

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
October 2, 2023 – 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 Louis Claytor, Alicia Davis, James Moody, Ryan Bragg and Ron Still

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Marie Vargo, Interim Chief of Police Robert Miller, Public Works Director Philip Stanley, and Fire Chief Phillip Delk

Ms. Alexandra Whitbeck of the People Sentinel was also 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.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

WELCOMING NEW INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

Council welcomed back Robert L. Miller Sr. and thanked him for coming out of retirement to act as Interim Chief of Police until the position could be filled with a permanent replacement.

SWEARING IN NEW POLICE OFFICERS

Attorney Thomas Boulware administered the oath of office to new police officers Molly Curley, Ryan Love, and Robert McGinnis.

BUSINESS RECOGNITION

Accelerator Coffee LLC was recognized as the business of the month. Ms. Dawn Stead explained how the business got started and that it is now part of the community.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

None

PRESENTATION FROM SAVANNAH RIVER MISSION COMPLETION

Mr. Dave Olson, President and Program Manager for Savannah River Mission Completion LLC, gave a presentation about its mission, progress, partners, business outreach, and community investment. SMRC is conducting operations at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site to ensure safe delivery of its accelerated approach to waste treatment and tank closures.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2023, Regular City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bragg and unanimously approved.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2023, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2023, Special Called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023, Special Called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE WORK AUTHORIZATION FOR ENGINEERING AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL WASTEWATER EXTENSION PROJECT

Administrator McEwen provided Council with a work authorization from AECOM Technical Services Inc in the amount \$1,103,800 for engineering and administration expenses for the SCAT Park Pump Station and Force Main. The City will be able to utilize the South Carolina Rural Initiatives Grant from the Department of Commerce to fund this. Councilmember Still made a motion to approve the work authorization. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmember Claytor and Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw) – Public Works Director Philip Stanley said the department received a satisfactory on their recent sanitary survey. Also, lead and copper sampling results were above the 90th percentile.

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

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmembers Moody and Still) – Council was provided with a written report for monthly activities.

Police (Councilmembers Davis and Moody) – No Report

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Fire (Councilmember Bragg & Still) – Fire Chief Phillip Delk provided monthly call information. Concrete has been poured for the new fire station and the building will be delivered Wednesday morning.

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

Building and Planning (Councilmembers Claytor and Still) – Councilmember Still said he was contacted by someone interested in bringing urgent care to the City. Administrator McEwen said she has talked to the individual and will follow up.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Reminded everyone the official night for trick or treating for the City will be Saturday, October 28th from 6 to 8.
- Updated progress on the Blight Program. Eleven properties have been completed and one more has been obligated. Remaining available funds are \$29,000.
- Joey Zorn Well Project – The chlorine booster pump still has air feed-back problem. Once this is corrected and we have one final inspection, then we will take over the well.
- The owner of the old Bookworm building has been contacted and they are getting prepared to work on the building.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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