

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 6, 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, Robert Pattillo, Steve Walling, and Billy Dozier

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

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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2016 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2016 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2016

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2016-2 AMENDING THE CITY OF BARNWELL GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FYE 9-30-16

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read Ordinance 2016-2 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016” by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. Administrator Zawacki read the ordinance by title only. Councilman Pattillo made a motion to accept the second and final reading of Ordinance 2016-2. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2016-3 AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE 2005-5

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to read Ordinance 2016-3 “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2005-5, BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE” by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved. Administrator Zawacki read the ordinance by title only. The ordinance increases the business license fee for NAICS 22112 Electric Power Distribution and NAICS 22121 Natural Gas Distribution to 5% and eliminates the requirement for Council approval for NAICS 45439 Peddlers, Solicitors, Canvassers, Door-To-Door Sales. Councilman Black made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2016-3. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX PROJECT LIST 2016

Administrator Zawacki discussed the list with Council. Discussion followed. Mayor Pro Tem Williams stated that he was in favor of the playground equipment for Fuller Park but not in favor of the splash pad because of the cost and it would only be used in the summer. Administrator Zawacki said that citizens have been asking for recreational activities at Fuller Park for elementary and primary aged children. Councilman Dozier stated the Fuller Park project was included to appeal to citizens that may not care about the capital improvement projects. Councilman Dozier made a motion to approve the City of Barnwell Capital Projects Sales Tax Project list as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF NEW MEDICAL INSURANCE RATES FOR 2016-2017

Administrator Zawacki and Kim Vargo explained the new medical insurance rates from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Council. Beginning July 1st, medical premiums will increase 5%, dental premiums will increase 5.5% and vision premiums will remain the same. The yearly additional cost to the City for increases in employee coverage is \$16,600. The recommendation is for the City to pay the increased cost in employee coverage and that employees pay the increased cost in dependent coverage. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the new medical

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2016

insurance rates for 2016-2017 and keep the same funding level. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pattillo.

SETTING A DATE AND TIME FOR THE 2016-2017 BUDGET WORKSHOP

A budget workshop was scheduled for 3:00 pm on Thursday, June 23, 2016.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-We had the engineers evaluate problems with the digester airline and diffusers at the wastewater treatment plant. They will submit a proposal to fix the problem.

-We hired a new employee for the opening at the wastewater treatment plant. He has 13 years of experience working in wastewater.

-The bid opening for the Orchid's lift station was held on Thursday, June 2, 2016. We received three bids: Babcock Construction LLC \$1,292,820, LAD Corp of West Columbia \$1,417,310, and G H Smith Construction Inc \$1,691,310. Our engineers will evaluate the bids and provide us with their recommended bid winner.

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) – No Report

Police (Councilmen Black and Duncan) – Police Chief Reuben Black updated Council on the activities in his department for the month of May. Chief Black stated that Axis 1 has given the department a grant for two digital cameras and an external hard drive for the computer system. Chief Black wanted to commend Officer Murphy and Officer Lewis for going above and beyond by finding a fire and going into the house to make sure no one was home.

Fire (Councilmen Duncan and Walling) – Chief Dicks stated that the fireworks display will be held on July 1st. Some of the members of the fire department will be attending the SC Firefighters Association's annual conference in Myrtle Beach for training.

Finance and Salary (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) –Administrator Zawacki informed Council that effective July 1, 2016 employer and employee contributions would increase 0.5 percent for the South Carolina Retirement System and the Police Officers Retirement System.

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

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

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2016

EXECUTIVE SESSION-CONTRACTUAL DRUG & GANG TASK FORCE

Councilman Pattillo made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter involving the Drug and Gang Task Force. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved. Council went into executive session.

Council returned to regular session.

APPROVAL OF FUTURE FUNDING OF THE DRUG & GANG TASK FORCE

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to fund the Drug and Gang Task Force for another year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Duncan and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer