

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-7
AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF
A SIX SINGLE DISTRICT REAPPORTIONMENT PLAN FOR
THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SUCH PLAN PROVIDING FOR
A COUNCIL MEMBER TO BE ELECTED FROM EACH DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, by ordinance adopted on December 6, 1993, the City Council of the City of Barnwell adopted a district plan for the City of Barnwell; and

WHEREAS, 2020 Census Bureau statistics reveal disproportionate variances among certain districts, and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the requirements of the Constitution of the United States and the State of South Carolina, the City Council of the City of Barnwell has resolved it to be in the public interest to reapportion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Barnwell, with the assistance of the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, has submitted a plan reapportioning the council districts of the City of Barnwell, and the City Council of the City of Barnwell finds such plan to be a proper one for the City of Barnwell and in accordance with the public interest. The criteria for developing said plan is shown on Exhibit 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL IN THE CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED:

Section 1: The six (6) single member districts reapportionment plan for the redistricting of the City of Barnwell, such plan being attached to this ordinance and designated as Exhibit 1, together with a copy of the map showing district lines, attached to this ordinance and designated as Exhibit 2, is hereby adopted.

Section 2: The redistricting plan shall be effective for any City Council election held after the effective date hereof.

Section 3: This ordinance in no way affects the current system for the election of a mayor or the current staggered system of electing councilmembers from respective districts.

Section 4: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate distance and independent portion, and such wording shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 5: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This ordinance shall become effective upon ratification.

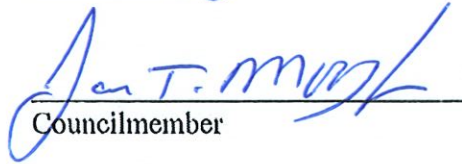
RATIFIED IN COUNCIL this 1 day of MAY, 2023.



Marcus Rivera, Mayor



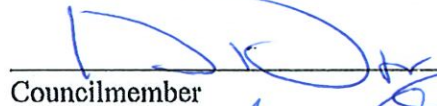
Councilmember



Councilmember



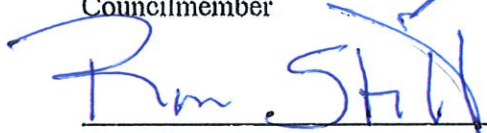
Councilmember



Councilmember



Councilmember



Councilmember

ATTEST:



Clerk

First Reading: 4-3-23

Second Reading: 5-1-23

EXHIBIT 1

- A. The City of Barnwell is divided into six (6) districts, as set forth and described in Exhibit 2 to the ordinance.
- B. The City of Council of the City of Barnwell shall consist of six (6) councilmembers and the mayor.
- C. Each of the aforementioned districts shall be represented on the city council by one (1) councilmember, who must be a resident of such district and remain so during his or her term of office, elected by the qualified voters of the district and not at large.

EXHIBIT 2

See attached map showing district lines.

EXHIBIT 3

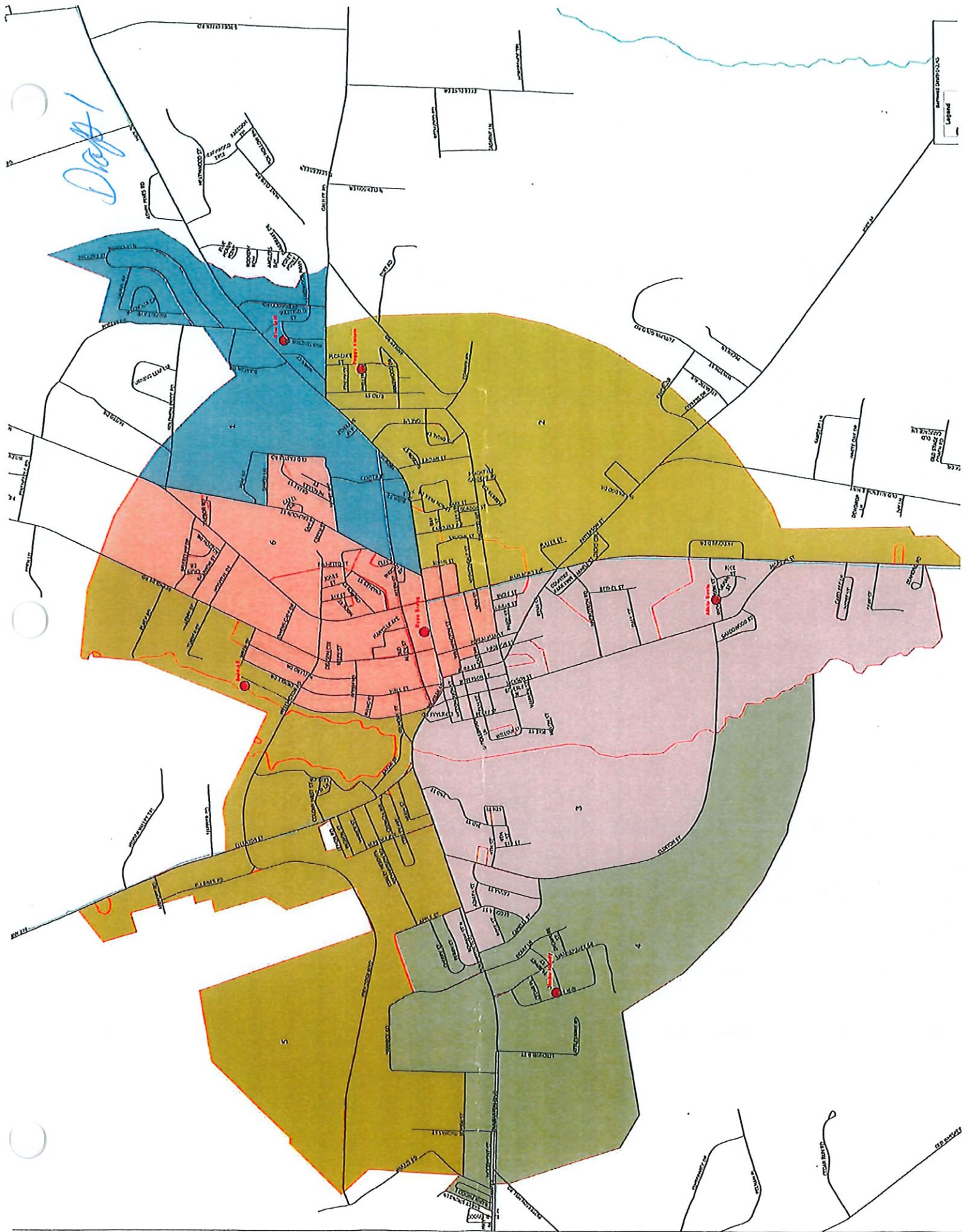
Criteria For Developing Plans: Redistricting 2023

1. The requirement of "one Person, one vote" under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and accepted variances.
2. The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population.
3. Other applicable court decisions and federal and state law.

Further, RFA recommends the following set of traditional redistricting principles be considered:

4. Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
5. Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
6. Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
7. Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interest, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
8. Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

Draft 1



Legend

Legend