

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CALLED MEETING and BUDGET WORKSHOP of
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 18, 2018 – 5:30 PM**

MEETING LOCATION
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

Barnwell City Council met in a Special Called Meeting and Budget Workshop with Mayor Edward Lemon presiding.

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

Others Present: City Administrator John Zawacki, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Police Chief Brian Johnson, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, Director of Public Works Philip Stanley, and Community and Development Director Lynn McEwen

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lemon called the meeting to order.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2018-3 AMENDING THE CITY BUSINESS
LICENSE ORDINANCE**

Councilman Walling made a motion to read the Ordinance 2018-3 “AN ORDINANCE READOPTING AND AMENDING THE CITY OF BARNWELL LICENSE ORDINANCE TO FIX THE LICENSES OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL, S.C., ON BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE SAME” by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved. Administrator Zawacki read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2018-3. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling. Clerk & Treasurer Vargo explained that the ordinance would change the rate classes, rate fees, and the expiration date of licenses. Beginning with renewals for licenses expiring August 31, 2018, the new expiration date will change to April 30th. Mayor Pro Tem Williams questioned that when a business renews their license this September and must renew again in May, they will be charged for a full year but only have the license for 8 months. Ms. Vargo explained that for renewals, the yearly license fee is based on the previous calendar gross receipts, so the license amount would be the same whether the expiration date is April or August.

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The license fee would not be prorated. Business leaders throughout the state complained that each municipality had a different due date, and this made it hard for businesses to keep track. After talks with the Municipal Association, it was decided to make April 30th the model due date. This due date is also required for municipalities to use the Municipal Association's web portal. Discussion followed. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously,

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Dozier made a motion to go into executive session for contractual and personnel discussions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED 2018/2019 CITY OF BARNWELL BUDGET

City Administrator Zawacki and Clerk & Treasurer Vargo reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year ending September 30, 2019 with Council. Employer contributions for state retirement increased by 1%. Group health insurance rates remained the same. Insurance premiums for policies with the Insurance Reserve Fund increased 10% to 15%.

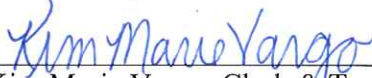
The proposed General Fund budget included a tax increase of .9 mills – an increase of 1.4 mills for operations and a decrease of .5 mills for debt service. This will increase the total millage rate from 74.7 mills to 75.6 mills. Additional expenditures for the General Fund included new IT services for the police department, replacement of pavers at Collins Park and Lemon Park, and a new Toro infield groomer for the LPSC. Capital lease proceeds to purchase three new police vehicles remained in the budget. A transfer from reserves will be used for the anticipated shortfall.

The proposed Water and Sewer Fund budget did not include any rate increases. Additional expenses for this fund include the purchase of a backhoe and engineering expenses for a water model and fees for the renewal of the NPDES permit.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned

Submitted by:



Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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