

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**June 9, 2015**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified & notice was posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Barnwell County Council met on June 9, 2015 at 6 pm. Attending were Chairman David Kenner, Vice-Chairman Keith Sloan, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Freddie Houston Sr., Councilman Lowell Jowers Sr., Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney JD Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, Thomas Williams and Jeteseya Dennis with the Boys and Girls Club, Attorney Wesley Crumb, Veronika Gunter and Laura McKenzie with the People Sentinel.

**Public Hearing, Call to Order, Invocation, Declaration of a Quorum, Approval of Agenda & Minutes, Welcome & Public Comments**

A Public Hearing was held to receive comments prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of an Ordinance for the Ban of Animals in County Buildings. There were no comments. The meeting was called to order, the invocation given and a quorum declared. A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and it passed. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed. Chairman Kenner welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. There were none.

**Updates**

Boys and Girls Club of Southern Carolina

Thomas Williams and Jetesya Dennis updated Council on the history of the Boys and Girls Club in Barnwell County and the positive impact it was making on the local community as well as the impact being made across the nation due to the work of other Boys and Girls Clubs. They stressed increasing educational opportunities as well as giving youth a place to go, was saving lives and asked Council to consider providing financial support in the current and the upcoming yearly budgets.

Clerk to Council

Rhonda McElveen gave an update on the terms of Court saying there had been 20% more filings in May than in April.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams said that Kronotex had a golf tournament fund raiser and donated the \$7,500 raised to the Barnwell County Fire Service. Road paving on Rainbow Drive was continuing with two thirds of the rock down.

**Committee Reports**

Healthcare, Housing, Science Tech. & Reg. Matters, SCRDA and Transportation

There were no reports for the above Committees.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed March's financial report.

Boards & Commissions

Airport Commission	re-appointment of Otis Frazier to District 5 - term expiring 2018
Housing Committee	re-appointment of Lee Baker to District 5 - term expiring 2017
Housing Committee	re-appointment of Larry Hutto for District 2 - term expiring 2018
Museum Board	nomination of Jerry Morris (residing in District 6) for District 5
Planning Commission	nomination of Mike Anderson (residing in District 4) for District 5
Animal Shelter Board	appointment of Neva Fickling for District 2 - term expiring 2016
Animal Shelter Board	appointment of Evelyn Gardner for District 7 - term expiring 2018
Generations Unlimited	nomination of Robert Pagett for At Large 2 District

Councilman Jowers moved to table any appointment to the Thoroughbred Country Tourism Advisory Committee. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Government

City of Barnwell Administrator John Zawacki, said a groundbreaking ceremony for Orchids with a luncheon following would be on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am and invited everyone to attend.

Judicial

Councilman Buckmon said that he and Councilman Jowers had met with Sheriff Carroll, Deloris Charlton, and Debbie Fickling regarding building a replacement Detention Center as the bids received were approximately 2 million dollars higher than what the County had available. Council discussed different ideas and alternatives regarding building a new Detention Center. Councilman Buckmon said that the Public Defender's Office wanted to move into the old Voter Registration Building and Joe Varn with the Clemson Extension wanted to move out of the building.

Services

Councilman Buckmon said he had met with the leaders in Hilda, Kline, and District 45 regarding the recycling program. He would be meeting with City of Barnwell Administrator, John Zawacki in the coming week.

Finance

Councilman Houston said the Finance Committee had met and had increased the amount in the FY '15-'16 budget for the Boys and Girls Club to \$5,000, with the goal of continuing to budget yearly for the Club. The next Finance Committee meeting/workshop would be on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4 pm.

Personnel

Coming as a recommendation from the Personnel Committee, Councilman Houston moved that the sick leave accrual rate be reinstated to 12 sick leave days per year with a cap of 90 days. On December 15<sup>th</sup> each year, employees with days in excess of 90 would be paid for half of their excess time. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed.

Economic Development

Tommy Boyleston, with the EDC Board, said the Board had met the previous night and approved Danny Black's recommendation of Jim Gambrell to begin as an interim director to assist in getting the EDC records in order. Mr. Gambrell would work part time three days a week and would be paid \$75 per hour plus expenses. Councilman Smith moved for Council's approval of the EDC Board's recommendation. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed.

Old Business

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Ban of Animals Within County Buildings

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of this Ordinance. Councilman Houston seconded the motion. Councilman Sloan moved to amend the motion, asking instead for approval of a modified Ordinance provided to Council, which listed in red additional exceptions to the ban. Councilman Houston seconded Councilman's Sloan's amended motion. County Attorney said the modifications were so small in nature, an additional three readings would not be necessary. Councilman Buckmon disagreed with the modified version, saying if the Ordinance contained too many exceptions to the ban, it would be ineffective. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-No	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed.

New Business

Resolution Approving Authorized Signers on EDC Account

Councilman Houston moved to have the Councilman Smith, Councilman Sloan, and Administrator Williams listed as the authorized signers on the EDC Account. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Related to an Easement to the City of Barnwell

This Ordinance was read in name only.

Compact Fund Request from the City of Barnwell

Councilman Smith moved to approve the Compact Fund Request from the City of Barnwell which would be used for the construction of a 12 inch water line to serve Orchids Paper. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding the need to submit the Compact Fund Requests from both the City of Barnwell and the County for the payment of the remaining 46 acres which had been previously approved by Council. After submissions of the requests to the Budget and Control Board, funds would need to be paid to the Land Sales Account.

Personnel Committee Recommendation Concerning Sick Leave

This action item was voted on and approved during the Personnel Committee update.

Councilman Jowers moved to enter into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and is passed.

**Executive Session**

No action was taken in Executive Session.

**Open Session**

Councilman Sloan made a motion to approve the FILT Inducement Resolution with Project Cute. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-No	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed.

Councilman Sloan moved to approve a proposal from the EDC to resolve a dispute with a tenant. Attorney Mosteller would send Administrator Williams a document to present to the tenant. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Futrell, Clerk of Council



David Kenner, Council Chair