

**CITY OF BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BARNWELL CITY COUNCIL  
March 1, 2021 – 5:30PM**

MEETING LOCATION:  
130 Main Street, Barnwell, SC 29812

**REGULAR SESSION**

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Rivera, Mayor Pro Tem Pickens Williams Sr., Alicia Davis, Billy Dozier, Peggy Kinlaw, James Moody, and Robert Pattillo

Councilmembers Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Lynn McEwen, City Attorney Thomas Boulware, Clerk & Treasurer Kim Marie Vargo, Director of Public Works Philip Stanley, and Chief of Police Brian Johnson

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Williams led in prayer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**RECOGNITION OF STUDENT SCHOLARS**

Mayor Rivera recognized Reid Barker, Maleah Williams, and Richie Moduguh as Barnwell City Council Student Scholars for March 2021.

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## **BUSINESS RECOGNITION AWARD**

Mayor Rivera recognized Law Office of William H Alexander LLC and Elevate Nutrition LLC for March 2021.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 1, 2021 REGULAR SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021 regular scheduled City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved.

## **APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2021-04; AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN RETAIL, FOODSERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, AND IN PUBLIC CITY OWNED BUILDINGS**

Mayor Pro Tem Williams made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-04. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and unanimously approved. The emergency ordinance will be in effect for 60 days.

## **APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO THE BCEDC BOARD**

Mayor Rivera stated that Councilmember Dozier is currently on the BCEDC board. Councilmember Moody made a motion to nominate Councilmember Dozier to continue to serve on the board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kinlaw and unanimously approved.

## **APPROVAL TO PUBLISH AND AUCTION USED CITY EQUIPMENT**

Administrator McEwen had provided a list of items to be included in the auction. Councilmember Dozier made a motion to approve the items to be sold. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williams and unanimously approved.

## **RESOLUTION 2021-01 SUNSHINE WEEK RECOGNITION**

Administrator McEwen read the resolution recognizing the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> as Sunshine Week, a national initiative to encourage dialogue about the importance of open government and

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freedom of information. Councilmember Kinlaw made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis and unanimously approved.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Water and Sewer (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilman Pattillo) – Public Works Director Philip Stanley was going to discuss Sothern Carolina Alliance’s proposal to expand the City’s wastewater services to the SCAT Park in Snelling, but the City is still waiting on SCA to provide the necessary information from the industries located in the park to evaluate the proposal.

Administrator McEwen informed Council that the County Council approved the third reading of an ordinance to sell the property to the City needed for the RIA Well Project for \$7,040. The permit application has been submitted to DHEC. Once the deed is completed, work will begin to finalize the bid packages.

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

Parks, Recreation and Tourism (Councilmen Dozier and Moody) – The department has been preparing LPSC for baseball season. We have received the signed contract from the Barnwell Baseball Softball Association for the use of Lemon Park.

Police (Councilmembers Davis and Moody) – Police Chief Brian informed Council that the department will begin using the community oriented policing style. The police officers will be trained in this method of policing and community partnerships will be formed. The newly hired uncertified officers are in the process of training to become certified. Two have completed their inhouse training and are waiting to go to the academy.

Fire (Mayor Pro Tem Williams and Councilmembers Dozier and Moody) – Council was provided with a report of activities since the last meeting.

Finance and Salary (Councilmembers Davis and Kinlaw) – City Clerk & Treasurer Kim Vargo reviewed financial information for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020. The financial audit should be completed and presented by the auditors at the next Council meeting.

Building and Planning (Councilmembers Dozier and Kinlaw) – The walkthrough for the fire station renovation is scheduled for tomorrow. There has been interest from several contractors. Water, sewer, and electrical have been set at Fuller Park for the splash pad and we are waiting for the splash pad group to get started. The restroom has been approved and is ready for production, but it may not be ready by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

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### **ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

- Gave Council a draft of information to send to the legislature regarding the SRS money and asked Council for input.
- MADM will be held next Monday, weather permitting, with pickup along Clinton St beginning at Dunbarton Blvd. The Great American Cleanup is scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- The finalized Comprehensive Plan should be ready for the April Council meeting.
- Southeastern Housing has purchased two properties in the City limits for their revitalization program. They are also looking at several more locations in the City.
- Sundial Festival will be held March 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **ADJOURN**

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

Submitted by:

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Kim Marie Vargo, Clerk & Treasurer

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