been ongoing. They meet the 4th Monday of the month.
- Census Complete Count Committee will be meeting to help promote the Census and provide information to people about the importance of it.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2020

- The February dates for the county-wide meeting with councils did not work out. They are now looking at dates in March.
- The RIA grant for the digester has been extended to March 5th and the contractor is completing the necessary paperwork.
- Reminder of the retirement luncheon for Mr. John Zawacki on Wednesday, February 12th, from 11:30 to 1:30.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Black made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the Human Resource Director position. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

Council returned to open session.

Councilman Dozier made a motion to offer the Human Resource Director position to Candidate A. the motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

Councilman Barker made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 2, 2020 – 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 presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Harris T. Barker, W.C. Black, Robert Pattillo, James Moody and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: Mayor Marcus Rivera

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Brian Johnson, and Director of Public Works Philip Stanley.

Jonathan Vickery from 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

Mr. Michael Kroll, S.C. Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, gave Council an update on the 2020 Census. Notifications will be going out in two weeks. He talked about the process of getting responses and the important impact of the census data.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2020 REGULAR
SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2020

UPDATE FROM PAM RUSH, AXIS 1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Pam Rush, Axis 1 Executive Director, shared with Council the prevention, intervention, and treatment services Axis 1 provides to the community for persons that have substance abuse disorders. They are currently located on Jackson Street but will be moving to a new facility on Fuldner Road after construction is completed in September. They have partnered with local law enforcement agencies including the Barnwell Police Department and have provided them with necessary equipment and training through grant funds.

REQUEST TO REIMBURSE AXIS 1 CENTER OF BARNWELL COUNTY THE CITY'S PERCENTAGE OF THE PLAN REVIEW AND PERMIT FEES

Administrator McEwen informed Council that the amount that the City will retain of the plan review and permit fees for the construction of the new Axis 1 facility is \$573.75. All other fees must go to SafeBuilt. Ms. McEwen requested that this amount be refunded to Axis 1 since Axis 1 contributes so much to the community. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the request to reimburse Axis 1 Center of Barnwell County the City's percentage of the plan review and permit fees. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-1 on the second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

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

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Councilman Dozier stated that they will be going in the morning to look at some water parks in the surrounding areas if anybody wanted to join them. Councilman Moody read a report from Recreation Director Pamela Davis updating Council on the new contract with the Barnwell Baseball Softball Association and upcoming recreation events.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2020

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – No Report

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) – 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 Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-Department Head meetings have been taking place weekly since the end of January. We are meeting to keep each other up to date on activities going on.

-Digester: RIA has approved our grant extension request to May 5th.

-Fire Station: I would like to set up a time for the building committee to meet with Chief Dicks and me on the fire station.

-Capital Project Sales Tax Update: We have sent in a request to the county to pass a resolution to have the Fuller Park Restroom Project added to the Fuller Park Splash Pad Project.

-Garbage: Still dealing with garbage complaints and are trying to make sure that communication is clear with both citizens and the garbage company.

-Census Complete Count Committee will be trained on Wednesday, March 4th here at City Hall. I plan to have a welcoming table in City Hall for Census Day which is April 1.


-Gordman's Ribbon Cutting will take place Tuesday, April 28th at 9 am. They are asking for city attendees, and also, if anyone can be there to make remarks.

-Finance and Salary Committee – Need to set a meeting.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of the BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 27, 2020 – 11:00 AM**

MEETING LOCATION
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Marcus Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: Harris T. Barker and W.C. Black

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

The news media were notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

**READING AND ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-2 AUTHORIZING
ELECTRONIC MEETING OF COUNCIL, QUORUMS AND VOTING BY
ELECTRONIC MEANS, AND OTHER RELATED MEASURES FOR COUNCIL
MEETINGS**


City Administrator Lynn McEwen read the ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved. Since this was an emergency ordinance only one reading was necessary for adoption.

Administrator McEwen stated that she was exploring Facebook Live and Go to Meetings.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

April 6, 2020 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

Held via Facebook Live from the Council Room at Barnwell City Hall, 130 Main Street,
Barnwell, SC 29812

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr.,
Harris T. Barker, Robert Pattillo, James Moody, and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: W.C. Black

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

Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel and others were present via Facebook Live

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Williams called the meeting to order. Councilman Barker led in prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public had been invited to present comments before the meeting. None were presented.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2020

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 27, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2020 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2020-1 RECOGNIZING
APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH**

City Administrator McEwen read the resolution designating April 2020 as Fair Housing Month. Councilman Dozier made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE CAPITAL PROJECT
SALES TAX FULLER PARK SPLASH PAD, PLAYGROUND, AND RESTROOM
PROJECTS**

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve moving forward with the two Capital Sales Tax referendum projects. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody. Discussion followed. Councilman Dozier said the goal was to have these projects completed by May 2021, so we need to start now. Everything but the construction can be done remotely. We need to authorize the City Administrator to hire a design agency in the next few weeks. City Administrator McEwen said she has been in contact with Hass & Hilderbrand to schedule a meeting. Upon vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

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

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Mayor Rivera said he had been asked if the walking trails at the parks were still open. Administrator McEwen said the Lemon Park Sports Complex and the Fuller Park basketball courts are locked but all other parks are open.

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – No Report

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) – No Report

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2020

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 Dozier) –No Report

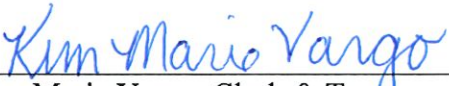
ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- The RIA grant closeout paperwork has been sent in and the digester is in operation.
- Gordman's ribbon cutting originally scheduled for April 28th has been postponed.
- This month's Make a Difference Monday has been changed to a Facebook challenge, where individuals or families can take pictures of themselves cleaning up and post them to the City's website. The City's big cleanup scheduled for April 25th will also have the same challenge.
- Mosquito spraying will start in early May.
- City Hall is open from 9 to 1. The lobby is closed to the public, but business can be done by telephone, email or drive thru.
- City Hall will be closed Friday for a scheduled holiday.
- Currently working on getting the Code of Ordinances updated.
- The County will be having a conference call tomorrow at 11:00 regarding COVID 19.

ADJOURN

Mayor Rivera said that before the meeting was adjourned, he wanted to thank the frontline workers for their hard work. He asked the citizens to focus on the things that they can control. They should think about the risks anytime they go out and take safety precautions. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
May 4, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Harris T. Barker, Robert Pattillo, James Moody, and Billy Dozier

Council Members Absent: W.C. Black

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Brian Johnson, and Recreation Director Pamela Davis.

There was no one present from the media.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public was invited to submit comments before the meeting, but none were submitted.

PRESENTATION OF 2020/2021 EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Mr. Sam Plexico, from Southeastern Insurance Consultants LLC, informed Council that there would be no rate increases to medical or dental insurance premiums and only a small increase to vision premiums for the City's July 1, 2020 renewal with BCBS of SC. There was also no change in coverage. This is the third year in a row that there have been no increases.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2020

PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL 2019 FINANCIAL AUDIT
(MCGREGOR & COMPANY)

Mr. Jim McGuire of McGregor & Company presented the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019 financial statements. He explained that the audit was again completed later this year because of the delay by the State to release the final pension information needed to complete the report. He referred to the independent auditor's report and informed Council that there were no findings. The auditor's report presented a clean opinion, they found the financial statements were presently fairly in all material respects. He explained the Management's Discussion and Analysis section and recommended that Council read this section for an overview of the financial activities for the year. He then reviewed the various sections of the statements with Council. The General Fund had a decrease in fund balance of \$\$434,816 due to a transfer of \$659,392 to the Capital Project Sales Tax Fund for the completion of the new police station. Without the transfer, the General Fund would have had a positive balance. The Water & Sewer Fund had an increase in net position of \$200,260. The net position in the Water and Sewer Fund includes deductions for depreciation and pension expenses.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PLANNED JUNE 26TH FIREWORKS
DISPLAY

Administrator McEwen informed Council that this year's fireworks celebration was scheduled for June 26th to coincide with the State Baseball Tournament that would be held at the LPSC. We have not received the final decision but there is a good possibility that this tournament will be cancelled due to COVID-19. She asked for Council's opinion on whether to keep this date or reschedule. Mayor Rivera asked if they could be rescheduled to June 5th to coincide with High School Graduation. Ms. McEwen said she would check with the fireworks company. Councilman Dozier made a motion to change the date of the fireworks display to June 5th, if possible. If not, the fireworks display will remain as scheduled on June 26th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2020

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – The WWTP received a letter from DHEC that they must submit a closeout plan to remove the primary clarifier and trickling filter from the permit or have them refurbished and put back on line. They have been out of service since 1993 when they became obsolete due to the construction of the new activated sludge plant. AECOM is in the process of doing a closeout plan for the City. After it is approved, the demolition will be done inhouse.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – The Mayor said he received a complaint about the trash along the road to Litchfield. The trash accumulates there from the Walmart parking lot. Administrator McEwen said that the area was scheduled for cleanup at the next MADM. She will talk to Walmart about the issue. Several other problem areas were discussed including overgrown sidewalks. Ms. McEwen said she was working with SCDOT since several of these areas were under their jurisdiction. The DNR is in the process of getting the lake area cleaned up. DNR cuts the grass but the City picks up the trash. Additional trash cans will be ordered with the funds received from the Palmetto Pride Grant to help with the litter problem.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Recreation Director Pamela Davis said her department is cutting grass and weed eating the parks since all programs have been cancelled. She has not received a definite cancellation from local or state baseball representatives. She opened disc golf at Fuller Park. The Lemon Park Sports Complex cannot be opened until hand sanitizing stations and other requirements are met. The recreation committee has met with the architect for the CPST Splash Pad and Restroom Project at Fuller Park. Ms. Davis is working on a grant in addition to the CPST money. Mayor Rivera said he was meeting with the USDA and Promise Zone for grant opportunities.

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – Police Chief Brian Johnson updated Council on reports of gunfire in the city limits. Gang activity has slowed down due to efforts by the police department and SLED. He is currently working on updating the policy and procedure manual for the police department. It should be ready for the next Council meeting.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) – Councilman Moody read a letter from Fire Chief Tony Dicks, who was not in attendance, about his disappointment with the possible postponement on the construction of a new fire station. Mayor Rivera, speaking for the entire council, said that they are very appreciative for all the fire department and volunteers have done over the years.

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

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

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2020

ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE

- One ton of litter and trash was picked up during the Great American Community Cleanup Challenge over the weekend of April 24th thru 26th.
- S&S Disposal has a new tracking system on their garbage trucks. Beginning in May, they will no longer go back and pick up carts on a street that they have already serviced. Citizens are supposed to place the cart out the night before their scheduled pickup day. Yard debris should be placed in the same area as the cart is placed and meet the designated requirements. It will not be picked up if it is placed on empty lots. Furniture is not picked up and must be taken to the dump or convenience centers by the homeowner.
- A glass barrier separating the clerks from the public will be constructed in the front lobby before City Hall is open to the public. We will request reimbursement from FEMA
- Gave Council an update on the 2020 Census information.

Mayor Rivera stated that a food drive was held April 18th. It was very successful. Food was provided to 227 cars which benefited over 600 people. There will also be a food drive every Monday for 5 weeks for seniors 60 and over sponsored by Generations Unlimited.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Dozier made a motion to go to into executive session for a legal opinion on financing the Fire Station Project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

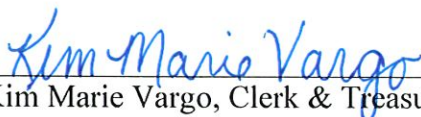
Council returned to open session.

Councilman Williams made a motion that the City spend up to \$350,000 to rehab the existing building, if that can be approved by the state grant, and that plans to build a new fire department be put on hold while we continue to pursue financing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 1, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Harris T. Barker, W.C. Black, Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Public Works Director Philip Stanley.

Jonathan Vickery from The People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

UPDATE FROM LISA FIRMENDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GENERATIONS UNLIMITED

Ms. Firmender updated Council on Generations Unlimited. Generations Unlimited is the designated transportation program for Barnwell County. They receive funding for the senior programs from a variety of sources. They receive funding from the County, the SC Department of Aging through the LSCOG, Meals to the Community Long Term Care, fundraisers, and donations. They have two senior centers, the Gail Reye Center in Barnwell and the Golden

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2020

Retreat Activity Center in Blackville. The seniors attend the programs for exercise, recreational activities, and a hot nutritious meal every day. During the Covid-19 shutdown, any seniors that wanted or needed meals are receiving them. They do daily wellness checks on seniors who do not have anyone to check on them. Delivery of homebound meals has picked up by 79%. The transportation program is funded through the SC Department of Transportation, Medicaid, United Way, and the County. They also charge very low fares. During the Covid-19 crisis the trips are free. Mayor Rivera thanked Ms. Firmender for all they do for Barnwell seniors.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 4, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-3, AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CONSENT TO PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.'S APPLICATION FOR FRANCHISE FOR CABLE OR VIDEO SERVICE AND SETTING FRANCHISE FEE

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-3. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2020-2, A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF COUNCILMEMBER BENJAMIN DUNCAN SR.

Mr. Boulware read the resolution. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. Mr. Black stated that it was a privilege to work with Mr. Duncan and he was an honorable man and an asset to the City.

APPROVAL OF THE BARNWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ENTER THE STATE PLAN OF OPERATION (SPO) UNDER THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM (LESO OR 1033 PROGRAM) WITH THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY (DLA)

This program will allow the police department access to firearms and ammunition at no cost to the City. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion that the plan be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2020

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Director Stanley stated that the closure plan to remove the primary clarifier and trickling filter has been submitted to DHEC.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Director Stanley stated that he had looked into contracting out the maintenance of cutting and edging the grass between the sidewalks and the road that is currently maintained by the street department. Estimates came in higher than expected so this will not be feasible.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Administrator McEwen stated that the question has come up about the closure of the basketball courts. Director Davis has been in weekly meetings with other state agencies and the courts have not been opened because it is a high-risk activity. Mayor Rivera stated that both neighboring cities have opened their basketball courts. Council said to open the courts with signage advising to play at your own risk.

Police (Councilmen Barker and Black) – Detective Owens stated that there has been an increase in gang related shootings recently. A high-level gang member has been arrested on unrelated charges, so hopefully, this will help. Mayor Rivera thanked the police department for all their hard work. Detective Owens stated that the department has been getting a lot of help from SLED and Highway Patrol.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Moody) – No Report

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

Building and Planning (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Councilman Dozier stated that the plans for the splash pad are moving along. Administrator McEwen stated that there is a lull in hospitality tax and accommodations tax so we will have to be careful how we move forward. She is also looking into some other types of funding for the splash pad. We did receive the PARD grant that Director Davis applied for.

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-We have received approval from the state to use the \$350,000 grant for renovations of the fire station. We are waiting on estimates for the renovations.

-The Census is still ongoing. We need to talk it up more. We have received a \$500 grant to do a marketing blitz for the City's population. Laura McKenzie is working on this and is looking for quotes from City Council members. Mayor Rivera asked if we could send out information on the

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2020

water bills. Administrator McEwen stated that there is not enough available space on the water bills.

-City Hall opened to the public this morning. Procedures are in place to keep the public areas sanitized. A glass barrier has been put up around the counter in the main lobby.

-A budget workshop needed to be scheduled. Council agreed on June 22nd at 5:30.

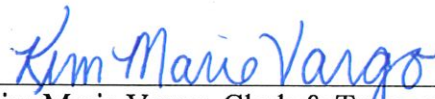
-Fireworks will be held June 5th in honor of our Community – highlighting our first responders, 2020 graduates, and all our teachers. There will be a radio program with several speakers beginning at 7:30 pm with fireworks just after dark. City employees will do a Facebook salute to the graduates this week.

-Make a Difference Monday will be June 8th from 4-5 pm with cleanup beginning at the parking lots by the Lake and up Wellington towards Ellenton St.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and BUDGET WORKSHOP of
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 22, 2020– 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., Billy Dozier, Jimbo Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: Harris T. Barker and W.C. Black

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Brian Johnson, and Director of Public Works Philip Stanley

The news media was notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel salary. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

DISCUSSION OF BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FY2021

City Administrator McEwen and Clerk & Treasurer Vargo reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year ending September 30, 2021 with Council. Revenues were estimated conservatively since the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic is not known at this time. The State has delayed the anticipated 1% increase in employer retirement contributions. Insurance premiums for policies with the Insurance Reserve Fund increased 18% to 50%. Due to uncertainties in revenues, a salary increase was not included in the proposed budget.

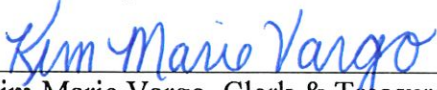
Barnwell City Council Budget Workshop Minutes
June 22, 2020

The proposed General Fund budget included a tax increase of 1.3 mills for operations and a decrease of 8 mills for debt service. This will decrease the total millage rate from 77.2 mills to 70.5 mills. Expenditures were reviewed by line item. The proposed budget has a deficit balance of over \$260,000. Expenditures, especially capital items, will be looked at to see if this amount can be reduced before the first reading. 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 decreased due to less usage by the paper plant since new management has activated the recycling system.

The first reading of the budget ordinance will be at the next Council meeting.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
July 6, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: James Moody

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

The news media was notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2020 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2020 budget workshop. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-3, AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CONSENT TO PALMETTO RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.'S APPLICATION FOR FRANCHISE FOR CABLE OR VIDEO SERVICING AND SETTING FRANCHISE FEE

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2020-3. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-4, AN ORDINANCE TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SC FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-4. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO OFFER TACKLE FOOTBALL TO AGES 9-12 AND TO JOIN WITH THE AIKEN COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Councilman Dozier stated that he believed this would provide a safe environment for tackle football. Mayor Rivera stated that the recreation committee met about this option and came to the decision to make this recommendation. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the recreation committee's recommendation to offer tackle football to ages 9-12 by joining the Aiken County youth football program. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams. Discussion followed. The motion passed with Mayor Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier voting for the motion. Councilman Pattillo abstained

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED USE OF FORCE AND PURSUIT
POLICIES FOR POLICE**

Chief Johnson stated that he has crafted the new policies based on recommendations from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The biggest change on the use of force policy is that the opening statement now contains a Sanctity of Life statement. The highlighted portions in the policies provided to Council are the main changes from previous policies. There will be training on the new policies on July 9th and 10th if it is approved by Council. Mayor Rivera made a motion to approve the updated Use of Force and Pursuit Policies for Police. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

**TEMPORARY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS TO COVER COUNCIL ABSENCES:
WATER & SEWER, POLICE, FIRE, BUILDING AND PLANNING**

The committee assignments for Councilman Black and Councilman Barker needed to be reassigned. Mayor Rivera stated that he wanted to allow Council to choose for themselves which committee they would like to be on based on their schedules. The following assignments were made:

Water & Sewer – Mayor Rivera
Police – Councilmen Dozier and Moody and Mayor Rivera
Fire – Councilman Pattillo
Building & Planning – Mayor Pro Tem Williams

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Rivera and Dozier) – Director Stanley updated Council on the demolition of the trickling filter. The cost was kept down by doing the work ourselves. The deadline for completion is August 9th but the work should be completed within a week. The service pole for the Lift Station fell over and ripped the wiring out of the building. We had to do an emergency repair on that this morning.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Director Stanley stated that his department was working hard to keep up with everything and get caught up on cutting the grass.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Director Davis stated that the recreation department is now fully staffed, all parks are open and park usage is high. We are

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020

doing virtual summer programs for nine weeks with a drawing for prizes for each program. The Farmer's Market is going well with about six vendors. We should know about fall sports by mid-July.

Police (Councilmen Dozier, Moody, and Mayor Rivera) – Chief Johnson stated that there was a large party out in the county over the weekend and the Allendale gang retaliated by shooting several people at this party. No arrests were made. Mayor Rivera stated that it is extremely important that we get after some of these people. We are going to have to partner with SLED and the County and make some arrests. If not, people are going to continue doing what they are doing. If we do not make any arrests, then it looks like we are allowing it. Chief Johnson stated that the community is going to have to want a change for that to happen.

Fire (Councilmen Pattillo and Moody) – No Report

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – Councilman Dozier stated that a rough draft of the bid package for the splash pad should be completed by August 1st and be finalized by August 31st. We want to try to go out for bids in September. We will need an update by September from the County about the availability of capital project sales tax funds. Mayor Pro Tem Williams stated that he voted against the splash pad to begin with. He felt that Council should be ashamed to spend that kind of money on a splash pad when we need a fire station. He knows that the capital project sales tax money cannot be used to build a fire station, but it is the perception that people have that we are spending half a million dollars on something that in his opinion is frivolous. He stated that he is strongly against the splash pad. Mayor Rivera stated that he appreciates Mr. Williams opinion, but he believes we have got to give our citizens something. Councilman Dozier stated that we also spend a lot of money on sports, but it is hard to come up with something that everyone can do. The splash pad is something that everyone, including people with disabilities, can enjoy. Administrator McEwen stated that she has spoken with an attorney and the attorney said that unless the money doesn't come in for the project, the project has to be done because it was approved by the voters in a referendum. She had a contractor look at the fire station and a rough draft of the repairs that need to be done will be between \$400,000.00 and \$450,000.00. The state has given us \$350,000.00. The exact cost will not be known until we go out for bids.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-The special election for council seats for District 2 and 3 will be September 22nd. Candidate filing will open on July 27th at noon and will close on August 7th at noon.

-Census update. City of Barnwell is still leading the County, but we are falling behind in the state. We need to continue to encourage citizens to fill out their census forms.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020


-SCDNR – Lake Edgar Brown and Fish Hatchery. I had a meeting this week with Brian Boyleston, Hatchery Manager and Nicole Kish, State Assistant Hatchery Coordinator. We discussed the Palmetto Pride Grant which allowed the City to purchase additional trash containers for the parking areas at the lake. SCDNR will determine the locations for the seven trash cans. Our street department will continue to dump the trash from the receptacles at the lake twice a week due to increased usage. Brian Boyleston will be moving to Barnwell and working to take care of the lake and hatchery. They are currently working on the hatchery. They will begin working on the dike wall sometime this year. All the crepe myrtles will be removed over the next few years. The crepe myrtle trees/roots have caused major issues in the wall and thus must be removed before more damage continues. We will be working with them on the other parts of the dike wall, including the streetlamps and the benches.

-There will be a conference call set up with the county later this week regarding face masks. We did not have this on the agenda, so if the Council would like to consider discussing it, we will need to schedule an emergency special called meeting this week. I have provided for information purposes only, the model ordinance from the Municipal Association for wearing masks in public. The subject will be on the County Council's agenda on July 14th. A special called meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, July 8th. The time will be confirmed by the Mayor.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
July 8, 2020 – 2:00PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Chief of Police Brian Johnson.

Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bernadette St. John – Ms. St. John works in Home Health Administration and is very concerned about making masks mandatory for everyone. Ms. St. John feels that it will put the business owners in the role of police having to make sure the people that come in the stores are wearing masks. She has a 23-year-old daughter with downs syndrome and asthma who will not wear a mask and that will put them in a bad situation. She has not seen the evidence that masks are

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2020

needed or effective against the virus. Ms. St. John respectfully asked Council not to make masks mandatory.

Mr. Miller – Mr. Miller stated that he agrees with Ms. St. John. He owns a restaurant in Blackville and said that it is not feasible to require his employees to wear masks for 6-8 hours per day. He said there have been studies that show masks are not beneficial and can cause harm.

Ms. Padgett – Ms. Padgett stated that she is against making masks mandatory. She agrees with the Ms. St. John and Mr. Miller. She stated that it is against the law to require people to wear masks. It is in violation of State Code Section 16-7-0110 Article 3. She will shop out of town if masks are mandatory. She asked why the meetings are scheduled at a time when most people are working and are unable to attend to voice their opinions. Mayor Rivera stated that typically Special Called meetings would not have any public comment. It would just be Council discussing the matter at hand. It would be open to the public but there would be no public comment. The meetings and minutes are available online. The regular scheduled meetings are at 5:30 in the afternoon and are open for public comment.

**TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING
INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN RETAIL, FOODSERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS AND IN PUBLIC CITY OWNED BUILDINGS**

Mr. Boulware stated that Council will vote first on the resolution-agenda item number 4. If it is passed, they will not vote on the ordinance-agenda item number 5. If it fails, they will move to item number 5. Administrator McEwen read the resolution encouraging individuals to wear face coverings. Mayor Rivera stated that he is opposed to the resolution because this is what we are doing now. Councilman Dozier asked if there is an expiration date for the resolution. Administrator McEwen stated that it would be in effect during the declared emergency. Councilman Moody stated that he had a lot of calls from the citizens in his district, and everyone but one person wanted masks to be mandatory. Therefore, he is opposed to the resolution. Mayor Rivera gave statistics about the virus and its effect on Barnwell County. Mayor Pro Tem Williams stated that it is his understanding that this is not a mandate. He stated that he wanted to give an example that he thinks compares to what we are talking about. If we have a water main break, we advise people to boil their water before consumption. They know the risks involved if they do not boil their water. However, we do not send authorities out to reprimand them or fine them for not boiling their water. Mayor Pro Tem Williams stated that he is in favor of the resolution, not the ordinance. Councilman Dozier asked if the resolution is passed and conditions get worse, can we come back and pass the Ordinance making it mandatory. Mr. Boulware stated that they could. Councilman Dozier stated that citizens in his district do not want masks to be mandatory. Mr. Dozier stated that he would vote in favor of the resolution. Mr. Pattillo stated that he is in favor of the resolution. Mayor Pre Tem Williams made a motion to vote on the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier. The resolution was

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2020

approved with a vote of 3 -2, with Mayor Pro Tem Williams, Councilman Dozier, and Councilman Pattillo voting in favor of resolution and Mayor Rivera and Councilman Moody voting against the resolution.

**TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE
INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN RETAIL, FOODSERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS AND IN PUBLIC CITY OWNED BUILDINGS**

This item was not discussed since the resolution was approved.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
August 3, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

PUBLIC HEARING FOLLOWED BY REGULAR SESSION

Barnwell City Council met for a Public Hearing on the FY21 budget followed by Regular Session with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Chief of Police Brian Johnson.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

**ORDINANCE 2020-4 RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF
BARNWELL SC FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

The Mayor opened the public hearing and Councilman Pattillo led in prayer. There was no public comment. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

REGULAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2020

**UPDATE ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA PROMISE ZONE FROM JULIE DEMPSEY,
COORDINATOR**

Ms. Dempsey gave Council an update on the SC Promise Zone. She explained that it was a six county area that includes Barnwell. Southern Carolina Alliance applied for this federal designation and received it in 2015. The designation will expire in 2025. This designation allows preferential points when applying for certain federal grants. Ms. Dempsey stated that if Council would like to have a meeting to discuss possible funding for any potential projects, she can schedule a Webinar. They will also write an endorsement letter or support letter to attach to any grant applications done by the City. This will give a little more strength to the application because of the promise zone designation.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 6, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2020 EMERGENCY SPECIAL
CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020 emergency special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-4, AN ORDINANCE TO
RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SC
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

Mayor Rivera stated that he thought that at the June 22nd budget workshop it was stated that we would have another budget meeting to go over possible changes that were discussed during the workshop. He did not understand why we were having the final reading without discussion on any changes. Administrator McEwen explained that the changes were made to the budget for the first reading of the ordinance presented at the July Council meeting. Any changes were highlighted, summarized, and given to the entire Council. Any questions should have been brought up during discussion at the July meeting. The first reading was passed without any discussion, so it was assumed that everyone agreed with the changes. Mayor Rivera asked what changes were made. Clerk and Treasurer Vargo listed the changes. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2020

Dozier and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2020-4. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo. The motion passed 4 to 1, with Mayor Rivera voting against the motion.

REQUEST BY MAYOR RIVERA AND COUNCILMAN MOODY FOR THE CITY TO SPONSOR A COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT ON AUGUST 22ND

Mayor Rivera stated that he and Councilman Moody wanted to do something for the community and decided to do a movie night. They are aware that this will require certain licenses. They are not asking for the City to sponsor or pay for the event but would like the City's support. They originally had set a July date but moved it to August due to the pandemic. They have several sponsors that will help with the event. Councilman Dozier made a motion to sponsor the community movie night. Mayor Rivera asked for discussion. Administrator McEwen asked the City Attorney what the City's liability will be if we sponsor the event but do not pay for it. Mr. Boulware stated that he had not looked at the insurance liability. If we sponsor the event, then it is our event regardless of who pays for it. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody. Mayor Pro Tem Williams stated that he understood that the original date was supposed to be in July but was moved to August because of the pandemic. However, the pandemic is not any better than it was in July. He believes that for the City to sponsor anything where a crowd will be gathering is wrong. He believes it is dangerous and irresponsible. Therefore, he opposes it vigorously. Mayor Rivera stated that the health and safety of the community is very important. It will be set up as a drive-in movie versus everyone getting out and sitting amongst each other. He believes the right precautionary measures have been thought out and taken. The motion passed 3 to 2 with Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo voting against the motion.

REQUEST BY MAYOR RIVERA TO HELP SPONSOR THE 2ND ANNUAL BACK2SCHOOL EXTRAVAGANZA

Mayor Rivera discussed the Back2School Extravaganza that was held last year. The event will provide backpacks, school supplies, and teacher supplies. The event will take place on August 29th at Cricket Wireless. Councilman Moody stated that he thinks it is a good idea for the City to sponsor this event to show the community that we are involved with the school district. Discussion followed. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to provide \$500 in supplies for this event. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rivera and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Rivera and Dozier) – No Report

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2020

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

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Councilman Moody stated that the tackle football program with Aiken has been cancelled. Councilman Dozier updated Council on the Fuller Park splash pad project.

Police (Councilmen Dozier, Moody, and Mayor Rivera) – Chief Johnson stated that two officers are currently out, one on medical and one in quarantine before attending the Police Academy.

Fire (Councilmen Pattillo and Moody) – No Report

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-The following are some items that we want to put into the paper in the future to help citizens understand the process.

Yard Debris: We want to remind residents that yard debris should be placed in the same general area where the cart for household trash is placed. Leaves should be bagged, limbs must be trimmed to the stem, no longer than five (5') feet in length and five (5") inches in diameter and reasonable weight. Large limbs and trunk stumps will not be picked up. Do not use your trash roll cart for yard debris. Also, if the debris amount is larger than normal weekly yard debris, the disposal company will not pick the debris up all at once. It may take several weeks or longer, depending on the amount, to get it all up. If you are concerned about the amount sitting on your front lawn for weeks, it would be wise to carry the debris to the landfill. Yard contractors should not leave debris for the city disposal company to pick up. Do not dump yard debris or other trash on empty lots. This is against city ordinances.

Furniture: Couches, mattresses and other furniture will not be picked up. These items along with demolition debris and construction materials must be removed and taken to the proper facilities.

This information was mailed to customers when the new contractor took over, but a reminder seems necessary.

Permits: Building permits are required by residents, contractors, and businesses whenever any type of new or renovation construction is performed on a building, including but not limited to enlargements, alterations, demolition or change of occupancy. Electrical, gas and plumbing systems installation or major renovations of these systems also require permits. Contractors must have a valid state license as well as a city business license. Homeowners planning to do work themselves should check with city hall on the work they are planning to verify if permits are required. Permit documents are to be conspicuously placed at the job site and some work

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2020

requires final inspections by the building inspector. If you are unsure if the work you have planned to your residence or business requires a permit, it is best to call the city hall and ask. Code Enforcement: Sections 14:22-23 in the City Ordinances states weeds and grass should be kept cut and not overgrown on any improved properties and that the accumulation of junk, trash or other materials on properties which tend to become unhealthy is unlawful. You may find all of the City's ordinances online at <http://cityofbarnwell.com/code-of-ordinances>. Our Code Enforcement Officer, Drayton Gantt, has been working diligently in sending letters to residents who have properties that need tending and who have unlicensed vehicles in their yards or on their property without tags or without proper cover. This will help us improve the city's overall health and sanitary conditions, as well as keep our ordinances up to date.

-I have a meeting with the general manager of Walmart to discuss trash issues.

-Municode has completed the updated codes for the City. We have received these and I will be sending them out early this month. We will then send out an Ordinance on the September agenda to accept and vote on the updated codes.

-I sent out an email today from WJBF. They are working on some positive stories from our community. Please look that over and if you know of something that they may want to do a story on, please send them that info. They are doing the story on Thursday.

-We are moving up in the Census. We need to encourage people to get their census done.

Mayor Rivera asked if we are doing anything about the dilapidated properties. Administrator McEwen stated that they are working on them.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 9, 2020 – 4:30 pm**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Director of Public Works Philip Stanley

The news media was notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL FOR THE CITY TO APPLY FOR AN RIA GRANT TO CONSTRUCT A NEW 12 INCH WELL AND INFRASTRUCTURE TO TIE INTO THE MAIN WATER SYSTEM AS WELL AS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COUNTY FOR A PIECE OF PROPERTY THAT WILL BE SUITABLE FOR THE WELL AND EVENTUALLY A NEW ELEVATED WATER TANK

Administrator Lynn McEwen provided Council with information showing that the City needs an additional water supply to help maintain compliance with SCDHEC drinking water well run times. The information included a copy of the water model completed by AECOM, average well run times, cost estimate, and map of possible locations. Discussion followed with Ms. McEwen, Director of Public Works Philip Stanley, and Mr. Bryan Black with AECOM, answering Council's questions and concerns. The project would be partially funded with a grant from RIA, if awarded. Other funding sources were also discussed. The \$500,000 grant application is due September 14, 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to move forward with the grant

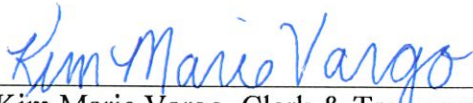
Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2020

application and negotiations with the County for property. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 14, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and Police Chief Brian Johnson.

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**UPDATE ON THE BARNWELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND COURT
PROCEEDINGS**

Rhonda McElveen, Barnwell County Clerk of Court, updated Council on the status of the repairs to the courthouse. The repairs are being paid for with Capital Project Sales Tax revenue. In person court will start in October.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2020

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 3, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2020 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2020 special called Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR THE CITY TO SPONSOR A COMMUNITY BINGO NIGHT ON OCTOBER 17TH BY MAYOR RIVERA AND COUNCILMAN MOODY

Councilman Moody updated Council on last month's Community Movie Night. He said it was a big success. They now want to have a Community Bingo Night. Prizes will be donated, and they are just asking for one employee to help. Mayor Rivera stated that he believes it will be good for the community to get together. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the City sponsoring the Community Bingo Night. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO CONDUCT THE FALL SUNDIAL FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST FROM 9 AM – 4 PM, BY THE SUNDIAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Mayor Rivera stated that even though this event had been approved earlier in the year, he asked for it to be placed on the agenda because of the Pandemic. Event coordinator Ashley Culp explained all the steps that will be taken to insure everyone's safety. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the request to conduct the Fall Sundial Festival. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2020

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO CONDUCT A SCARECROW CONTEST
FUNDRAISER DURING OCTOBER, BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF BARNWELL
COUNTY**

Caroline Randall explained the event will be a fundraiser for the Rotary Club. Individuals or businesses can sponsor a scarecrow display in designated locations. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the request to conduct a scarecrow contest. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

**DICUSSION AND DECISION ON TRICK OR TREAT ACTIVITIES FOR
HALLOWEEN**

Mayor Rivera stated that the response he has received shows that most of the community wants to proceed with Halloween activities. Councilman Moody stated that he has received the same response from the citizens that he has spoken with. Administrator McEwen stated that she and Chief Johnson had discussed Halloween and agreed that trick or treating is a voluntary event and the City does not govern it other than setting the times for trick or treat. Mayor Rivera stated that the city will see an influx of traffic from surrounding towns who are not allowing trick or treating this year. Discussion followed about possibly changing the time, but Council agreed to stay with the usual time of 6 to 8 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Rivera and Dozier) – No Report

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

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Councilman Moody read a recap provided by Director Davis updating Council on a new employee, football, cheer and volleyball registration, park usage, and upcoming softball tournaments. Councilman Dozier updated Council on the splash pad progress. Seven contractors attended a preliminary meeting and site visit.

Police (Councilmen Dozier, Moody, and Mayor Rivera) – Chief Johnson informed Council that his request for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant for mobile data terminals for police vehicles was denied. He will continue to look for more grant opportunities,

Fire (Councilmen Pattillo and Moody) – Chief Dicks updated Council on calls responded to by the fire department.

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

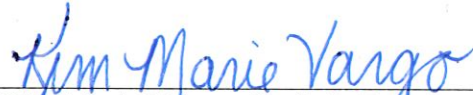
-We have received reimbursement funding of \$4,255.35 from the state for all COVID related supplies and prevention items that were purchased through June of this year. We have been approved for reimbursement for overtime and leave due to COVID. We have not received the funds yet but have requested over \$31,000. We will put in another request for qualified expenses after June, if the state will continue to allow reimbursement.

-The RIA grant application for the new well project has been sent in today. AECOM is also moving forward with the FAA application for the proposed location of a tank.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
October 5, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Video-taped (wifi issues) and placed on Facebook City Page for Public

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Billy Dozier, James Moody, and Alicia Davis

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Chief of Police Brian Johnson.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CERTIFIED ELECTION RESULTS

Administrator McEwen stated that she had provided Council with the updated election results. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to accept as information. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBER,
ALICIA DAVIS**

Mayor Rivera stated that the oath of office would be administered outside so that Ms. Davis' family could attend. City Attorney Thomas Boulware administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Davis.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ethan Batchler – Mr Batchler wants to open a tattoo shop. Administrator McEwen told him that he would have to go through the City’s business office to check zoning.

UPDATE ON THE BARNWELL COUNTY EDC, TOMMY BOYLSTON

Mr. Boylston stated that Councilman Dozier is on the EDC Board and has been a great asset. Project BB – Pineview Building, a company that builds outdoor storage buildings will be using half of the old MK building in Blackville. They will be hiring around 55 people within the next five years. Cascades will be leasing the other half of the building for storage. EDC acquired ownership of that building last year through a foreclosure. Project Jam – Intelligent Life Cycle Solutions, an E Waste Recycling company moved into a building in Williston back in July that the EDC had ownership of. They will bring around 50 jobs as well. They are already in operation now. Project KBTD – this is a project in the Spec Building in Blackville. EDC has been told that they have made the final cut. The company has been looking at sites all over the Southeast and they have narrowed the choice down to eight sites and we are one of those eight. This has the possibility of bringing around 187 jobs to the area. However, the company has backed away from making the move for the time being. Project Beverage – an existing company in Williston has taken over the Colormarks building and has done some renovations to it. This will bring around 10 new jobs to the area. Dayco will be closing by the end of the year. The Sara Lee building, in Barnwell was sold to a company several years ago. That company struggled to get up and running but ended up in bankruptcy. The EDC holds the lien on that building and is in the process of getting the title back and will then market the building. Blackville Farmers Market has expanded. The EFCO building will be put on the market very soon. Mr. Boylston then discussed with Council how sites are selected by potential companies and what problems there may be that prevents companies from coming here.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular scheduled city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

MOTION TO ACCEPT A CONTRACT WITH THE SCDNR FOR LAKE EDGAR BROWN

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to accept a contract with the SCDNR for Lake Edgar Brown. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2020

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Rivera and Dozier) – Director Stanley stated that the Grit Collector went down two months ago. We finally got the parts in and it should be finished tomorrow. The chlorine conversion at the treatment plant is on hold waiting on parts.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Director Stanley stated that they will start in the next two weeks edging and removing sand from all the curbing and sidewalks.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Mayor Rivera stated that Pamela has done a great job with making sure we have fall sports. Administrator McEwen stated that the Christmas parade and tree lighting will be on the same day.

Police (Councilmen Dozier, Moody, and Mayor Rivera) – Coach updated Council on the stats for August. He stated that the Police Dept. received an award from Axis 1 for participating in the ECHO coalition. Traffic enforcement is down. Axis 1 donated flashlights to the department.

Fire (Councilmen Pattillo and Moody) – Chief Dicks updated Council on the condition of the ladder truck. It will need major repair to operate properly.

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – Administrator McEwen discussed with Council the responder sheet for the Fuller Park Splash Pad

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-Make a Difference Monday will begin again this month. We are meeting just off the 4-lane (Dunbarton Blvd) in front of Days Inn. We will be tackling the sidewalks up to Walmart (both sides if we get enough volunteers). Walmart has been doing an excellent job keeping Litchfield St clean.

-Now that we have the contract with SCDNR, we will be getting the trash receptacles placed out in the parking areas and designated areas around the lake. We hope that this will help in the litter problem.

-The Census is going to continue working to enumerate as many people as possible until October 31. They would also like to bring a table out to the Bingo event to try and encourage signing up people.

-We are still waiting on the RIA grant (November expected timeframe).

-We are also waiting on Municode to get back with us with the updated codes for two chapters that need to be corrected.

-The run-off election is tomorrow.

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Mayor Rivera stated that AT& T will be closing their store in Barnwell. JD Fashion also closed.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2020

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
October 26, 2020 – 5:30 pm**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812
Live feed from Facebook Live for Public

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

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

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Attorney Thomas Boulware

The news media was notified and were present, along with a few members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order and led in prayer.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CERTIFIED SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams, Sr. and seconded by Council Member Billy Dozier to accept the Certified Special Election results as information. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBER PEGGY
KINLAW**

City Attorney Tom Boulware administered the oath of office to Council Member Peggy Kinlaw.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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**A MOTION TO APPROVE AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE
INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN RETAIL, FOODSERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS AND IN PUBLIC CITY OWNED BUILDINGS**

A motion was made by Council Member Jimbo Moody and seconded by Council Member Alicia Davis to approve the Ordinance. Discussion was provided by each council member in turn why they wanted to approve or not approve the Ordinance. The vote was called for with four members, Mayor Marcus Rivera, Council Member Billy Dozier, Council Member Jimbo Moody, Council Member Alicia Davis voting yes. Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams, Sr. and Council Member Peggy Kinlaw voted no. The motion passed.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Lynn S. McEwen, Administrator

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
November 2, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

REGULAR SESSION

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

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

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen
City Attorney Thomas Boulware was present via telephone

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order and led in prayer.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVE LONNIE HOSEY

Representative Lonnie Hosey and Mayor Rivera presented Mrs. W.C. Black and Mrs. Harris Barker with resolutions from the State House of Representatives posthumously honoring their husbands for their dedication to public service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Debra Coleman – Ms. Coleman stated that there are two properties on one of the main thoroughfares coming into Barnwell that are an eyesore. They are overgrown and a door to one of them has been open for over a year. Ms. Coleman stated that we need to pay more attention to the community. She also said the Charles St is filled with potholes. She brought it to the attention of the Mayor because the street needs to be paved. Mayor Rivera stated that

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Councilmembers Dozier and Moody did a ride along with the Code Enforcement Officer to identify neglected properties. He told Ms. Coleman to give Administrator McEwen the addresses of the properties in question. Ms. McEwen informed Ms. Coleman that the street would have to be paved either by the County or SCDOT, depending on who owns it.

Ms. Phillis Rhodney – Ms. Rhodney stated that she is also concerned with the number of abandoned buildings in town. Especially on Marlboro Ave and Allen St. The owners should be held responsible. Councilmember Moody said that we know it is an issue. Most of the properties are owned by people who do not live in town. A citation must be hand delivered so it is impeding the process. We are in the process of looking at available options to get these properties cleaned up.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2020 regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 26, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2020 special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

MOTION TO APPROVE SUPPORT FOR SCDNR TO PURCHASE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS AND ALLOW THAT PROPERTY TO BECOME TAX EXEMPT

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources is in the process of purchasing property in the city limits adjoining Lake Edgar Brown. Following state guidelines, they are requesting a letter of support from the City before completing the project and declaring the property tax exempt. The total tax amount from the previous year was less than \$100. They are planning on building a residence for the fish hatchery manager. Administrator McEwen stated that she had contacted County Auditor Gwen Kinard who estimated that the taxes would be approximately \$400 to \$500 if not exempt. Councilman Moody made a motion to approve support for SCDNR to purchase property within the city limits and allow that property to become tax exempt. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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APPROVAL AND AWARD OF THE RECREATION AND BUILDING COMMITTEES' RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FULLER PARK SPLASHPAD AND PLAYGROUND PROJECT RFP

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the recreation and building committees' recommendation to award the Fuller Park Splashpad and Playground Project to Churchich Recreation and 80 West Group for a total of \$375,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL AND AWARD OF THE LOW BID FOR THE FULLER PARK SITE WORK

Administrator McEwen stated that only one bid was received, and it was less than the amount budgeted. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to award the bid for the site work at Fuller Park to Griffin Contracting of Pooler, GA in the amount of \$28,288. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

UPDATES TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Rivera updated assignments to committees as follows:

Water & Sewer – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmember Dozier
Sanitation & Streets – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmember Dozier
Recreation & Parks – Councilmembers Dozier and Moody
Police – Councilmembers Kinlaw, Moody and Davis
Fire – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmember Moody
Finance & Salary – Councilmembers Kinlaw and Davis
Building & Planning – Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmember Dozier

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier) – Administrator McEwen said they are working with the engineers to find an ideal location for the new water tank. The original location for the well is fine but the location for the tank may have to be moved due to flight concerns from the Barnwell County Airport Commission.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier) – They have started on the fall curb and street cleanup and any areas of concern should be given to Philip Stanley.

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Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) - The position for a new employee has been advertised in the paper. Flag football and cheerleading ending last week and was a huge success. Volleyball games were played outside this year instead of in the gym. Upcoming events include a Virtual Turkey Trot from November 1st thru 21st, and candy cane hunt at Lemon Park on Saturday, December 5th at 12:00 pm. The Christmas parade will also be on December 5th at 4:00 followed by the tree lighting at 5:30.

Police (Councilmembers Kinlaw, Moody, and Davis) -- Detective Brian Owens updated Council on the number and type of cases for October.

Fire (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Moody) – Chief Dicks provided Council with a report of October activities.

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-Now that the contracts have been awarded for Fuller Park, work will begin as soon as the contracts are signed.

-Make a Difference Monday will be held November 9th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm to continue cleanup at Lake Edgar Brown.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- POSSIBLE DISCIPLINE OR RELEASE OF EMPLOYEES

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

Council returned to regular session.

Councilman Moody made a motion to move forward with a four month probational period for Subject A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Voting in favor was Mayor Rivera, and Councilmembers Davis, Kinlaw and Moody. Voting against was Mayor Pro Tem Williams.

Councilman Moody made a motion to move forward with release of Subject B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Voting in favor was Mayor Rivera and Councilmembers Davis and Moody. Voting against was Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmember Kinlaw.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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Councilman Dozier abstained. Mayor Rivera stated that this will be approved pending review by City Attorney with the abstained vote.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
November 12, 2020 – 5:30 pm**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr.,
Council Members James Moody, Peggy Kinlaw and Alicia Davis

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo, William Dozier

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Attorney Thomas
Boulware

The news media was notified. Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order and Mayor Pro-Tem Williams led in prayer.

STATEMENT BY ATTORNEY TOM BOULWARE

City Attorney Thomas Boulware requested that it be recorded in the minutes of this meeting that he objects to the procedural format of tonight's agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Mayor made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council Member Moody seconded the motion. The motion passed with yes votes from Mayor Rivera, Council Member Moody, Council Member Davis, and Council Member Kinlaw. Mayor Pro-Tem Williams opposed the motion.

Council returned to regular session.

Mayor Rivera made a motion to continue with the original approved motion at the November 2nd meeting to release Subject B, effective immediately November 13th. The motion was seconded by Council Member Moody. During discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Williams stated that, if

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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approved, this is a terrible mistake. The motion passed with Mayor Rivera, and Council Members Moody and Davis voting for the motion. Mayor Pro-Tem Williams and Council Member Kinlaw voted against the motion.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Lynn S. McEwen, Administrator

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
November 16, 2020 – 5:30 pm**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Council Members Alicia Davis, William Dozier, Peggy Kinlaw, and James Moody

Council Members Absent: Robert Pattillo

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

The news media was notified, Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order and Mayor Pro-Tem Williams led in prayer.

**PRESENTATION ON THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALE TAX BY COUNTY
COUNCILMAN DANIEL ALEXANDER**

County Councilman Daniel Alexander gave a presentation on the Capital Project Sales Tax. The Capital Project Sales Tax referendum was passed in 2016. The County began collecting the tax in May of 2017 and it will continue through April of 2025. The City of Barnwell receives 21% of collections or any bond proceeds. There are two types of methods to distribute the tax. The Pay-As-You-Go method releases the collections as they come in. The second method is to obtain a bond to get a lump sum to distribute so that projects can be started immediately. Tax collections are then used to pay the bond payments. The County initially borrowed 70% of expected collections. The City of Barnwell received \$1,800,000 of this to fund its first project- Public Safety Building Phase One. The County has decided not to do another bond issuance and will use the Pay-As-You-Go method. The County has excess collections over the bond payments and has passed a resolution to distribute some of this excess. The City of Barnwell will receive \$341,753 of this to continue its projects. The City also has \$9,150 available from the original

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bond issuance. The County will continue to monitor collections to determine when additional funds will be released.

APPROVAL OF FUNDING OPTION FOR FULLER PARK PROJECTS

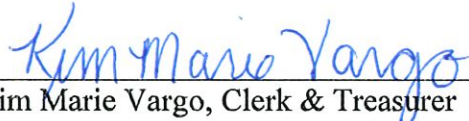
Construction of the Fuller Park splash pad, playground equipment, and restrooms is the next Capital Sales Tax Project with an estimated cost of \$542,000. Available funding for this project is \$409,674 including CPST of \$350,903 and PARD grant proceeds of \$58,771. This will leave a balance of approximately \$133,000. Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo informed Council that there was about \$50,000 in savings between the Local Accommodations Tax Fund and the Local Hospitality Tax Fund that would qualify for use for this project. She also stated that, if needed, General Fund savings could be used to finish the project with the anticipation of being replenished when the County releases the next CPST funds. County Councilman Alexander said that although it was not certain, if collections stayed the same, the next release could be within the next 12 to 18 months.

Administrator Lynn McEwen stated that the City could finish the project in its entirety using the funding options listed above, complete the splash pad and restrooms but put the playground on hold until funding is ascertained, or delay the entire project until all funding is available. Discussion followed. Councilmember Dozier made a motion to complete the project in its entirety using savings if necessary. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
December 14, 2020 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

REGULAR SESSION

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

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

Councilmembers Absent: Robert Pattillo

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, and Chief of Police Brian Johnson

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order and asked that the agenda be amended by postponing Item #5 – Employee Awards to another time. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to amend the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

POLICE OFFICER'S OATH OF OFFICE

City Attorney Tom Boulware administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Robert Davis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

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COMMUNITY AWARDS

Mayor Rivera recognized several businesses and individuals for helping to fulfill the needs of the community

Carol's Florist
Wangz on Main
Timothy Sanders, Barnwell Caribbean
Lisa Firmender, Generations Unlimited
Andrew Bush, B&B Ford
BJ Jordan, State Farm
Daniel's Pharmacy
Liz Ringus
American Zinc Recycling
Crissie Stapleton, Barnwell School District 45
Housing Authority District No. 3
IGA
Walmart
Jason Hasan, Cricket Wireless
Randy Reece, Quality Septic
Annie Walters, Save the Children
Pamela McKnight, Axis I
Chantsie Pickelsimer, YMCA

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2, 2020 REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2020 regular scheduled City Council meeting with the correction of adding that Councilwoman Peggy Kinlaw was present. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2020 special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE 2021 BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the 2021 Barnwell City Council meeting dates. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE 2021 ADMINISTRATIVE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the 2021 administrative and emergency services holiday schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF FIREMEN CHRISTMAS BONUSES

Councilman Moody made a motion to approve the firemen's Christmas bonuses. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-01 TO ADOPT AND ENACT A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion that Ordinance 2021-01 "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE; AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE" be read by

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title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2021-01. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF AN LED CONVERSION CONTRACT WITH DOMINION ENERGY

Administrator McEwen had given Council information from Dominion Energy about its conversion program from HID to LED lighting. Dominion is working with municipalities by offering a conversion contract with incentives since the LED lighting is currently more expensive. The 10-year contract has no upfront charges for the conversion and offers a reduced monthly rate for the LED lighting for the first 5 years. During the first 5 years the City will save approximately \$500 per month. The incentives are only offered for the first 5 years because after that time the LED charges are expected to be lower or remain the same while charges for HID lighting are expected to continue to increase. LED is better quality lighting but is different from HID lighting. The change will be noticeable, and some citizens may take a while to get used to it. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the LED Conversion contract with Dominion Energy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Dozier) – Councilman Moody asked what needed to be done to get the grass cut at the old Sara Lee plant. Administrator McEwen reminded Council that Mr. Tommy Boyleston with Economic Development had stated that the EDC was in the process of taking the building back over and will be getting the grass taken care of. She will get in touch with him and ask him to have the grass cut.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – Administrator McEwen stated that so far, we have only received one application for the Recreation Director position.

Police (Councilmembers Kinlaw, Moody, and Davis) – Police Chief Brian Johnson informed Council that one of the 2014 Dodge Chargers is out of service. The cost of fixing it is more than the vehicle is worth so it will be used for spare parts.

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Fire (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Moody) – Council received a written report of November activities. Mayor Rivera stated that Council had a very productive meeting with Fire Chief Dicks and the firemen.

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

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Dozier) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- The sitework is moving forward at Fuller Park. They will begin moving fill dirt tomorrow. We will put signs up at the park next week stating that the 1% Capital Project Sales Tax and a PARD grant is funding this project. The equipment has been ordered for the playground, splashpad and restroom.
- Since approval of the grant from RIA for the well, the county council has moved forward with the first and second reading (which is being done tonight) on the sale of the 1.45 acres we will need to purchase from them. I am moving forward with getting the plat, survey and appraisal done for the final reading in January.
- Make a Difference Monday was held virtually this week. I am hoping to see some photos soon.
- MASC has some virtual training opportunities in January. Contact Kim if you would like to register for any training.
- I have added a memo from the county administrator for your reference regarding the portion of Main Street in front of our building. It explains the issue of ownership and why SCDOT has not paved it and how they plan to correct this so that it can be paved in the future.
- I will be applying for a Palmetto Pride Grant for about \$4,000 to add trash receptacles to Fuller Park to go along with the amenities we are now working on.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- PERSONNEL SALARIES

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

Council returned to regular session.

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Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to adjust salaries in the Fire and Police Departments based on the recommendations of the City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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