

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
January 6, 2022 – 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 and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, Peggy Kinlaw, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: None

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

There were no members of the press present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Bragg led in prayer.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS ALICIA DAVIS, RON STILL, AND BRAD ALL

City Attorney Thomas Boulware administered the oath of office to Councilmembers Alicia Davis, Ron Still, and Brad All

INFORMATIONAL SESSION FROM MASC REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES BARRINEAU

Mr. Charles Barrineau, Field Services manager with the Municipal Association of South Carolina, presented a newly elected officials' orientation "You've Been Elected, Now What?".

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
January 10, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, Peggy Kinlaw, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, and Fire Chief Tony Dicks

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 REP. LONNIE HOSEY

SC Representative Lonnie.Hosey presented a resolution from the SC House of Representatives to Mrs. Kay Pattillo. Mayor Rivera read the resolution that expressed profound sorrow upon the passing of Robert “Bob” Pattillo Jr. and celebrated his life and achievements.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-1 IN MEMORY OF JOE GAINES

There was no one to receive so the item was postponed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

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ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Mayor Rivera called for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember All nominated Peggy Kinlaw and Mayor Rivera nominated Jimbo Moody. Councilmember Still made a motion to nominate Councilmember Kinlaw as Mayor Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Mayor Rivera stated that Councilmember Kinlaw is the first female to be elected as Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Barnwell.

Mayor Rivera stated that he will appoint one person to each committee. He will have a special advisory committee made up of citizens that will help with some of the decisions.

Water & Sewer – Brad All
Sanitation & Streets – Peggy Kinlaw
Parks & Recreation – Alicia Davis
Police – Jimbo Moody
Fire – Ryan Bragg
Finance & Salary – Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis
Building & Planning – Ron Still

Mayor Rivera stated the advisory committee members will be Lisa Firmender, Steven Hunter, Steven Brown, Robert Hemby, David Dangerfield, and Emily Coble. Councilmember Still asked Mayor Rivera what this committee would help with. Mayor Rivera said the committee will meet the second Monday of every month. They will give insight on any planning or help with projects they would like to see in the City.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE BARNWELL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mayor Rivera appointed Councilmember Alicia Davis as the City Representative for the BCEDC.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Kinlaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2021, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Administrator McEwen reminded Council to tell her if someone approaches them about speaking at a council meeting. Some things can be handled at City Hall and will not need to be brought before Council. If it is something that needs to be voted on, it needs to be added to the agenda. The proposed updated public participation guidelines have removed the requirement to be a citizen to participate in public comment. Discussion followed on who should be able to participate during public comment. Councilmember Still made a motion to amend the original guidelines to allow speakers at public comment to be citizens, business owners and property owners of the City of Barnwell unless given special consent by Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

RECAP OF THE YEAR END FIGURES FOR FY21

Administrator McEwen reviewed the preliminary financial reports for the year ending September 30, 2021 for Clerk & Treasurer Vargo in her absence. The budget was very conservative due to the uncertain impact of COVID. COVID did not impact revenues except for accommodation taxes. All department expenditures came in under budget. Personnel costs came in under budget due to personnel turnover. The General Fund and the Water & Sewer Fund both had a good year. In the General Fund, revenues were at 109% of budget and expenditures were at 88% of budget. In the W&S Fund, revenues were at 106% of budget and expenses were at 93% of budget. These percentages are before capital improvements. Additional adjustments for pensions and depreciation will be necessary for the final figures for the financial statements.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION ON THE 2022 BASKETBALL SEASON

Approximately 140 to 150 children are signed up for basketball and we do not currently have a Recreation Director. Mayor Rivera stated that the City should still provide recreation programs even without a director. Volunteers should be utilized. Discussion followed concerning volunteers, administrative duties, and game scheduling. Councilmember Moody made a motion to proceed with the 2022 basketball season. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember All) – Administrator McEwen read a report provided by Director Stanley.

Sanitation and Streets (Councilmember Kinlaw) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Davis) – No Report

Police (Councilmembers Moody) – Chief Robinson updated Council on activity for December. There has been an increase in vehicle break ins, and he wanted to remind people to lock their car doors. The police department was asked to turn off the lights at the Fuller Park basketball courts if no one was using them.

Fire (Councilmember Bragg) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for activity for December.

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

Building and Planning (Councilmember Still) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Due to some of the storms causing roof damage and other structural damage to homes and businesses, I would like to remind all citizens that the City of Barnwell does require permits from licensed contractors for roof or structural work done to businesses and even to homes. If a contractor does not already have a city business license, they are also required to purchase that as well. Business owners and citizens should understand that this is set up to protect them.
- I am pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Palmetto Pride Litter Crew Grant for \$21,100. We will be utilizing our public works crews to remove litter several times each month all over the city. We will also be clearing several dump sites in town. We hope to also hear from the Palmetto Pride Prevention Grant in the middle of this month. We will continue our Make a Difference Campaigns but using different days to try and increase our volunteers.
- Make a Difference Monday was canceled for today.
- The Treasury's Final Rule for ARPA funds has been established and published. It does seem to broaden the scope a bit for the uses of the funds. We need to set up another meeting with the advisory group to look at our needs and how priorities should be established.

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Councilmember Still asked for a special prayer for Kaydence Chavis. Councilmember Bragg led in prayer.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
February 7, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, Public Works Director Philip Stanley, and Fire Chief Tony Dicks

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

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order, and Councilmember Brad All led in prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Ron Still made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alicia Davis. Mayor Rivera stated that he did not approve item 11. The motion passed 6 to 1 with Mayor Rivera opposed.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-1 IN MEMORY OF JOE GAINES SR.

Mayor Rivera read the resolution. Councilmember Ron Still made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-1 In Memory of Joseph Gaines Sr. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kinlaw and unanimously approved. A signed copy of the resolution will be given to the family.

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BARNWELL POLICE OFFICERS OATH OF OFFICE; ANGEL MIRANDA, DAVID GREENE, NAJAJUAN STEWART, BERTRAND T. BROWN-TIMMONS

City Attorney Thomas Boulware administered the oath to the new police officers.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

BSD 45 Transportation Department was recognized for the Month of February.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bobby Smith stated that he was speaking on behalf of his mother who lives on Main Street. She has been having some problems with her yard debris not being picked up. It has not been picked up in five weeks. It was finally picked up after Administrator McEwen called the sanitation company. He would like for the City to be a little more lenient with the senior citizens.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL MATTERS (1) LEGAL ADVICE ON APPEAL OF THE BZA DECISION (2) LEGAL ADVICE ON THE STEVENSON VS. CITY OF BARNWELL CASE

Mayor Rivera said he would recuse himself from the discussion of legal advice on appeal of the BZA decision. Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session. Councilmember Still made a motion to accept the City Attorney's recommendation to settle litigation. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND RECONSIDERATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Rivera stated that on February 3 he received an email with the agenda and specifically asked that this agenda item be removed but that he would be open to general conversation pertaining to the matter. Administrator McEwen kept the item on the agenda because five councilmembers excluding Councilmember Davis wanted it to remain on the agenda. Mayor Rivera read Barnwell City Code Section 2-5, Oath of Office. He stated that as the Mayor for the City of Barnwell he has always operated fairly and without merit. He has been empowered in his role as Mayor to appoint individuals as needed and as he sees fit. He has appointed councilmembers to County committees and other committees. These appointments did not have to be councilmembers. They could have been citizens from the community. Nowhere in the ordinances does it state that an individual must reside or live in the City of Barnwell. However, he carefully took that into consideration and strategically gathered what he felt was the best group of professionals to help with this initiative. Barnwell City Code Section 2.55 Council Committees states that the Mayor is further authorized to appoint special committees to be made up of persons within or without the city government as in his judgement may be needed. If you look at the agenda, it is important for each of you to understand what is legal for your roles on Council and to know your ordinances. The agenda clearly states discussion and reconsideration of advisory committee appointments. The Mayor read Section 2-60 Motion to Reconsider. The Mayor stated that unless one of you feel you are above and beyond the law, or for some biased or implicit biased reason feel the Mayor is inferior and should have to answer to you regardless of the powers that have been invested in me, please speak now but only if the above mentioned applies to you. Councilmember Still said he was going to comment but not because he felt he was above or beneath the Mayor. He stated that at the January meeting a citizens advisory committee was formed by the Mayor. He is not against such a committee, but he does not feel that the committee was formed with careful consideration of how the Council, or the citizens of Barnwell would feel about this committee, or any committee being created the way this

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committee was formed. He feels that the committee was not formed with the best interests of the citizens of Barnwell in mind. Councilmember Still made a motion that Council reconsider the Mayor's Advisory Committee and that the Mayor's Advisory Committee and appointments be repealed until such time a committee, if needed, can be created with the input from the Council elected by the citizens of Barnwell. Councilmember Still said he feels that the appointment of this committee was beyond the scope of Barnwell City Code Sec 2-55(d). The committee formation was not on the agenda for the January meeting. When the Mayor made his committee, Council was not briefed on appointments or roles of the committee or reasons for the committee except to advise on projects. Council now learns that the committee is in the name of the City Council with no approval by City Council. The proposed committee has been granted authority not approved by Council by an advisory committee not approved by this Council. Many committee members are not residents of the City or own businesses within the City. He feels that without Council's approval any committee appointment by the Mayor must be solely in the name of the Mayor and not in the name of the City. The City has a council form of government, and nothing can be done in the name of the City without a vote by Council. There are community concerns, and this Council should be the conduit to the people that elected them. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg. During discussion Mayor Rivera stated that Barnwell City Code Section 2-60 Motion to Reconsider does not apply because no vote was taken at the January meeting. Councilmember Bragg stated that his concern was that public comment is only for citizens or business owners but some of the members of the committee are neither. Councilman Still stated that Mayor Rivera sent out an email to Council that addressed the committee's roles and expectations. The word citizens is referred to several times while several members placed on the committee are not citizens of Barnwell. The document also refers to the Mayor and Council numerous times, which directly ties Council to the advisory committee not just the Mayor but no one on this Council had anything to do with organizing, choosing members, or any other input into forming this committee. More discussion followed with Council members voicing their concerns and the Mayor addressing the concerns. Councilmember Still asked to vote on the motion. Mayor Rivera said he did not think there was anything to vote on. Mayor Rivera asked City Attorney Boulware to verify that the motion made to reconsider is parliamentary and a good motion. Attorney Boulware stated that there hasn't been a vote taken that could be reconsidered and therefore, Roberts Rules of Order requiring a motion to reconsider would be improper. He stated that there was a motion and a second on the floor and a vote needed to be taken. Mayor Rivera asked Attorney Boulware if he was saying that it was a good motion to make without modifying the ordinance that was currently in place. Attorney Boulware stated he was. The motion passed 5 to 2, with Mayor Rivera and Councilmember Davis voting against the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember All) – Councilman All stated that people have a problem, they can call City Hall at 803-259-3266 during business hours and after business hours they can call dispatch at 803-541-1080.

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Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Davis) – Basketball games started last weekend with approximately 100 players and 15 cheerleaders. Two interviews for the Director position are scheduled for this week. Once those are complete, we will let Council know when and if we need to schedule a full council interview.

Police (Councilmember Moody) – Police Chief Robinson updated Council on activity for January.

Fire (Councilmember Bragg) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for activity for January.

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

Building and Planning (Councilmember Still) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- We had a conversation with S&S Disposal last week concerning trash pick-up and yard debris pick up. Yard debris has been a major issue, especially since we have had some severe storms. They have been trying to get caught up on this. Citizens need to understand that only normal yard debris is picked up – trees are not part of normal yard debris. These should be hauled away by the homeowner. Trash disposal is by the cart. If trash from the household will not fit into the cart, then it should be held until the following week. If this is a consistency with a household, then the customer should add another cart at an additional fee per month. Do not place extra trash on top of or beside a cart. If a cart is overflowing, it may not get dumped at all. Carts must be placed out by the road the night before the pick- up day. There is no set pick up time for any day of trash or yard debris pick up. Routes are driven in specific sequences by the drivers. A tracker is used to see where and when the drivers were. If you have any issues, you need to call City Hall.
- The City of Barnwell has received two grants from Palmetto Pride this year. We will use the Palmetto Pride Prevention Grant to place ads in the paper and on the radio for education and awareness about litter. We have received \$21,100 for the Palmetto Pride Litter Crew Grant to assist us in continuing our efforts to clean up Barnwell. We have already removed over 6 tons of materials from area dumpsite and cleaned up Clinton Street and filled over 40 bags of trash.

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- Make a Difference Day will continue beginning in March with special days chosen each month for volunteer clean ups.
- There was a preconstruction meeting last week with AECOM and Harper Construction for the new well project. Construction will begin March 1st with completion in May 2023.
- ARPA funds – The Treasury’s Final Rule for these funds has been established and published. I am working on a priority list of needs and the costs of those for funding. I will be going over these priorities with the Department Heads and send out the list to the Council and ARPA committee to get their thoughts before a set meeting.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 7, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw

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

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

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved

STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

None

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Barbara Christian was concerned about animal control. Since the retirement of Officer Drayton Gantt, she was informed that there would no longer be an animal control officer. Officers that were on duty would perform this function. She said that she also volunteered for the animal shelter, so she knew the amount of work Officer Gantt did. She had several questions about the feasibility of this and if all the officers would be trained in this area. Councilmember Moody asked Ms. Christian to give him her list of concerns and he would have the Police Chief address them. Ms. Christian also said she was on the Sundial Festival committee. The festival will be held this Saturday, March 12th, on the Circle from 9:00 to 3:00. There will be over 60 vendors and activities planned throughout the day, including an Easter egg hunt for the children.

Mr. Stephen Hunter said he was a new resident to the City. He wanted to know how the public could find out what is on the agenda for Council meetings. Administrator McEwen informed him that the agenda is posted in City Hall and on the City website the Thursday or Friday before the Monday meeting. He said he was very excited about being asked to be on the Mayor's advisory committee but was taken back about the subject at the last Council meeting. He felt that the disagreement was all about one word and wished that the elected officials would have worked it out before the meeting.

REQUEST FROM HEALING PARTNERS ON THE FARMER'S MARKET

Ms. Pam Rush and Ms. Dawn Snead came before Council to request a collaboration between the City and Barnwell County Healing Partners in the operation of the farmer's market. Ms. Rush explained that Healing Partners began in 2012 as Eat Smart, Move More. In 2019 they received funding from Duke endowment to improve access to healthy foods and improve opportunity for safe and active play. This funding has been approved for another three years. They worked with the City in the past to create the farmers market and funded the manager for the first two years. The City then took over funding. There has not been a manager for the last few years and basically there is only one farmer. They presented a Healing Partners Farmers Market Enhancement Plan. They would like to reenergize the market by funding the manager for this season. They would also like to do demonstrations on how to prepare foods found at the market. Discussion followed. Councilmember Moody raised a question about the days and times. The hours had to be set times, but Ms. Snead said the hours of operation could be changed to what was most beneficial to the vendors. Councilmember Still raised a concern about the safety of getting out of the Fuller Park parking lot into traffic. Administrator McEwen said she could talk to SCDOT about possible solutions. The City could also add some caution signs during market times. Councilmember Still also asked what they would be looking at for next year. Next year they would like the funding to be split 50-50 between the City and Healing Partners, possibly

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\$4,500 from the City. Councilmember Davis made a motion to accept the proposal to collaborate with Healing Partners for the farmer's market. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All. The motion passed unanimously with Mayor Rivera recusing himself from the vote because he is a member of Healing Partners.

REQUEST FOR REDUCTION IN CONTRACT FOR THE BBSA FOR 2022

Mr. Brad Whitehead, BBSA Vice President of Baseball, provided Council with the BBSA 2021 financial information. He was requesting a reduction in the City's proposed fee \$5,500 for use of the LPSC. The opening ceremony would be held March 28th and the season should run through May 20th. All Stars will start in June. They would like to see netting put up for foul balls in the quadraplex and along Hagood Ave. Mr. Whitehead explained their expenses and funding sources in detail. He would like to see a reduction in the fee and have the fee set for more than one year. Discussion followed. Councilmember Bragg had to leave the meeting due to an emergency. Councilmember Still made a motion to reduce the contract price for BBSA use of the LPSC to \$4,000 a year for the next three years with the option of them returning to Council if their funding situation changes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-01 AMENDING SECTION 2-55 OF THE BARNWELL CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Councilmember Moody made a motion to table since Councilmember Bragg requested this, and he had to leave because of an emergency. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

Attorney Boulware asked to be excused due to a prior commitment.

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DISCUSSION ON THE CITY'S HEALTH PLAN

There had been discussion and questions about the possibility of changing the City's Health Plan from BCBS to PEBA. Administrator McEwen gave Council an update on the results of a survey given to employees about the existing health plan. Preliminary information has been received from PEBA but there are still many questions that need to be answered. Administrator McEwen's recommendation is to wait for more information. If we wait until January to change plans, employees will not lose the amount they have already contributed to their deductible. This will also allow time to get the July rate increases for BCBS and any rate increases for PEBA. Discussion followed. It was decided that this needed to be looked into but wait for the additional information needed to make an informed decision.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember All) – Director Philip Stanley informed Council that he had purchased a 20' trailer for the WWTP to help haul off sludge.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw) – The County transportation committee has agreed to have Byrd St repaved by next spring.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Davis) – Councilmember Davis stated that basketball season has ended. She wanted to thank everyone for their participation and for all of the volunteers. The lights keep getting left on at the basketball court at Fuller Park. Mayor Rivera said that effective tomorrow the court would be closed for two days. If the players continue to leave the lights on, they will be shut down for a week.

Police (Councilmember Moody) – Police Chief Robinson stated that his department only had \$500 budgeted for community events and most of it has already been used. They are going to have a community event in April. Councilmember Moody asked the Chief to let them know how much was needed to fund these events. The Chief also updated Council with police activity for the month.

Fire (Councilmember Bragg) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for activity for the month.

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

Building and Planning (Councilmember Still) – No Report

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ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Make a Difference day will be Saturday, March 26th, from 8 to 12.
- An ARPA meeting has been scheduled for this Thursday for Council and the ARPA committee members.
- An item on the County agenda has the County taking over Main St from Jefferson St to Jackson St. SCDOT said it was the City's, but we have no record of it and the City has never owned any streets. The County will take it over so they can get it paved and striped.
- The Sundial Festival will be held this weekend.

Councilmember Moody asked when the splash pad would be open. Administrator McEwen said it was scheduled to be open May 1st but if the weather continues to be warm, it could be opened earlier.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (1) DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (2) PERSONNEL-PARKS & RECREATION HIRING DISCUSSION

Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

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
March 10, 2022 – 6:00PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw and Councilmember Moody

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

The press was notified but no one was present.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mr. David Dangerfield led in prayer.

EXPLANATION OF USES OF ARPA FUNDS

Administrator McEwen explained that Treasury's final rule has given a lot more leeway in the allowable uses for these funds. Municipalities can automatically use up to \$10,000,000 for lost revenue in the general fund. Since the City's award is only \$2,136,248, it can all be used for this. This will give the City the opportunity to purchase items that are needed but funds were not available.

DISCUSSION OF IDEAS FOR THE ARPA FUNDS

Administrator McEwen presented a list of priorities from department heads for the funds. Items were classified as safety, vehicles, equipment upgrades, and general public. A discussion of the items followed.

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The ARPA committee members present were asked for their ideas from the public viewpoint. Ms. Emily Coble said she thinks tearing down the old sheriff's building at Fuller Park is a wonderful idea. It is a safety hazard. She also likes making wi-fi available at the parks. Ms. Shelby Broomfield said other uses of funds could be used for public health and economic impact for small businesses or nonprofits. Administrator McEwen said there is an option that can be looked at for a matching grant to help the downtown businesses fix up their facades. Mr. David Dangerfield said that since the County and all the municipalities received their own money, he would like to have the City reach out to them for opportunities to combine resources and work together. Economic development and infrastructure are very important. Discussion followed.

**DECISION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH ARPA FUNDING WITH COUNCIL
APPROVAL**

Administrator McEwen said that all ideas are welcome at any time, but this will be the last official ARPA meeting with community committee members. Council will approve the use of these funds.

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
March 14, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting for a Business License Hearing with Councilmember Moody presiding.

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Marcus Rivera and Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw

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

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF HEARING

City Attorney Thomas Boulware stated that in the absence of the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tem, Council needs to elect a member to chair the hearing. Councilmember Davis nominated Councilman Moody. There were no other nominations. Councilmember Still made a motion to elect Councilmember Moody to chair this hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved. Councilmember Moody will be the presiding officer of the hearing.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Councilmember Moody called the meeting to order. Councilmember Still led in prayer.

CONDUCT OF HEARING

Councilmember Moody called to order the hearing by the City Council on the revocation of the business license of the business High Maintenance Stylez located at 1072 Meadow Lane in the City of Barnwell. This hearing is part of the procedure for suspension and revocation of a business license under Sections 16 and 17 of the City Business License Ordinance.

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Councilmember Moody then read Sections 16 and 17. Councilmembers, party representatives or attorneys, and witnesses were asked to identify themselves for the record.

The Administrator and Business License Official were represented by Attorney Danny Crowe, and the Licensee was represented by the Honorable Marcus Rivera who is the husband of the business owner and also serves as Mayor of the City. Because of his involvement in the hearing as the non-attorney representative and as the husband of the owner of the Licensee, the Mayor did not participate in the hearing as a member of Council. City Attorney Thomas Boulware represented the Council at the hearing. The License Official offered the sworn testimony of three witnesses: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Business License Official Kim Vargo, and neighborhood resident Debbie McEwen and also introduced exhibits. The Licensee and its representative did not offer any witnesses to testify under oath. However, the Licensee's representative was afforded the right to and did cross examine the witnesses presented by the Administrator and License Official and offered an exhibit and presented and cross examined from other documents. Both Attorney Crowe and Mayor Rivera also presented argument to the Council.

DECISION OF COUNCIL

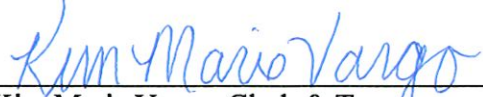
Councilmember Davis asked Administrator McEwen if there was an appeal in process. Administrator McEwen said there was. Councilmember Still made a motion to revoke the business license for High Maintenance Stylez. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All. The motion passed 4 to 1. Councilmembers All, Bragg, Moody and Still voted in favor of the motion. Councilmember Davis voted against the motion.

Attorney Crowe was asked by Council to prepare and submit to them the proposed written decision for the Council's consideration no later than April 4, 2022, the next regular meeting.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Still mad a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 22, 2022 – 5:00PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen and Attorney Tom Boulware

An agenda was sent to the Press but no one was present.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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


**EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONELL MATTERS: INTERVIEWS FOR THE PARKS,
RECREATION AND TOURISM DIRECTOR POSITION**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.
Council returned to regular session. No action was taken after returning from executive session.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Lynn S. McEwen, Administrator

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 29, 2022 – 5:00 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 Peggy Kinlaw and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: None

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

There press was notified but no members were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Davis led in prayer.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL-PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM
DIRECTOR**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

Councilmember Still stated that he believes that the entire process for hiring for this position has been fundamentally flawed. Since the position only had six applicants, he feels that they all should have been interviewed by the entire Council and not just the two selected by the recreation committee. If there were a large number of applicants, he could understand a committee only recommending the top eight to ten. Council not only has the authority to hire department heads but also the responsibility to hire the best possible candidate. Interviews with the entire Council would give Council the knowledge that they need to make a decision. This position is one of the most visible and interactive position in our community. A decision to hire should not be rushed into just because the position has been open for a while or because baseball

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March 29, 2022

or any other sport may be starting their season. To deny a councilmember or to deny Council the right to interview a candidate if they choose to do so is not acceptable by me and violates my obligation to my constituents. So, until all the applicants have been brought before the entire Council, and I feel I have all the information necessary to make a competent decision, I will be a "No" vote. If this is how we are going to conduct business in the future, then I am going to ask Council to adopt a policy to conduct interviews for future department heads.

Mayor Rivera stated that the process and protocol used has been followed in the hiring of the department head and as far as the committee was concerned has been the process since before he was Mayor.

Mayor Rivera asked for a motion to select Candidate A. There was no motion.

Councilmember Davis made a motion to select Candidate B. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rivera. The motion failed 5 to 2. Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and Councilmembers All, Bragg, Moody, and Still voting against the motion. Mayor Rivera and Councilmember Davis voted for the motion.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA
MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
April 4, 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met for a City Council Hearing with Chairman Moody presiding immediately followed by its Regular Session with Mayor Rivera presiding.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

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

CALL TO ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL HEARING

Chairman Moody called the hearing to order. Councilmember All led in prayer. Chairman Moody explained the reason for the hearing was to consider the proposed order submitted by Attorney Crowe for the revocation of business license. Chairman Moody asked if there were any questions from Council. There were none. Mayor Rivera did not attend the hearing.

APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF THE ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL'S HEARING
VOTE ON MARCH 14, 2022 TO RESCIND BUSINESS LICENSE #220321

Councilmember Ron Still made a motion to approve the order of revocation and authorize its execution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All. There was no discussion. The motion passed 4 to 1. Councilmembers All, Bragg, Moody, and Still voted for the motion and

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Councilmember Davis voted against the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw abstained because she did not attend the March 14, 2022 hearing.

ADJOURN

Chairman Moody adjourned the City Council Hearing.

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

The Barnwell Development Association was recognized as the organization of the month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phyllis Rhody – Ms. Rhody wants to start a neighborhood watch and provided Council with a flyer. She also asked Administrator McEwen about the signs, abandoned buildings, and furniture left on Calhoun St. Administrator McEwen said the City has been working on these issues.

Debra Coleman – Ms. Coleman is concerned about the parking around the Circle. She stated that Administrator McEwen had notified the business that two spaces beside Carol's Florist will be removed. Ms. Coleman stated that there is not enough parking to accommodate the downtown businesses. She would like for Council to consider reassessing the parking on the Circle.

Barbara Christian – Ms. Christian stated that she still had questions about the Animal Control Officer. Ms. Christian stated that she had addressed her concerns with Chief Robinson, but he

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2022

has not responded to all of them. Mayor Rivera asked Councilmember Moody to set up a meeting with Chief Robinson to address these issues.

Mayor Rivera asked Councilmember Still to address the parking issues on the Circle.

**PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL FY 2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT
(McGREGOR & COMPANY)**

Mr. James McGuire with McGregor & Company could not attend the meeting, so this item was postponed.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY
COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2022, CITY COUNCIL HEARING

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022, City Council hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 22, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY
COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 29, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-02, RECOGNIZING APRIL 2022 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Administrator McEwen read the resolution. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 Recognizing April 2022 as Fair Housing Month. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF A MOTION TO TAKE OFF THE TABLE THE MOTION TO TABLE THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-01

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the motion to take off the table the motion to table the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-01 – AMENDING SECTION 2-55 OF THE BARNWELL CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Administrator McEwen read the Ordinance. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 as read. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All. Discussion followed. Councilmember Davis asked how the committee for Parks, Recreation and Tourism under section (a) is different from Recreation under section (b). Administrator McEwen explained the committee for Parks, Recreation and Tourism is a Council committee while the Recreation committee is an ad hoc committee. Mayor Rivera stated that he does not have an issue with amending the ordinance, but he does not want Council to make a habit of amending ordinances because the ordinance does not cater to what an individual feels is right or wrong. He will support it because he is a team player, but he is not for changing ordinances because there is a matter of disagreement. Upon vote the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE ARPA QUOTED EXPENDITURES

Administrator McEwen gave Council a list of items that she had received quotes on that would be purchased with ARPA funds. Council reviewed the list. Some of the quotes will need to have

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tax and shipping added to them. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the ARPA quoted expenditures. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis) – Councilmember Davis stated that the baseball season is underway. The concessions stand is not open at this time, but we do have one food truck that will be out there. Administrator McEwen said the lights at Fuller Park basketball courts have been fixed. There is a timer there for citizens to turn the lights on for two hours. All they need to do is turn the knob again for an additional two hours. The splash pad is now up and operational.

Police (Councilmember Moody) – Chief Robinson updated Council on activity for March and the Hoops for Cops community event scheduled for April 30th.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for March activity which was read by Councilmember Bragg.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still) – Bids have been put out for taking down the old Sheriff's Department. The bids are due Tuesday, April 19th at 2:00pm and there will be a site meeting Monday, April 11th.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Due to several near misses of both cars and people at the location where Main Street comes into the Circle at Burr St., I have been working with SCDOT to correct the issue of a no parking zone on Main Street up to the first actual parking places. This has always been a no parking zone, but it was not repaved correctly when Main Street was paved last. We will have T&H Construction mark the area since they are working with SCDOT at this time and are already in the area.
- We had 6 volunteers for the March Make A Mad Difference last Saturday. 18 total hours, 17 bags totaling 368 lbs. Our Litter Crew grant workers have picked up 58 bags of

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trash, 1 chair, 1 couch, a large sign and 7 tires. They covered 3.75 miles. Another Volunteer Make a Difference Day will be scheduled in early May.

- Joey Zorn Well Project has begun with mobilization. We should see some activity out at the site by the end of April.
- Independence Day Celebration will be held Thursday, June 30th, from 6-10 pm at Veteran's Park.
- We need to purchase more garbage carts. We just purchased 250 in October, and we only have 5 available. The October purchase used up the budget. The cost has gone up and it will be close to \$20,000 for 250 carts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION; PERSONNEL- PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM
DIRECTOR POSITON

Councilmember Davis made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Council returned to regular session.

Councilmember Davis made a motion to keep the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Director position open until filled. 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
May 2, 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

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

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Davis led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

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STUDENT RECOGNITION

There was no student recognition, but Mayor Rivera recognized college graduate Marcus McKethan as the third football player from Barnwell to be drafted into the NFL.

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

New Jerusalem Day Care was recognized as the business of the month.

UPDATE FROM BARNWELL COUNTY FIRST STEPS ED

Ms. Tricia Gordon, Executive Director, updated Council on Barnwell County First Steps. They have been in Barnwell County since 1999 and are currently under the umbrella of Barnwell School District #45 and operate out of the old Presbyterian Church on Franklin St. They offer a variety of programs to families and partners to support the healthy development of children from birth through age five.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ben Kinlaw, Barnwell County Councilman, said on April 22nd they launched Keep Barnwell County Beautiful. He wanted to commend City Administrator Lynn McEwen for her work with getting grants from Palmetto Pride for the City. The goal is to beautify the County through education, enforcement, and engagement. Southern Carolina Alliance applied for and received a two-year grant, and their beautification coordinator is working with County Council. The County would like someone from each of the municipalities to sit on a committee. It does not have to be a member of Council.

Ms. Barbara Christian informed Council that the date for the Sundial Festival has been changed due to the weather. It will be held on the Circle, October 3rd from 9am-3pm. They are looking for sponsors.

APPROVAL OF THE EMPLOYEE INSURANCE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

Mr. Sam Plexico, from Southeastern Insurance Consultants LLC, informed Council that there would be an 4.5% increase in medical coverage for the City's July 1, 2022, renewal with BCBS of SC. There is no rate increase for vision and dental. This has been the first rate increase in medical insurance since 2017. The plan is considered a Grandmothered Health Plan for the Affordable Care Act. Discussion followed about looking into the State Health Plan. There is a three-month lead time to switch to the State Health Plan. The BCBS plan is on a month-to-month basis. Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the BCBS insurance renewal for July 1,

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2022, with the City paying 100% of the increase. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved. A representative from PEBA will be contacted to get additional information about the State Health Plan.

PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL FY 2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Mr. Neal Crider of McGregor & Company presented the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021 financial statements. He referred to the independent auditor's report and informed Council that there were no reportable findings. The auditor's report presented a clean opinion, they found the financial statements were presently fairly in all material respects. He explained the difference in accounting for the business type activities-Water and Sewer Fund and governmental activities-all other funds. He reviewed the financial highlights for the year. The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$466,960. The Water & Sewer Fund had a decrease in net position of \$7,457. The net position in the Water and Sewer Fund includes deductions for depreciation and pension expenses. Mayor Rivera thanked Mr. Crider.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2022, SPECIAL HEARING AND REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022, special hearing and regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-01 – AMENDING SECTION 2-55 OF THE BARNWELL CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Councilmember Moody made a motion to read Ordinance 2022-01 by title only. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2022-01. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF DONATING THE INITIAL FILL UP FOR THE YMCA POOL

Councilmember Moody said that he is a member of the Barnwell County Council Recreation Committee. The opening date and ribbon cutting for the 150,000-gallon pool will be in June. The pool will be open free of charge. He is asking the City to donate the initial fill up for the pool at an estimated cost of \$313.00. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve donating

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2022

the initial fill up for the YMCA pool. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT HEAD HIRING PROCESS

Councilmember Still said that as they have been going through the hiring process for a new Recreation Director, he has seen flaws since there seems to be no consistency. He presented a detailed policy for hiring department heads that he would like Council to review. Discussion followed. Councilmember Davis said that there is currently a process in place. She would like the finance and salary committee to meet to compare the two processes. Councilmember Moody made a motion to table this item until it goes through the finance and salary committee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF CITY ATTORNEY'S DECLARATORY JUDGEMENT

Barnwell County is asking for ownership of the section of Main St between Jefferson St and Jackson St by a declaratory judgement. The County must own it to spend CTC funds on it for repaving and striping. SCDOT does not want to take responsibility of this road and the City also has never owned it. City Attorney Thomas Boulware said the City does not mind giving title to the County since we have no ownership, but the City needs some assurance that the street is going to be properly designed and maintained by the County. Attorney Boulware presented an answer from the City on the declaratory judgement. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the City Attorney's answer to the declaratory judgement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw) – Administrator McEwen informed Council that S&S Disposal will begin using an automated truck. The new truck has an arm that the driver controls. The arm picks up and empties the carts. Since the arm is only on one side of the truck this will require changes in the collection process. The citizens on many of the secondary streets will have to pull their carts to the opposite side of the street instead of placing them in front of their houses. Discussion followed about the problems that this new procedure will cause.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis) – No Report

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Police (Councilmember Moody) – Police Chief Robinson updated Council on monthly activity and the Hoops for Cops community event.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written monthly activity report which was read by Councilmember Bragg.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still) – Mayor Rivera said that there are too many blighted and delapidated buildings and the City has got to come up with a way to hold the owners accountable and to clean up these properties. Councilmember Still suggested a workshop to set up priorities.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Make a Difference Day will be this Friday from 10am to noon and 2pm to 4pm. Volunteers are asked to stop by City Hall to get instructions and pick up their supplies. She updated Council on the Litter Crew statistics for the month.
- The lot has been cleared for the Joey Zorn Well Project.
- The Stevenson case has been settled.
- A new bid request has been sent out for the asbestos abatement and demolition of the old sheriff's building. The bids are due Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 2pm.
- The Wall St Market will be the second Saturday of each month. The Farmers Market will begin June 9, 2022 at Fuller Park from 8am to noon. The Independence Day Celebration will be held Thursday, June 30, 2022 from 6pm to 10 pm at Veteran's Park.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONTRACTUAL

Councilmember Still made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to accept the short-term proposal with the County of Barnwell for Municipal Clerk of Court services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

May 16, 2022 – 5:00PM

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, and Attorney Tom Boulware

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL: INTERVIEWS FOR PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM DIRECTOR

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to do into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Moody and was unanimously approved. Council went into executive session.

Council returned to regular session. Councilmember Moody made a motion to offer the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director position to candidate A. The motion was seconded by Council Member Davis and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:


Lynn S. McEwen, Administrator

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

June 6, 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Ryan Bragg

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Public Works Director Philip Stanley, and Human Resource Director Sharon Gould

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

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Still led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2022

STUDENT RECOGNITION

There was no student recognition.

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

There was no business/organization recognition.

Mayor Rivera mentioned that Councilmember Davis and her group gave away two student scholarships recently.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Rick Holcomb came to address council about the speeding on Galilee Road. He also stated that the neighbors as well as himself were not pleased with the police response on the attempted home invasion in his neighborhood. He stated that the police should be “proactive” instead of “reactive.” He doesn’t see the police riding through the neighborhoods anymore. He also made a statement about police officers living away from Barnwell and gas prices being high. He wants to see more police presence.

Debra Coleman believes there is not enough parking in the downtown area. She asked that we look at the issue. Councilmember Still and Administrator McEwen have been looking into the situation. Administrator McEwen explained that there are certain spots in downtown that are busy at certain times, but not all the time. There is also parking in the back city parking lot behind Subway. We cannot take out areas where there are cross walks for parking.

Toni Hutchins lives on Huntington Drive and was the victim of the attempted home invasion. She was not pleased with the police officers’ response, and she also was a victim of a robbery at her ice cream shop. She is discouraged with the way some things were handled.

The Mayor thanked them for coming forward. Crime is not only in Barnwell. It is everywhere. He stated that he has faith in the police department that they are doing all that they can. Hear something, say something. The community has to speak out when they know something about crime.

Phyllis Rhodie wanted to get a follow up for the signs about litter and also reiterated that the police should patrol the neighborhoods more.

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UPDATE FROM BRIAN SOLHEIM, CASCADES BARNWELL PLANT MANAGER

Mr. Brian Solheim from Cascades gave a presentation and overview on their company. He is excited to be working with Barnwell to assist in any way to provide technical and operational solutions to the WWTP when needed. Cascades will be investing further in new equipment and training.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2022-3 A RESOLUTION RE-ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF BARNWELL AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LSR HOME CONSORTIUM FOR FY 2022-2025

Administrator McEwen read the Resolution. Councilmember Moody made a motion to accept the resolution. Councilmember Still seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2022-4 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE IN A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL & BUSINESS PARK

Administrator McEwen read the Resolution. Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to accept the resolution. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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APPROVAL OF A MOTION TO TAKE OFF THE TABLE, “THE MOTION TO TABLE” THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT HEAD HIRING PROCESS

Councilmember Moody made a motion to take off the table, the motion to table the approval of the hiring process. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED DEPARTMENT HEAD HIRING PROCESS

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the Department Head hiring process with additional amendments. There was discussion but no second was made. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the original Department Head hiring process provided in the packets by Administrator McEwen and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. The motion was approved 6 to 1 with Councilmember Still voting against the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE ARPA QUOTED EXPENDITURES

Administrator McEwen provided council with the latest quoted expenditure requests on previously approved projects for the ARPA funding. Quotes included were for 5 Flock Safety Cameras with a 4-year lease at \$55,000; for Wi-Fi to be located in the downtown Circle Area, Fuller Park and Lemon Park with 36-month upfront cost paid at \$60,000; and finally for cameras in these same park locations installed with a 36-month paid lease for \$25,000. A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember All. After some discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FLAG MEMORIAL PROGRAM

Administrator McEwen explained the proposed memorial flag program to the council. Flags will be ordered based on the information provided by families to remember Veterans who lived in Barnwell. This will begin with those who have already passed away (only going back to WWII). Depending on the numbers, we may open it up in the summer for those who are still living. Later we will move into honoring those who are still serving now. Flags will be \$75 each and will hung by the city in the downtown area. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the flag memorial program. Mayor Rivera requested that there be good advertisement of this so that people will know about it. Councilmember Still seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S UPDATE TO COMMITTEES

Mayor Rivera updated the Committees for Council with some additions. The following are the complete Council Committees:

Water and Sewer: Councilmember Brad All and Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw
Sanitation and Streets: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw and Councilmember Ron Still
Parks, Recreation and Tourism: Councilmembers Alicia Davis and Jimbo Moody
Police: Councilmembers Jimbo Moody and Brad All
Fire: Councilmembers Ryan Bragg, Ron Still and Mayor Marcus Rivera
Finance & Salary: Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis
Building and Planning: Councilmembers Ron Still and Ryan Bragg

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report except that we do have new trash cans available. Councilmember Still mentioned that there may be some more complaints on the trash service and the new trash truck.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Football, Cheer and Volleyball registration is still going on. Kevin Roberts, our new director will be here and is very excited to come to Barnwell. Councilmember Moody gave compliments to our Parks and Recreation employees for working hard. Mayor Rivera stated that our parks were filled to capacity this weekend in Barnwell. It was very exciting.

Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Police Chief Robinson updated Council on monthly activity. They have partnered with Save the Children to bring a Cooling with Cops event at Fuller Park with a movie. The Community Service policing bridges the gap between law enforcement and community. The citizens are the eyes and ears of the police department, and we depend on their assistance to solve crime.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written monthly activity report which was read by Councilmember Still.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – No Report

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2022

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Litter Crew picked up 23 bags of trash & 3 tires during May. We had fewer days of pick up because the street dept had to put new trash carts together. I am working on meeting with a couple of college students/adults interested in working this summer to help us with clean ups.
- Joey Zorn Well Project has begun with clearing the lot.
- The Old Sheriff's Building asbestos abatement and demo bids are due on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 2 pm.
- Tony and I will be meeting with LSCOG to go over grant opportunities from CDBG for a firetruck/ladder truck on Wednesday, June 8 at 10 am.
- Look for the Wall Street Markets on the second Saturday of the month, they will skip June and July. Look for them in August.
- Farmer's Market will begin Tuesday morning at 8, June 7 at Fuller Park. Tuesday and Thursdays from 8-noon.
- Independence Day Celebration will be held Thursday, June 30, from 6-10 pm at Veteran's Park.
- The city budget workshops are scheduled for June 27 and 28. I will prepare agendas for each for budget discussions. Department Directors have been invited. I have asked them to let me know if they want to discuss with their committees before the workshop. I will let you know if we need to set up meetings.
- There is a meeting set up with Cascades at their offices on Thursday, 9:30 am. Our Philip (Director) along with Marcus Wilson – operator in charge, Bryan Black from AECOM, myself and Cascades will be meeting.
- Kim and I will be updating insurance information and checking on the State insurance program beginning next week.

Mayor Rivera also announced that there would be a prom for the gifted and challenged held June 9 from 6-9 pm at the Armory.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LEGAL OPINION

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

Council returned to regular session.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2022

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and BUDGET WORKSHOP of
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL**

June 27, 2022 – 5:00 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, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo and City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Lamar Robinson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Kevin Roberts

The press was notified but no members were present.

CALL TO ORDER SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Davis led in prayer.

**APPROVAL OF LOW BID FOR THE ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION
OF THE OLD SHERIFF'S BUILDING**

The low bid for the project was from QC&D Enterprises of Chapin, South Carolina, in the amount of \$59,985. Administrator McEwen stated that the City has received all the required documentation from the company and their references have been checked. Councilmember Still made a motion to accept the bid from QC&D Enterprises. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. The City Administrator is authorized to sign the notice to proceed.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Still made a motion to adjourn this portion of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 27, 2022

CALL TO ORDER OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Rivera called the budget workshop to order.

DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL FUNDS & GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2023

City Administrator McEwen and Clerk & Treasurer Vargo reviewed preliminary budget information for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, for the Local Accommodation Tax Fund, Local Hospitality Tax Fund, and General Fund except for the street department. A tax increase of 4.1 mills was discussed. This would bring in additional revenues of approximately \$52,000. Increases in expenditures were discussed. Purchases of new vehicles were not included in the budget but needed to be looked at. Councilmember Still said he would also like to begin a fund for delapidated buildings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL-SALARY

Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

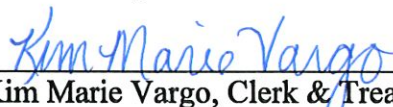
Council returned to regular session.

Councilmember Davis made a motion to accept the recommendation of the City Administrator for the advancement of Employee A. 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 BUDGET WORKSHOP of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 28, 2022 – 5:00 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, and Councilmembers Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw and Councilmember Brad All

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

The press was notified but no members were present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Administrator McEwen went over ARPA quoted expenditures.

**DISCUSSION OF WATER & SEWER FUND & STREET DEPARTMENT BUDGET
FOR FY 2023**

City Administrator McEwen and Clerk & Treasurer Vargo reviewed preliminary budget information for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, for the Water & Sewer Fund and the Street Department in the General Fund. There were no anticipated increases in water and sewer rates even though revenues were down. Increases in operational expenditures were discussed. Possible capital expenditures for street sweeper, fire truck, police vehicles, fire station, and demolition fund were also discussed.

Mayor Rivera had to leave early so Councilmember Moody took over as facilitator.

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June 28, 2022

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL-SALARY


Councilmember Still made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Still made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

July 11 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Marcus Rivera

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

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

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw called the meeting to order. Councilmember Davis led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Isaiah Williams former Barnwell High School student was recognized.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2022

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

Michael Hiers with G&M Farms & Processing was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilmember Ron Still gave Council some information from Barbara Christian who could not attend the meeting. She is still concerned that there is not a full-time animal control officer since Officer Gantt retired and feels that there has been a number of unanswered calls.

PRESENTATION FROM ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT

Mr. Kris Whiteside with Enterprise Fleet Management presented information about their fleet management program. He provided a fleet planning analysis and how much could be saved by going with this program. Some of the information given was industry averages. He said this program is more like a financing lease than a dealership lease. Their interest rate is based on the three-year T bill and is currently between 5% and 6%.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28, 2022, BUDGET WORKSHOP

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2022

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-2 REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 32-139 WITH A NEW GREASE CONTROL PROGRAM

Councilmember Moody made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Still made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2022-2. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Ms. McEwen said that there will be a public hearing for this before the second reading and the proposed ordinance is available for public view.

APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE FIRE STATION

Administrator McEwen asked Council for approval to move forward to request proposals for the renovation of the fire station. This process was approved by Council in 2021 but put on hold to see if additional funding was going to be received. The fire committee, building committee, Administrator, and Fire Chief had a meeting. They feel that we need to move forward with renovation plans with current funding and plans for new construction when additional funds are available. They are requesting permission to move forward with RFQ's from Construction Managers. Councilmember Still made a motion to move forward with the RFQ's for the renovations of the fire station. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Recreation Director Kevin Roberts said they are currently working on getting the parks in order. There have been 5 to 6 vendors each week at the farmer's market with attendance around 200 people. They are currently taking registration for football, volleyball, and cheerleading.

Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Police Chief Robinson updated Council on monthly activity. He addressed Ms. Christian's complaint about unanswered animal calls. He assured Council that an officer responds to every call that comes through dispatch. It may not have the solution that citizens want but they are all answered. National Night Out along with the Back-to-School Rally will be held August 2nd at Fuller Park from 5:30 to 8:00. This is a free community event.

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Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written monthly activity report. He will be getting input from volunteers and the career staff about renovations.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – No Report


ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- They are running the test well for the Joey Zorn Well Project.
- The Old Sheriff's Building asbestos abatement and demolition will begin July 19th.
- We have only received 4 veteran honor flags applications. It will be in the paper and on Facebook to get more interest.
- Wants to remind residents that the disposal company only picks up normal weekly yard debris. Trees, even if they are cut up, and large bushes are yard renovation and not normal weekly yard debris. These should be removed by the homeowner and will not be picked up by the disposal company. Trash should not be placed on top or on the side of the green carts. Only household trash is picked up. Furniture and demolition debris will not be picked up. White good will be picked up on the last Wednesday of each month.
- Everything has been signed off for the County to take ownership of the portion of Main St between Washington St and Jackson St. They will be using C Funds to get this section paved.
- The first reading of the budget will be August 1st. We will schedule a special called meeting on August 29th for the second reading. Other special called meetings will be scheduled if necessary.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Still and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
July 26, 2022 – 5:00PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

Barnwell City Council met in Special Called Meeting with Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw presiding.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Marcus Rivera

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Attorney Tom Boulware, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Police Captain Mark Howard, and Public Works Director Philip Stanley

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw called the meeting to order. Councilmember Still led in prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE GIRLS' SOFTBALL TEAM
TRAVEL**

Councilmember Still said he wanted this placed on the agenda for Council to consider giving more money to the girls' softball team that will be going to Nationals. The City has already given \$300 in platinum sponsorship. He has since found out that they have reached their goal. Upon their return, he would like to present them with a resolution and have a plaque installed for them at the Lemon Park Sports Complex. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to get a plaque for the girls' softball team and have in installed at the LPSC. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2022

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF CAPITAL EXPENSE NEEDS

City Administrator Lynn McEwen provided an option for buying or leasing vehicles. Use ARPA funds to purchase 3 new police vehicles-\$150,000 and one new vehicle for administration-\$30,000. Use hospitality tax savings to purchase a new maintenance vehicle for the LPSC. We are still looking at applying for a CDBG grant for a pumper truck. She suggested that we earmark \$1,000,000 of the ARPA funds to add to the \$350,000 toward renovation the fire station. If cost estimates are over the \$1,350,000 use savings or pass a GO bond. The price of a street sweeper has gone up over \$100,000 so she suggests we hold off on this purchase. These items will not affect the upcoming budget unless we want to purchase the vehicles with a capital lease or use the Enterprise lease fleet program.

Councilmember Still said he has talked to five agencies that are on the Enterprise lease program that was brought up at the last council meeting. He only heard good things about the program. He said we might want to look into the program if only for a few vehicles. Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo stated that the program presented has several options-gas, maintenance, etc. that the City wasn't interested in. If the only thing the City is going to use the program for is to finance the purchase of vehicles, the city can get a lower interest rate from a capital lease purchase agreement through a bank than the rate offered by Enterprise. Discussion followed. This was taken as information to be decided on at a later date.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE NEED FOR AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Administrator McEwen explained that Officer Gantt who retired as the animal control officer also had other duties. The call volume for these issues does not seem to warrant a full-time animal control officer. Councilmember Moody made a motion to hire an animal control officer. He wants them to be a certified officer that can also do code enforcement and other duties but focus on animal control. There is a position currently vacant in the police department. The motion was seconded by Councilmen Still. Police Captain Mark Howard was asked to give his opinion. He stated that the vacant position in the police department was for a road officer. If this position was filled with a daytime animal control officer, the City would be taking an officer off shift work. There are only 2 road officers working per shift. His request was that the animal control officer be an additional position. Discussion followed. Another problem with animal control is the current ordinances regarding animal control. They need to be looked at and revised. Councilmember Moody modified his motion to make this an additional position in the police department. Councilmember Still seconded the motion. Ms. Vargo said that the personnel costs of adding a new position could be up to \$66,000. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

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July 26, 2022

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (1) CONTRACTUAL (2) PERSONNEL: SALARIES FOR FY 23
AND (3) PERSONNEL: TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEE**


Councilmember Moody made a motion to do into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and was unanimously approved. Council went into executive session.

Council returned to regular session.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Moody made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

August 1, 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and Recreation Director Kevin Roberts

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

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2022

STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Barbara Christian thanked Council for their decision to hire an animal control officer. She would like the police to be more proactive instead of reactive.

Ms. Phyllis Rhodie wanted a follow up on the anti-litter signs. Administrator McEwen said they had been ordered and should be in at any time.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 7, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 26, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE PROPERTY FROM BARNWELL COUNTY/BARNWELL COUNTY EDC FOR THE FUTURE WATER TANK

Administrator McEwen said the property at the corner of Barwick Rd and Dunbarton Blvd is an ideal location for the new water tank that will have to be built in the near future. She has been working with Tommy Boyleston from the EDC for the purchase of the property. Barnwell County Council will have to approve it. Attorney Boulware said it would also be subject to title approval. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the purchase of the land from the

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
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EDC for the future water tank. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-03 TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A
BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL SC FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-3. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE ARPA FUNDING NEEDS

Administrator McEwen requested to use ARPA funds to purchase three vehicles for the police department and one vehicle for administration. The estimated funds needed would be \$150,000 for police and \$30,000 for administration. Ms. McEwen said that a fourth police vehicle was also available for purchase and would add an additional \$50,000. Police Chief Robinson said the department is actually in need of five vehicles. Three vehicles are currently in the shop with costly repairs and two have high mileage. The lead time for receiving vehicles after ordering them is uncertain. These police vehicles will be available because another entity had already ordered them and no longer needs them. Discussion followed. Councilmember Moody made a motion to purchase four vehicles for the police department and one vehicle for administration using ARPA funds estimated at \$230,000. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Recreation Director Kevin Roberts gave an update on fall sports registration. There will be after hours registration from 5:00 to 7:00 pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

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Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Police Chief Robinson gave an update on monthly activity. National Night Out will be held tomorrow night, August 2nd, at Fuller Park from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. This event is sponsored by the police department and SC Regional Housing Authority to promote a partnership between the community and law enforcement. Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written monthly activity report.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – Councilmember Still said abatement of asbestos at the old sheriffs building has been completed and the building has been torn down. The area has been barricaded and clean up should be completed in the next week.

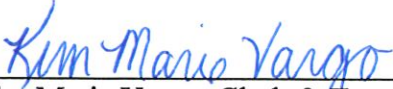
ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Gave an update on the Joey Zorn Well Project.
- Boring for the conduit at Lemon Park and Fuller Park for the Wi Fi and cameras will begin this week.
- Website update is being developed. City council chambers renovations will take longer than anticipated due to equipment being on back ordered.
- Deadline to order veteran flags is September 1st
- Wall Street Market will be held August 13th and September 10th
- There will be a community clean up on Saturday, August 20th, from 7 to 10 am, a community public meeting with LSCOG for a needs assessment for a fire truck on Monday, August 8th, at 5:30 pm and a special called council meeting on Monday, August 29th, at 5:30 for a public hearing on both the FYE 2023 budget and the new grease control program and the second reading for both of the ordinances.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
August 29, 2022 – 5:30 PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, James Moody and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember Alicia Davis

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

The press was notified but no one was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Bragg led in prayer.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2022-02 TO REPEAL AND REPLACE SECTION 32-139 WITH A NEW SECTION 32-139 GREASE CONTROL PROGRAM

Mayor Rivera asked if anyone would like to speak. There was no one present, and the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2022-03 TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL SC FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Mayor Rivera asked if anyone would like to speak. There was no one present, and the public hearing was closed.

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SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-02 TO REPEAL AND REPLACE SECTION 32-139 WITH A NEW SECTION 32-139 GREASE CONTROL PROGRAM

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Still made a motion to accept the second and final reading of Ordinance 2022-2. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-03 TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL SC FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember All made a motion to accept the second and final reading of Ordinance 2022-3. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL SECTION 30-4-70 (a)(5)

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Council went into executive session.

Council returned to regular session.

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to support the application for a grant for the proposed industrial development project. The motion was seconded Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 6, 2022 – 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, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, Council Member Alicia Davis

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

County Council Member Daniel Alexander was present. The press was notified but no members were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember All led in prayer.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL UPDATE [Section 30-4-70
(a)(5)]**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

Councilmember All made a motion that the City of Barnwell agrees to be the applicant for the Industrial Development Project and requests counsel to seek advice on the development if the grant application is approved. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Lynn S. McEwen, Administrator

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CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 12, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, and Recreation Director Kevin Roberts

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

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Davis led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

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STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Toni Hutchins said that she was the Board Chair for the Barnwell County Animal Shelter. She offered her services to help with input into updating animal control ordinances.

Ms. Debra Coleman expressed her concerns again about the services provided by S&S Disposal. Yard debris in her neighborhood is not being picked up. She has seen other areas in the City where yard debris has been left for weeks.

Ms. Angela Williams said that her father lives on Derry Lane and there is a vacant house near him that is a nuisance. The house has no water or electricity hooked up, yet there is a steady stream of different people coming and going from the house. The neighbors are concerned. Administrator McEwen said that the City is aware of the situation and is trying to address the problem.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-05, A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE DIXIE YOUTH ANGELS SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES RUNNERS UP

Mayor Rivera read the resolution honoring the Dixie Youth Angels softball team. Councilman Still made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved. A framed copy of the resolution will be given to each player.

PRESENTATION FROM THE ANIMAL SHELTER

Ms. Toni Hutchins, with the Animal Shelter Board, explained the TNVR program. This program traps, neuters, vaccinates, and returns healthy stray cats. They have received a grant from Best Friends to help implement this program. This program has been successful in Aiken County. Barnwell County is moving toward this program. Discussion followed. This was taken as information only.

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SCA PRESENTATION OF THE RETAIL STRATEGIES PROGRAM

Ms. Kathy Rhoad, with South Carolina Alliance, informed Council that the USDA has provided grant funding for retail strategies training and the City of Barnwell was included in the grant. She explained the training process. Mayor Rivera, City Administrator Lynn McEwen, and Mr. Bob Snead will receive the training for the City.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 29, 2022, PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2022, public hearing and special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2022, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2022-06, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUTURE MATCHING FUNDING FOR THE 2022 FALL ROUND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Administrator McEwen said LSCOG has assisted the City with writing a grant for a pumper truck for the fire department. The maximum amount of the CDBG grant is \$480,000. The budgeted cost of the truck is \$702,000. Ms. McEwen read the resolution committing the City to provide 10% matching funds plus any overages needed to meet the project budget if the grant is

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awarded. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SAFEUILT CAROLINAS LLC

Administrator McEwen explained that Safeuilt provides building permits and inspection services for the City, and it has been a good relationship. The new agreement has a different fee structure, and all fees will increase to 90%. Currently Safeuilt receives 80% of building permit fees and 90% of plan review fees charged by the City. This service is regulatory, and we do not make money on it. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the updated agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE BUILDING AND FIRE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CONTRACT MANAGER FOR THE FIRE STATION

Administrator McEwen said that she, the building and fire committees, Chief Dicks, and his senior staff met and reviewed the four RFQs submitted for the Fire Station Contract Manager. Their recommendation is to move forward with Contractor A. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the committees' recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved

APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Administrator McEwen explained that the Municipal Clerk of Court position is still vacant. The current agreement with the County for these services expires at the end of September. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the extension of the intergovernmental agreement through December 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF WHEN TRICK OR TREAT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY FOR 2022

Mayor Rivera said that he was getting messages from concerned citizens about Halloween being on a Monday. He also talked to the recreation committee. He suggested that from here on out, Halloween should be celebrated on the last Saturday in October. Councilmember Moody said he

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had heard from teachers who wanted it on a Saturday. Councilmember Still said he had also heard from parents to have it on a weekend. Discussion followed. Councilmember Davis made a motion to celebrate Halloween in the City on the last Saturday in October each year. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Recreation Director Kevin Roberts said 250 children have registered for fall sports. The hill at Fuller Park has been cleared and the fence has been taken down. Mayor Rivera asked if Adams’s Nursery could help with some of the flowers and hedges at Collins Park. Administrator McEwen said she would look into it.

Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Police Chief Robinson gave an update on monthly activity. Councilmember Still said he has been getting a lot of complaints from citizens about speeding in the areas of Deerwood Rd, Highway 70, Galilee Rd, and Ansley Rd. He asked for more patrols in those areas.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – No Report

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE

- Data from the June Independence Day celebration showed a little less than 2,500 individuals attended
- We are waiting on lab analysis from the test well before we can move forward with the Joey Zorn Well Project
- The contractor did a great job of removing and refilling the area of the old sheriff’s building. We are looking into getting some asphalt milling or crush and run to cover the dirt.
- Cameras and Wi-Fi will be going in at Lemon Park, Fuller Park, and City Hall this next month
- We are in the middle of the website upgrades and are adding more photos.

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- City Council Chamber renovations will take longer than expected due to equipment being on backorder.
- 32 flags have been ordered for veterans. We are in the proofing stage and will have them printed and put up by November
- The calendar for September and October includes:
 Planning commission meeting, Tuesday, September 13th, 6:00 pm at City Hall on updating the zoning ordinance book and map
 Community public meeting, Monday, September 19th, 4:00 pm at City Hall on the application for the Community Development Block Grant to purchase the new fire truck
 Open House, Wednesday, October 5th, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Barnwell County Library on the SCDNR/FEMA Floodplain Management and Flood Zones of the Salkehatchie Watershed

Administrator McEwen gave Council an updated spreadsheet on ARPA paid expenditures and commitments.

Councilmember Moody asked what was being done about the nuisance house on Derry Lane. Administrator McEwen said she is working with Police Chief Robinson to follow the proper steps to get the situation taken care of properly and legally.

Mayor Rivera asked if we had arranged a meeting with personnel from the State Health Plan. Administrator McEwen said we just received the information about the new premium costs and Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo was working on cost comparisons.

Mayor Rivera asked if we could put out information about what S&S Disposal is responsible for picking up. Administrator McEwen said that the information is on the website, two letters detailing this information have been sent to citizens, and individual complaints are handled as they are received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL/PROCEDURAL/INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still. Mr. Jonathan Vickery from the People Sentinel asked for clarification on the specific reason for going into executive session under the FOIA laws. He said the way some of the reasons listed are worded do not line up with the FOIA laws, particularly informational briefing. Mayor Rivera addressed the question to City Attorney Thomas Boulware. Mr. Boulware said he was not sure. Administrator McEwen said the question needs to go to Sheriff Griffith since he requested the executive session. The City was not provided any information from the Sheriff other than the request. The Sheriff said the briefing would contain sensitive personnel information. Mayor Rivera said he had questioned the reason himself. Mr.

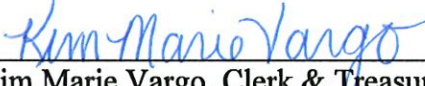
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Boulware said if it was a matter of personnel, that was allowed in executive session under FOIA, but he did not know what the discussion was about. Mayor Rivera asked if they could legally proceed with executive session. Mr. Boulware said the Sheriff has requested to speak to Council on the matter of personnel and he thinks he is entitled to do that. He asked the Mayor if he was asking to have it done in open session. Mayor Rivera said they could not discuss personnel in open session. Mr. Boulware said he did not know of any other way to proceed. Either that or tell the Sheriff he could not address Council. Discussion followed. Mayor Rivera asked Mr. Boulware if the Council was able to discuss personnel with the Sheriff. If they could legally do that, they could move on into executive session. Mr. Boulware said he wished he knew what was going to be presented so he knew how to advise Council, but the Sheriff was here to address Council about personnel and he thought the Sheriff was entitled to do that. Council voted and the motion to go into executive session passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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September 12, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
October 3, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Rivera and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw

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

Ms. Alexander Whitbeck of the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Still led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Tony Carson introduced himself to Council. He has recently moved to Barnwell and wanted to offer his assistance to the community.

Ms. Toni Hutchins expressed concerns about speeding on Main St in front of her ice cream parlor

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RESOLUTION 2022-07 IN MEMORY OF AARON ODOM

Mayor Rivera read the resolution in memory of Aaron Odom recognizing his dedicated public service to the citizens of the City of Barnwell. Mr. Odom was a retired police officer. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman All and unanimously approved. The resolution was presented to the Odom family.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember All made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION FROM SOUTHEASTERN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Ms. Beth Overton, Deputy Director of the Southeastern Housing & Community Development Corporation, explained the Blight Elimination Program. The program would be a cooperative effort with the City to provide reimbursable grants to property owners who would be willing to demolish rundown and unlivable houses in the City. The maximum grant amount would be \$6,000. Ms. Overton went over the program requirements. She was requesting \$100,000 for the program and \$10,000 for administration of the program.

BLIGHT PROGRAM-APPROVAL TO USE ARPA FUNDING AND APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEASTERN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Council discussed the program, contract, and use of ARPA funds. Mayor Rivera expressed concerns that the program might be an incentive for owners not to do anything with their properties so the City will pay. He thought property owners should reimburse the City if they received a grant and then sold their property. He would like to see ordinances strengthened. He also expressed concern about using ARPA funds.

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the use of ARPA funds, not to exceed \$110,000, for the program. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody. The motion passed 5 to 1 with Mayor Rivera voting against the motion.

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Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the contract with Southeastern Housing & Community Development Corporation for administration of the program. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody. The motion passed 5 to 1 with Mayor Rivera voting against the motion.

APPROVAL ARPA FUNDING FOR THE FIRE STATION

City Administrator McEwen recommended that the City use the remaining uncommitted ARPA funding, approximately \$1,200,000, to fund the initial stages of the fire station. This would be in addition to the \$350,000 already received from the state. Councilmembers All and Moody expressed concerns about outdated equipment in the police department. Mayor Rivera said the priority should be the fire department. Discussion followed. Councilmember Still made a motion to commit the \$1,200,000 plus the \$350,000 for the fire station. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION OF THE STATE INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM

City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo provided Council with financial information comparing the City's current health plan with BCBS to the State health plan administered by PEBA. The total monthly premiums would be lower with the State plan but changes in benefits and administration should also be considered. Discussion followed. The matter was referred to the finance and salary committee to make their recommendation at the next Council meeting.

FESTIVAL DISCUSSION

Mayor Rivera thought that the City should have a fall festival. He did not realize that it had been cancelled this year. The Barnwell Development Association partners with the City to help put on some of these activities. Some had just helped with the Fall Farmers Market and Vendor Fair at Fuller Park. They are also helping with the City's Christmas festivities on the Circle in early December. There are a lot of fall activities currently planned by churches. Representatives from the BDA expressed their concern about the lack of volunteers. It is always the same people helping out and they get burned out. Mayor Rivera asked that in the future they reach out to Council for any help they may need. Council can help with volunteers from churches and other groups.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report

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Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Council member Moody read a written report form Director Kevin Roberts about fall activities.

Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Councilmember Moody said that he and Councilmember All rode with the police. The officers are running radar to help with speeding. Councilmember Still said he was concerned about break-ins in the Meadowbrook area. Mayor Rivera said that it is impossible for officers to be everywhere they are needed at one time. The new cameras will help identify problem areas.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – No Report

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – Administrator McEwen said there was a request to have a credit card issued to Police Chief Robinson for travel expenditures and online purchases. Chief Robinson had to use his own credit card for training. Currently the only approved credit cards are for the City Administrator, Clerk & Treasurer, and recreation department. This will be addressed at next month's meeting.

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – Administrator McEwen said that Spratlins & Sons is currently working on a report for the fire station and a meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- We are still waiting on the cameras and wi-fi for Lemon Park, Fuller Park, and city hall.
- The website is being transitioned over behind the scenes. It should be finished up in November.
- City meetings for October include:
 - Wednesday, October 5th, 3pm to 7pm - Public information open house at the Barnwell County Library on the SCDNR/FEMA Floodplain Management and Flood Zones of the Salkehatchie Watershed
 - Tuesday, October 11th, 11am – Planned hearing with the City of Barnwell building inspector with SAFEbuilt for 115 Derry Lane
 - Thursday, October 20th – MASC Regional Advocacy meeting at LSCOG

EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSSION OF CONTRACT WITH CITY ATORNEY

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Council returned to open session.

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ADJOURN

Councilmember Still made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL

November 7, 2022 – 5:30PM

MEETING LOCATION:

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

Ms. Alexander Whitbeck of the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Councilmember Bragg led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Moody made a motion to amend the agenda by placing Public Comments before Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved. Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

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November 7, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Phyllis Rhodie thanked the City for putting up no littering signs. She requested that the City look at the abandoned buildings on Marlboro Ave. She also requested that the areas around Church St and Calhoun St be scheduled for litter pickup.

Police Officer David Greene informed Council that he was speaking for himself and the police department. They want the City to consider switching from the current group insurance plan to the State plan administered by PEBA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONTRACTUAL-NEGOTIATION OF FIRE STATION DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT WITH SPRATLIN AND SONS

Councilmember Still made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

Council returned to open session.

Councilmember Still made a motion that the City enter into a contract with John W. Spratlin & Son, LLC to provide architectural design and engineering work for the new fire station and that the City Administrator be given authorization to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING OWNERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY FROM SCDOT, THE SECTION OF MADISON ST. FROM WASHINGTON ST. TO ACADEMY ST. BEHIND THE FIRE STATION

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve accepting ownership and responsibility from SCDOT for the section of Madison St. from Washington St. to Academy St. behind the fire station. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved. The request still has to be approved by SCDOT.

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APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-4 “AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE DIVISION 1 AND 2 OF CHAPTER 6 – BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SC”

Councilmember Still made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. This is required from the South Carolina Building Code Council to update our existing building codes. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-4. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM

Councilmember Still said he had received emails this afternoon from one department that wanted to change to the State insurance program and another department that wanted to stay with the current plan. He wanted to hear the views from the other departments before a decision was made by Council. Councilmember Moody asked if a group meeting with all employees could be held to get their input. Administrator McEwen said that the City already did a survey with all employees several months ago. The results showed that about half were satisfied with the current plan and half were not. A decision needed to be made tonight to begin insurance coverage with the State on April 1st. Any delay in a decision would push back the start date. Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo reiterated the major differences in the plans. The total yearly premium savings would be over \$70,000 based on the current employee census with over half of that amount being a reduction of employee contributions for dependent coverage. For employees, there would be more upfront costs with the State plan. There would be winners and losers by switching plans depending on how often the benefits are utilized. Discussion followed. Councilmember Still made a motion to table until Council receives more information from all employees. The motion did not receive a second. Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the resolution to participate in the State insurance benefits program. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rivera. The motion passed 4 to 3 with Councilmembers All, Bragg, and Still voting against the motion.

APPROVAL TO ADD A CREDIT CARD TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES AND ONLINE PURCHASES

Councilmember All made a motion to approve a credit card for the police department for travel expenses and online purchase. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED TAKE-HOME VEHICLE POLICY FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Councilmember All made a motion to approve the updated take home vehicle policy for the police department. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody. Discussion followed about the 35-mile radius requirement. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED (STATE REQUIRED) POLICY CHANGES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Councilmember Still asked if the limit of 3 miles outside the city limits in the current pursuit policy is still in effect in the amendments. Police Chief Robinson said the updates are an addendum to the current policies required by the State to update language. The current pursuit policy has not changed. Discussion followed about the 3 mile outside the city limit pursuit limitation, including the rationale for the 3-mile limit. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the state required policy changes for the police department. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS AND CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Administrator McEwen provided nomination guidelines for Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year. The guidelines presented for Citizen of the Year presented Council with the option of choosing if the nominee should reside within School District 45 or within the city limits of Barnwell. Discussion followed. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the presented guidelines with the requirement that the nominee for Citizen of the Year must reside in the city limits of Barnwell. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Administrator McEwen read a written report from Director Kevin Roberts about fall activities.

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Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – No Report

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – Fire Chief Dicks gave Council a report on monthly activity. He thanked Council for voting to move forward with the fire station.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- The new website is still in progress. It includes fillable forms for citizens and businesses.
- All permitting requests for the new well have been submitted to SCDHEC for approval.
- The renovations to the Council room will not be completed until April.
- There is a volunteer opportunity scheduled for Saturday, November 19th, at 10 am to help decorate the downtown area.
- The Christmas parade and tree lighting are scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, at 4 pm. The Grand Marshalls will be the Dixie Youth Angels softball team.
- Gave Council some information on suggested logos for the County and the City that have been suggested from the SC National Heritage Corridor to promote outdoor recreation.
- Attended the Retail Academy with the Mayor Rivera and Mr. Bob Snead.

Councilmember Moody asked if there was an update about 115 Derry Lane. The city attorney along with outside counsel are currently working on the issue.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 2, 2022 – 4:30 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 Peggy Kinlaw and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, Alicia Davis, James Moody and Ron Still

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen and Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo

The press was notified but no members were present.

CALL TO ORDER

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

VOTE FOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Councilmember All made a motion to nominate Candidate A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still. The motion passed 5 to 2 with Mayor Rivera and Councilmember Davis voting against the motion.

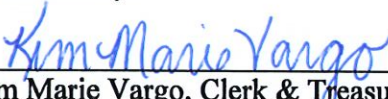
VOTE FOR BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Councilmember Still made a motion to nominate Candidate C. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg. The motion passed 5 to 2 with Mayor Rivera and Councilmember Davis voting against the motion.

ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2022

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
December 5, 2022 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, and Councilmembers Brad All, Ryan Bragg, James Moody, and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Marcus Rivera and Councilmember Alicia Davis

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

Ms. Alexander Whitbeck of the People Sentinel was also present.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES 2023-1, 2, 3, & 4 UPDATED ZONING MAP
CHANGES**

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw opened the public hearing. She asked twice if anyone had any comments. There were no comments. The public hearing was closed.

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw called the meeting to order. Councilmember Bragg led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Pauline Paul said she was new to Barnwell. She loves the town. She was the victim of a crime and she wanted to thank the police department for their supportive response. Since the incident she has been on edge. There are a lot of stray cats in the neighborhood. There was an incident where she thought there was a burglar but it was a stray cat. She has been collecting stray cats and taking them to the animal shelter. She wanted to let Council know that she researched the proper way to collect the cats in case neighbors think she is harming them.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2022, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2022, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-4 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE DIVISION 1 AND 2 OF CHAPTER 6 – BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SC

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2022-4. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2023-1 AMENDING THE ZONING OF LOTS BETWEEN MAIN AND ALLEN STREETS FROM R-12 TO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL

Councilmember Still made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-1. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2023-2 AMENDING THE ZONING OF A LOT ON CHARLES STREET FROM R-15 TO INDUSTRIAL

Councilmember All made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-2. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2023-3 AMENDING THE ZONING OF A LOT BETWEEN CALHOUN STREET AND MARLBORO AVE FROM R-15 TO HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL

Councilmember Still made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-3. The motion was seconded by Councilmember All and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2023-4 AMENDING THE ZONING OF A LOT ON MAIN STREET FROM HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO R-12

Councilmember Still made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-4. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Administrator McEwen informed Council that Veteran's Day was added to the holiday schedule to match the County and the State. This increases the number of holidays from 12 to 13. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the 2023 holiday schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Councilmember All made a motion to approve the 2023 City Council meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved. Administrator McEwen informed Council that in addition to the approved regular scheduled Council meetings,

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there will be several special called meetings to discuss departmental goals, issues, and budgets. These will be scheduled at a time most convenient to everyone.

APPROVAL OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER BONUSES

Councilmember Bragg made a motion to approve the volunteer firefighter bonuses. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Brad All & Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw) – No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw & Councilmember Ron Still) – Administrator McEwen thanked the street department crew for the great job they are doing on cleaning up the litter in the community.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmember Alicia Davis & Jimbo Moody) – Director Kevin Roberts said that fall sports have wrapped up. He has ideas on improvements for next year. The Christmas celebration and parade was a successful team effort. Basketball registration is ongoing until December 14th. He is currently working on a new logo for football and coaching shirts.

Police (Councilmember Jimbo Moody & Brad All) – Council was given a report on monthly activity.

Fire (Councilmember Ryan Bragg & Ron Still and Mayor Rivera) – Council was given a report on monthly activity. Over 50% of calls for the last year have been EMS calls.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Ryan Bragg and Alicia Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmember Ron Still & Ryan Bragg) – No Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- The new well project will resume after approval from SCDHEC which is expected in January.
- The back ordered equipment for the camera and Wi-Fi projects for the parks and downtown area have come in. We are just waiting on the installation schedule. We are still waiting on equipment for the council room renovations.

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- The website is finished. It is a work in progress, and she should be notified of any updates.
- She wanted to thank all the employees, Dominion Energy, and volunteers who assisted with the Christmas festivities.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Moody made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Still and unanimously approve.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer