

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
March 7, 2016– 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, Steve Walling, Robert Pattillo and Billy Dozier

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Reuben Black, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and Community Development & Tourism Director Lynn McEwen

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2015 CITY OF BARNWELL AUDIT, MEGREGOR & COMPANY

Mr. Jim McGuire of McGregor & Company presented Council with the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 financial statements. He explained that the report was about 25% larger than last year due to new pension liability note disclosures and also that a single audit was performed this year due to the City receiving more than \$500,000 in federal grants. He referred to the independent auditor's report and informed Council that there were no findings and in their opinion the financial statements were presently fairly in all material respects. He explained the Management's Discussion and Analysis section and recommended that Council read this section

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for a summary of the financial activities for the year. He then reviewed the various sections of the statements with Council and noted the new schedules and reports required for the single audit. The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$26,240. The Water & Sewer Fund had an increase in net position of \$365,104 due to grant proceeds. Mayor Lemon thanked him for his presentation.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 1, 2016 REGULAR
SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2016 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Duncan and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF
BARNWELL AND THE BARNWELL COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**

Attorney Boulware explained that the City's previously approved memorandum of understanding with the Barnwell County Public Defender's Office to provide representation of indigents charged with municipal violations was valid for a six month period until January 1, 2016. During that time the City had two such cases. The new agreement would be retroactive to January 1, 2016 for a period of one year until January 1, 2017 at the same rate of \$400 per case. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the memorandum of understanding. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Plans and specifications for the lift station and force main for Orchids were submitted to EDA for approval.
- Requested reimbursement of \$79,290 from the County for the 12" water line for Orchids. This was the total cost of the project. The remaining balance of \$20,710 of the \$100,000 grant will not be used.
- The first line of the Orchids conversion facility is fully operational.
- Need to appoint a City representative to be on the 1% Capital Sales Tax Committee for the County but waiting on clarification on the new procedure.
- The recreation department hosted the 11 and 12 year old Division II SCAP Basketball Tournament on Saturday. We also held the LeBon Joye baseball camp with 70 children attending on Saturday and 44 on Sunday. Zawacki commended the 3 man recreation staff for their hard work and professionalism during these events.

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- Received eight resumes for the Recreation Director position. Five applicants were interviewed by Zawacki and McEwen. One applicant excused himself. The remaining four were interviewed by the parks and recreation committee who will give their report.
- We did not receive any bids on the surplus property. Several people came in after the bid date. We will advertise again and have a bid opening on March 30th.

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) – Councilman Pattillo informed Council that the committee had interviewed four applicants for the Recreation Director position. They have selected two of these applicants for a full Council interview. A special called Council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at 5:15 pm for this purpose.

Police (Councilmen Black and Duncan) – Police Chief Reuben Black updated Council on the activities in his department.

Fire (Councilmen Duncan and Walling) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks informed Council about an American Red Cross program that his department would be participating in to distribute and install smoke alarms free of charge to eligible citizens.

Chief Dicks also informed Council that he had an opportunity to meet with the insurance risk representative for Orchids. During their conversation, some issues came up that Chief Dicks feels the City should address that are unique to Orchids facilities. Dicks identified the operational risk factors and then identified the additional equipment and manpower that would be needed to respond to those risk factors. Discussion followed about the financial impact of the additional equipment and it was decided to write a letter to Orchids to see if they would help with the cost. Chief Dicks felt the manpower issues could be resolved by developing and implementing a manpower resource plan. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to authorize Chief Dicks to develop and enter into a manpower response plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

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) – Lynn McEwen informed Council that the Spring Fling was scheduled for Thursday, April 14th from 5-7 pm and the Great American Cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, April 16th from 7-11 am.

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ADJOURN

Councilman Duncan made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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