

CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL
June 3, 2019– 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

REGULAR SESSION

Barnwell City Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Marcus Rivera presiding.

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

Council Members Absent: None

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Wier, Mr. Dwayne Garrick, Mr. Will Kearse, and Mr. Britt Pender came before Council to ask them to reconsider their position on eliminating tackle football and only offering flag football through the recreation department. They wanted Council to hear the other side of the issue to keep tackle football. The program is important to the community and high school football. The risk of injury is not as great as the experience they gain by playing when they are young. Several suggestions were offered to help make the game safer. They want the City to offer both options, tackle and flag, and let the parents decide.

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**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2019 REGULAR
SCHEDULED BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilman Barker made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2019 regular scheduled Barnwell City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ON TACKLE FOOTBALL

Councilman Walling made a motion to open it up for discussion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved. Councilman Walling stated that the original discussion was about concussions not just safety. Councilman Pattillo stated that he did not want to be confronted by a parent whose child was hurt and explain to them that Council had a chance to do something about it and didn't. Councilman Barker stated that he loves tackle football and believes that it gives kids something to do and will keep them off the street. Discussion followed. City Attorney Boulware stated that Council has voted on the subject and reconsidered it and now must wait until next year before it can be discussed again. No action was taken.

**APPROVAL OF CITY OF BARNWELL RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID
WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

Administrator Zawacki asked for Council's approval to go out for bids for solid waste collection services. The current contract with Republic will expire August 31, 2019. Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to allow the City Administrator to put the request out for bids. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE ADDITION TO THE DRUG FREE WORKPLACE POLICY

Lynn McEwen explained that the policy needed to be updated for the drugs that are tested for. Mayor Rivera made a motion to approve the addition to the Drug Free Workplace Policy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dozier and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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

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Recreation and Parks (Councilmen Pattillo and Walling) – Recreation Director Pamela Davis updated Council on baseball and softball, upcoming softball tournaments, farmer’s market, and the fishing derby.

Police (Councilmen Black and Barker) –No Report

Fire (Councilmen Barker and Walling) – No Report

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 updated Council on the upcoming Make a Difference Monday scheduled for June 10th. Ms. McEwen stated that Wednesday July 3rd will be the Independence Day Celebration. She would like to get a new Council photo at the next Council meeting on July 1st.

ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE

- Construction of the police station work is progressing on schedule with the completion date of August 30th.
- Provided a letter from the Barnwell delegation requesting SCDOT assistance to get the signs approved and installed for naming the road for Mrs. Johnnie Ruth Jenkins. Supplied additional information on Mrs. Jenkins to SCDOT per their request.
- The construction work on the new digester at the WWTP is ongoing and we expect completion by the end of November
- There will be a town hall meeting at the County library on June 13th from 6-8 to discuss the challenges facing our law enforcement agencies.
- Work on the budget has begun. We need to have the first reading at the July meeting. So, I will be requesting a special called meeting in June to hold a budget workshop.
- We are only allowed to raise the millage by 1.6 mils which is about \$18,000.

EXECUTIVE SESSION LEGAL/CONTRACTUAL ORCHIDS PAPER BANKRUPTCY

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and unanimously approved.

Council returned to open session.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, Councilman Walling made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barker and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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