

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 19, 2023 – 5:00PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a special called meeting with Mayor Rivera presiding.

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

Councilmembers Absent: None

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

The press was notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & CIVILITY PLEDGE

Council led the pledge of allegiance and the civility pledge.

Mayor Rivera stated that Council had to do better than what occurred at last Friday's meeting. There is an ordinance that tells us we follow Roberts Rules of Order and as the City presider it is his job to call anybody out of order for not following those rules. If any council member or audience member does not get back in order, then by ordinance they will be asked to leave the meeting. Discussion followed on the ordinance referred to by Mayor and whether there was actually a meeting on Friday. City Administrator McEwen said she was seeking advice from the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

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APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT MATTERS CONCERNING THE RELEASE AND APPOINTMENT OF EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED BY COUNCIL

Councilmember Davis made a motion to go into executive session to discuss employment matters concerning the release and appointment of employees employed by Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody. Mayor Rivera asked City Attorney Thomas Boulware if Councilman A should recuse himself because of litigation. Attorney Boulware said absolutely not. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rivera declared the council was out of executive session.

ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Claytor made a motion to accept the resignation of the Chief of Police effective date of September 26, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve accepting Robert Miller as the Interim Police Chief to be sworn in September 27, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw made a motion to immediately begin advertising for the Chief of Police position and for Council to request a panel for assistance with the interview process. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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