

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
September 10, 2018– 5:30PM**

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., Harris T. Barker, W.C. Black, Billy Dozier, and Steve Walling

Council Members Present: Robert Pattillo

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, Community and Development Director Lynn McEwen

Ms. Laura McKenzie of the People Sentinel was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lemon called the meeting to order. Councilman Barker led in prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2018 REGULAR SCHEDULED
BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2018 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling and unanimously approved.

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APPOINTMENT TO THE EDC BOARD

Mayor Lemon said that Mr. Joe Smith resigned as the City representative to the EDC Board. The Mayor appointed Councilman Billy Dozier to take his place.

RESOLUTION 2018-4 TO ALLOW THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF SC TO COLLECT DEBT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BARNWELL

Mayor Lemon read the resolution authorizing the Municipal Association of South Carolina to act as claimant agency for the collection of debt on behalf of the City of Barnwell in accordance with the Setoff Debt Collection Act. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walling. City Clerk Vargo explained that this was an update to a current agreement. The debt includes unpaid water bills and tickets. The motion passed unanimously.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2018-5 RELATING TO RECOVERY OF COLLECTION COSTS AS PART OF DELINQUENT DEBTS COLLECTED

Councilman Dozier made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved. Administrator Zawacki read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2018-5. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

-Met with RIA to review bids for the digester grant. They also did not understand why the bids came in so high. They will allow us to rebid the project in 45 days by invitation. We will rebid in October.

-The bids for the police station will be opened tomorrow in Council chambers. Nine contractors have received plans and we are expecting to get five or six bids. We have applied to SCDOT for encroachment permits for the driveway and the water tap. We have also applied to SCDHEC for a site disturbance permit.

- We are closely watching the progress of hurricane Florence to see if it will have any impact on our area. Fire Chief Tony Dicks gave an update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water and Sewer (Councilmen Black and Dozier) – Public Works Director Philip Stanley said they are making preparations at the WWTP to accommodate storm water that may be rushed into the plant.

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Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Walling) – Director Stanley informed Council that the trapping results show that the mosquito program is working. Next year he will set up a routine schedule for the program.

Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Pattillo and Walling) – Administrator Zawacki read a report from Director Davis who was at the LPSC for the start of football games. Five teams competed in the World Fast Pitch Connections Tournament that was held at the LPSC on August 25th. Upcoming events include basketball registration in October and the 5K Turkey Trot on November 17th.

Police (Councilmen Black and Barker) – Police Chief Brian Johnson said the department is scheduling their shifts as necessary to provide coverage for evacuation due to the hurricane. Officer Shawn Howze was promoted from PFC to Detective.

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Walling) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks informed Council that he received notice that the used service truck that the City is purchasing will not be available until December. The work on the old police hut is currently on hold until a decision is made on how to proceed due to extensive damage.

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) – Director Lynn McEwen said Fall Fest will be held on October 18th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to go into executive session for a legal opinion on the EDC and Sheriff's Department Drug Gang Task Force update. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved.

Council returned to regular session.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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