

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
July 29, 2025 – 5:30 pm**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Ron Still, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, Councilmembers Louis Claytor, Alicia Davis, Ricky Dixon, Wanda Highsmith, and Jana Myers

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: Interim City Administrator Tony Dicks, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Michael Butts, and Public Works Director Philip Stanley

The press was notified but none were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Still called the meeting to order.

DISCUSSION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGETS-GENERAL FUND, WATER & SEWER FUND, HOSPITALITY TAX FUND, AND ACCOMMODATION TAX FUND

Interim City Administrator Tony Dicks and Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo reviewed the preliminary budget information for fiscal year ending September 30, 2026 for the General Fund, W&S Fund, Hospitality Tax Fund, and Accommodation Tax Fund. Anticipated revenues and expenses from the operation of the new tissue plant were included. There are no projected rate increases. The General Obligation Bond for the new fire station was paid off with Capital Project Sales Taxes, so the millage rate will decrease by 13 mills for the debt service payments. There was also a discussion of purchasing needed capital items in the current year budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Claytor made a motion to enter into Executive Session for discussion on personnel salaries. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

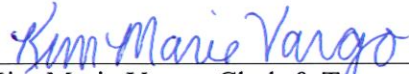
Mayor Still declared the Council was out of executive session.

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ADJOURN

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

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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