

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL  
April 6, 2026, 5:30**

MEETING LOCATION:  
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Ron Still, Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Kinlaw, Councilmembers Louis Claytor, Ricky Dixon, Highsmith and Jana Myers

Councilmember Absent: Alicia Davis

Others Present: Administrator David Holcomb, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Asst. Clerk & Treasurer Allison S. Wade, Captain James Thorpe and Chief Phillip Delk

Stephanie Shaver with the People Sentinel was present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Still called the meeting to order. Prayer was led by Councilmember Highsmith.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & CIVILITY PLEDGE**

Council led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Civility Pledge.

Mayor Still congratulated Council Member Davis and her daughter Kayden Gillie on her accomplishments as being the youngest member of the Southern Palmetto Region Chamber of Commerce.

David Holcomb was introduced as the new administrator for the City of Barnwell.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Barbara Christain of District 1 has submitted a Letter of Request for \$ 1,900.00 for the TNR Program in the new fiscal year.

Tyson Jackson, Project Manager with the Southern Carolina Alliance, explained his job and offered support in any capacity to the City of Barnwell.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2026, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Dixon made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2026, Regular Scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Claytor and unanimously approved.

### **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF WATER & SEWER RATE AMENDMENT FOR SEPTIC TANK WASTE DISPOSAL FEES ORDINANCE 2026-04 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 4 SEPTIC TANK WASTE AT CITY TREATMENT PLANT, SECTION 32-183 DISPOSAL FEES, TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN DISPOSAL FEES**

Councilmember Claytor made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved. Administrator Holcomb read the ordinance by title only. Councilmember Dixon made a motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 2026-04. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

### **SAFEBUILD CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE -JOSHUA THOMAS**

Joshua Thomas provided a detailed report on the Safebuildt Code Enforcement Updates:

- The WIIZ Radio Station permit for demolition expired but they requested an extension until June. It should be demolished by then, if not it will be cited and fined for incomppliance.
- After several attempts, it has been difficult reaching someone at the church regarding the property at 88 Darnell Street, Barnwell SC.
- By the end of the year the Bookworm property should be demolished.
- Mr. Stoneburner has plans for a residential remodel on the property at 10134 Marlboro Avenue Barnwell, SC.
- The individual purchasing the property on 72 Cherry Street Barnwell, SC has started the process of cleaning the property. The removal of the storage shed, and the pool has already been done.
- Mr. Collins 599 Main Street does not want to sell the property. He's in the process of cleaning the property by hauling off trees. He has until the end to bring everything into compliance.
- The other radio station at the end of Marlboro has been condemned.
- 928 Hagood Barnwell SC has been condemned.

## **SOUTHEASTERN HOUSING FOUNDATION REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF BLIGHT CONTRACT**

Clarification was brought to the Council in discussion regarding the Blight Program contract as it stipulates work being performed on residential projects with the recommended limits of \$6,000.00 as stated in the contract. It was requested that commercial projects be added to the contract. Councilmember Claytor made a motion to clarify the contractual definition of Blight Program to include both residential and commercial buildings. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Myers and unanimously approved.

## **REAPPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION**

There was a discussion regarding who appoints the individuals to the commission and to whether anyone has shown interest. After no further discussion, Councilmember Claytor made a motion to the reappointment of Garnett Alexander and Sheridan Bolen to the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

## **WAYFINDING SIGN UPDATE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The administrator presented information regarding the Wayfinding signs. During discussion, the council talked about revising the policy of the wayfinding signs and the locations.

## **FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION 2026-1**

Councilmember Dixon made a motion to approve the Fair Housing Resolution 2026-1. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Myers and unanimously approved.

## **COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

*Water and Sewer* (Councilmembers Claytor & Highsmith)

-Elevated Water Tank is complete. Water should be in the tank by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

-Sewer Rehab Project was awarded additional funding. The RIA gave approval to continue to improve sewer lines.

Emergency Bypass Pumps, Generators & Lift Station should be completed and ready to go out for bid in June.

*Solid Waste and Maintenance* (Councilmembers Davis & Highsmith)

- Mosquito Spraying schedule is now available. Please report any problem areas. Possibly thermo fogging if necessary.
- The Consumer Confidence Report has been placed on the city website.

*Parks, Recreation and Tourism* (Councilmembers Davis & Dixon)

- Easter egg hunt took place this past weekend and participation was great. A total of 1,500 eggs was distributed to ensure that each child would have enough eggs.
- No games this week because of Springbreak.
- Flag football and Cheerleader signups will be from May -July.
- The 250<sup>th</sup> Independence Celebration will be on June 26, 2026. There are limited vendor spots. Please use the QR Code for registration. Registration ends June 10<sup>th</sup> for food vendors.
- Handicap parking stickers must be reinforced.

*Police* (Councilmember Dixon and Kinlaw)

- Captain Thorpe provided a detailed report on monthly activities.
- Because of an increase in police reports, it is important to make a list of all valuables in your home that have serial numbers.

*Fire* (Councilmember Claytor and Highsmith)

- Chief Delk provided a detailed report on monthly activities.
- On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the fire department will hold a Smoke Alarm Blitz partnering with Statefarm, Red Cross and Barnwell County
- Autism Awareness Walk will be held at the Airport on April 11 with the Barnwell County Sheriff Department.

*Finance and Salary* (Councilmember Dixon and Kinlaw) – No discussion

*Building and Planning* (Councilmember Claytor & Councilmember Myers)

- A meeting has not been scheduled with Nathan Turner/ Sturre Engineering regarding the Turner Street property.

*Downtown Revitalization* (Councilmember Myers and Kinlaw)

- Mural has three sponsors from the private sector. Funding will go directly to SCA. Tiffany has volunteered to paint her building.
- It was asked how the CPST Funds were going to be spent.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Administrator Holcomb met with Bobby Adams, MAPA Recreation and Julie Mier Cunniham Recreation regarding the exclusive playground equipment that was recommended. They are aware of the funding that is available and they will provide the ideals that they have for the playground. One of the parents reached out to a playground provider that wants to build a


program that they can promote. We should be able to add both monies together for the playground.

-Council Ethics Filing is due March 31st.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

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

Submitted by:



Allison S. Wade, Asst. Clerk & Treasurer