

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
November 13, 2012
MINUTES

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

Barnwell County Council met on November 13, 2012 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Council Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney J.D. Mosteller and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were Marty Martin with the EDC, Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, Sheriff Ed Carroll, Attorney Michael Kozlarek and Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel.

Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum

Chairman Black called the meeting to order and declared a quorum. Councilman Kenner gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the agenda. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the minutes of the October 9th Council meeting. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Welcome / Public Comments

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no public comments.

Updates

Economic Development Commission

Marty Martin distributed a report and said that NK Newlook in Blackville was now employing 70 workers.

Clerk of Court

Rhonda McElveen distributed a report. She said that deeds from 1978 to present could now be accessed at www.sclandrecords.com and that approximately \$3,000 had been saved due to a settled jury trial.

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll distributed a report of his office activities during October.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams said that the Building and Grounds Department had replaced heating elements in the engine and repaired holes in the radiator of the diesel generator at the Detention Center and that because the generator was approximately 40 years old, it was difficult to order a new radiator making it likely that the generator would need to be replaced soon. Fire Coordinator Timbo Williams had been researching sites for a substation for Friendship and for Snelling. This would fill some of the void areas that were not within 5 miles of a station. Due to low commodity prices, the Landfill had been storing recyclables which was making the recycling revenues low. However, due to a lack of storage space and the deterioration of the recyclables some would need to be sold soon, regardless of price.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Councilman Kenner appointed Doris Beard to the Library Board for District 2. Councilman Houston said he would be appointing someone within District 1 to serve on the Planning Commission and asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to Felicia Holman for having served. Councilman Smith nominated Mike Anderson to represent District 5 instead of District 7 on the Planning Commission. Chairman Black appointed Jimmy Baxley to the Planning Commission for District 7. Councilman Sloan said that Bill Johnson had resigned from the Fire Commission and asked that he be sent a letter of appreciation for having served.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Statement for September 2012 and gave clarification on revenue funds 0420 – 520, 0460-626 and expense item 0118 – 1026. Discussion was held concerning reimbursements from outside agencies and Administrator Williams was asked to research whether outside agencies are being billed for reimbursements that are due to the County.

Finance, Economic Development, Government, Housing, Safety, Science/Technology/Regulatory Matters, SC RDA and Services Committees

There were no reports for the above Committees.

HealthCare Committee

Councilman Jowers said he had spoken with Attorney Ray Jones and that the revised Asset Purchase Agreement (APA) was ready to be signed. He moved that Council authorize the Chairman to sign the necessary papers for the final sale of the Hospital. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. Discussion was held as to whether there would be time for Council to review the revised APA. Councilman Jowers amended his motion for Council to authorize the Chairman to sign the necessary papers for the final sale of the Hospital once the APA was reviewed by Council. Councilman Sloan seconded the amended motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Black-Yes

Councilman Buckmon-Yes

Councilman Houston-Yes

Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Yes

Councilman Sloan-Yes

Councilman Smith-Yes

The amended motion passed.

Judicial Committee

Councilman Kenner asked everyone to remember the deteriorated condition of the jail.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner said that the bonus money had been sent to the employees and expressed his appreciation to the employees for their hard work and endurance.

Transportation Committee

Councilman Houston said that maps were being drawn by the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for the redesign of the intersections of highways 39/78 and 300/278. He said that he had confirmed with Amanda Sievers at the SCDOT that the maps were preliminary only with the sole purpose of having a design which could be brought before Council and the community to review and have input on.

Old Business2nd Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Land Development Regulations

Administrator Williams said that the minor corrections made to the Land Development Regulations since the 1st reading of the Ordinance were included in the Council packets and that he would be attending the November 19th Planning Commission meeting to discuss any additional changes that needed to be made. Councilman Houston moved to approve the 2nd Reading of the Ordinance to Amend the Land Development Regulations. The motion was seconded and it passed.

New BusinessAgreement with Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc. (Plant Vogtle)

Roger Riley with Emergency Management said that due to the Fukushima accident in Japan, additional regulations were being required by FEMA. Because of this, his assistant's job description would no longer include 911 addressing for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Riley had negotiated a contract with Plant Vogtle to pay the total salary of the Emergency Management Assistant position. He said the contract included a clause allowing yearly renegotiation of funding and that after reactors 3 & 4 were built, the contract would be renegotiated with an anticipated funding increase.

Resolution for Proclamation of Barnwell County Community Foundation Week 2012

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Resolution for Proclamation of Barnwell County Community Foundation Week 2012. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

2012 Millage Resolution

Councilman Sloan moved to approve 2012 Millage Resolution. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

Emergency Ordinance Related to the Issuance of a Tax Anticipation Note

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Emergency Ordinance Related to the Issuance of a Tax Anticipation Note. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Discussion was held as to whether the Ordinance needed three readings prior to a vote. Attorney Kozlarek said that due to the Home Rule Act, three readings were not required. He also indicated to Council that the yearly budget ordinance passed by Council could include the wording related to the issuance of a tax anticipation note making the need for an additional ordinance unnecessary. Council voted on the motion and it passed. Administrator Williams stated that the ordinance was being presented in the event cash flow levels became extremely low in the coming weeks. He added that a TAN would hopefully not be needed.

1st Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Creation of a Multi-County HealthCare Park; Execute and Deliver a Master Park Agreement

This Ordinance was read in name only.

1st Reading of an Ordinance to Execute and Deliver a Master Park Agreement for the New Quad-County Industrial Park

This Ordinance was read in name only.

Councilman Sloan said that the Quad County Park Agreement had been discussed for two years and had previously been voted on by Council twice. He moved that the Barnwell County Council meet in January with the Councils of Allendale, Bamberg and Hampton County to discuss the Master Park Agreement's revisions. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Sloan moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss a pre-contractual matter and a potential litigation matter. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed.

Executive Session

Pre-Contractual Matter
Potential Litigation Matter

Open Session

No action was taken during Executive Session.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council



Travis Black
Council Chairman