

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL**

**November 1, 2021 – 5:30PM**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Marcus Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Billy Dozier, Alicia Davis, Peggy Kinlaw, and James Moody

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo, Police Chief Lamaz Robinson, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Staton, Public Works Director Philip Stanley, Fire Chief Tony Dicks, and City Attorney Thomas Boulware

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order, and Councilmember Kinlaw led in prayer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Rivera stated that the first two individuals would be bypassed because we do not discuss personnel issues in open session.

Mr. David McCoy – Mr. McCoy stated that he is concerned about the safety of the citizens in the City of Barnwell and would like to know if there is a plan to cut down on the crime rate. He said he thinks the City Administrator is doing a fine job. He would appreciate it if Council would let the citizens know what is going on. Mayor Rivera stated that we have seen some of the lowest crime rates in the city for the last three to five years. Police Chief Robinson has the data if anyone would like to see it.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2021

## **RECOGNITION OF STUDENT SCHOLAR**

Chloe and Charlee Wix were recognized as the student scholars for November.

## **BUSINESS RECOGNITION AWARD**

None

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2021, REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2021, regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25, 2021, SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Dozier made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2021, special called City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tem Dozier and Councilmember Moody) – Public Works Director Philip Stanley stated that some of the waste sent to the treatment plant this month, resulted in the loss of the treatment plant. We are working with DHEC to get the problem resolved. The problem has been identified and no more waste will be accepted from the industry until the problem has been corrected.

Mayor Rivera stated that Cascades has new management including a new general manager. Council is invited to Cascades on Wednesday for lunch and a walk thru of the plant.

Sanitation and Streets (Mayor Rivera and Councilmember Kinlaw) – No Report

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Mayor Pro Tem Dozier and Councilmember Moody) – Director Brandon Staton updated Council on football, upcoming basketball and cheerleading registration, and let them know the Turkey Trot will be held November 20th at Lemon Park.

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2021

Police (Councilmembers Moody and Davis) – Police Chief Robinson updated Council on Halloween and recent arrests.

Fire (Mayor Pro Tem Dozier and Councilmember Moody) – Fire Chief Tony Dicks provided Council with a written report for activity during the month of October 2021. They are now fully staffed.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Kinlaw and Davis) – No Report

Building and Planning (Mayor Pro Tem Dozier and Councilmember Kinlaw) – Administrator McEwen informed Council that the 120 days postponement for contractor qualifications for the Fire Station project will be up mid-November. She will send an email to the contractors to let them know we still have not received word on the funding.

### **ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE**

- We received two bids for the new well project. Due to the extremely high bid amounts, we are discussing with RIA and AECOM what can be done.
- There will be a ribbon cutting for the Old Police Station during the Sundial Festival at 1:15 pm on Saturday. Please join us and we hope to have a large crowd.
- We have been working out some logistical issues with SCDOT for the Marlboro Ave project to move our water lines for the sidewalks. In order for SCDOT to pay for the project, the sub-contractor chosen to move the lines will be under the SCDOT project coordinator. We will have the option to include our top three choices for the subcontractor. AECOM and the City will be involved in the project from start to finish.
- Updates on several activities and projects that have gone on this last year:
  - 2021 State Tournament Recap (June 26-29)
    - Total Revenue: \$13,213.51
    - Total Expenses: \$10,973.10
    - Total Net income from the tournament: \$2,240.41
  - Fuller Park Playground, Splashpad and Restrooms to date
    - Revenues
      - CPST received: \$350,903.37
      - CPST receivable when released by county: \$133,075.63
      - CPST total: \$483,979.00
      - PARD Grant: \$58,770.98
      - Total Revenue: \$542,749.98
      - Expenses \$560,431.54 to date

Barnwell City Council Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2021

The additional City expense of \$17,681.56 can come from the Hospitality Tax fund as discussed previously, since this is a qualified expense and money is available.

- Make a Difference Monday is scheduled for Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm, weather permitting. We will meet at the Exxon in front of Walmart and pick up along Dunbarton Blvd.
- We have not scheduled another meeting yet with City stakeholders for the ARPA funds because we are waiting to receive more cost estimates / information on several project needs that were already on our capital improvements list.
- The Sundial Festival is this Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, and the Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm with the tree lighting and other activities following.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Mayor Pro Tem Dozier made a motion to enter executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

Council returned to open session.

#### **ADJOURN**

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

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Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer