

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL  
February 6, 2017– 6:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:  
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

**REGULAR SESSION**

Barnwell City Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Edward Lemon presiding.

Council Members Present: Mayor Edward Lemon, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Benjamin Duncan, W.C. Black, Robert Pattillo, Steve Walling and Billy Dozier

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Police Captain Brian Johnson, Recreation Director Pamela Davis, and Community Development Director Lynn McEwen

Mr. Jonathan Vickery of the People Sentinel was also present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Lemon called the meeting to order and led with a prayer.

Mayor Lemon stated that the agenda needed to be amended to add item 3A Executive Session-Personnel. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to amend the agenda to add item 3A Executive Session-Personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. It was stated that possible action could be taken after the executive session.

**POLICE OFFICER'S OATH OF OFFICE**

Mayor Lemon administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Timothy Gilbert.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Ron Shuler, President of the Barnwell Baseball Association, came before Council to ask if the City could reduce the fee that the Association pays for the use of the Lemon Park Sports Complex for baseball season. He explained to Council that BBA was a nonprofit organization that oversees Dixie Youth Baseball. He presented Council with their 2016 financial report. He

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stated that 95% of the money they collect is used for the program and 5% is used to pay franchise fees. They have had a hard year and wanted to know if Council could reduce the fee to use the park by 25% to 50%. The Mayor thanked BBA for their hard work and turned the request over to the Recreation Committee to get their recommendation for the next Council meeting.

Before going into executive session, on behalf of Police Chief Reuben Black, Captain Brian Johnson presented Officer John Ott with the Officer of the Year Award for 2016. He was presented with this award for going above and beyond his duties as a police officer for the City.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Duncan and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session. The Mayor stated that disciplinary action has been taken as to employee A in the police department.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2017 REGULAR SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2017 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

### **APPROVAL TO PLACE ON SALE SURPLUS EQUIPMENT BY SEALED BID**

Administrator Zawacki requested permission to sell by sealed bids the presented list of surplus equipment. Councilman Dozier made a motion to give the Administrator permission to sell the surplus equipment by sealed bid. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

-Gave Council an update on the progress of the force main and lift station for Orchids. The force main from the Sara Lee lift station to Orchids is complete. The three major pumps in the lift station are mounted on the pad and the suction and discharge line have been installed. The pad for the SCE&G transformer is also complete and ready for SCE&G to install the transformer. Orchids is still working with DHEC to get their construction permit. We are still expecting the

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testing of the paper plant to start in March and to see process water in April. We have expended \$499,520 of the RIA grant funds to date. We will begin using the EDA grant funds after the remaining \$480 RIA grant is used.

-The motors at the WWTP that were flooded when a pipe burst were sent out for repair. They were dried out and the company does not see any problems. They will be put back together and reinstalled.

-The motor for Well 6 that was installed two years ago went out. It is being rebuilt but it is under warranty.

-There are 6 to 8 trees that have grown over a section of the main water line on Jackson St near Kilkenny Park that need to be removed. Several service lines have already broken due to tree roots. I will be talking to the land owners prior to taking any action.

-The mosquito control grant has been submitted with the help of Martha Thompson and Lynn McEwen. The grant request was for \$36,000.

-Reminded Council to file their Statement of Economic Interest Forms with the State Ethics Commission by March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) - No Report

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Walling) - No Report

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Pattillo and Walling) –Director Pamela Davis updated Council on recreation events including basketball, Daddy Daughter Dance, crochet classes, LeBon Joye Baseball Camp, and the Bunny Brunch. She is using the school system text messaging system to get out information on programs and events. Mayor said that maybe we could put exercising stations around the walking trail at Fuller Park including a chin up bar and dip bar. Some of this could be done by the Boy Scouts for an Eagle Project. The Mayor said he was told that there were a number of lights out on the walking trail by the lake. Ms. Davis said she would report them to SCE&G.

Police (Councilmen Black and Duncan) – No Report

Fire (Councilmen Duncan and Walling) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks informed Council that his department has received a \$4,500 donation for Georgia Pacific to be used for protective clothing for the volunteer firefighters.

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) –No Report

Building and Planning (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – No Report

Community Development & Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – No Report

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**ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

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Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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