

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNE 21, 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 June 21, 2012 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Vice Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., Clerk to Council Kim Futrell, County Attorney J.D. Mosteller, Attorney Ray Jones and Susan Delk with the People Sentinel. Councilman David Kenner was unable to attend.

Public Hearing

To Receive Comments Prior to the 3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the County Budget for FY '12-'13
There were no public Comments

Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum

The meeting was called to order, Councilman Houston gave the invocation and a quorum was declared.

Approval of Agenda

Councilman Houston moved to approve the Agenda. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Welcome

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The 3rd Reading of FY '12-'13 Budget Ordinance was handled before the other items under Old Business as Council was awaiting the arrival of Attorney Ray Jones who would be giving a summary of the purpose of the Ordinances related to the Creation of the Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park.

Old Business

3rd Reading of FY '12-'13 Budget Ordinance

Councilman Sloan said that the Budget was in balance with no increase in taxes. He said that, contingent upon the Legislature increasing local government funding, the budget included provisions for employees that had not received a salary increase since the 3 % reduction was imposed to receive a one time payment of up to 3%. Councilman Houston said that there needed to be provisions made should the Legislature fail to increase the local government funding. Councilman Jowers said he felt provisions for the full 3 % needed to be made at the beginning of the fiscal year and not contingent upon the Legislature's decision. He expressed concern that should the Legislature fail to increase the local government fund, the 3% for the employees may fall through. Councilman Sloan said that a portion of the 3% had been provided for within the budget and affirmed that, should Legislature not increase the local government funding, Council would need to revisit the budget to determine areas where adjustments could be made to allocate for the remaining amount of the 3% that had not been provided for.

Councilman Houston said that the Finance Committee had reviewed the Airport's budget request which was for additional money for salaries. Having reviewed the Airports budget, the Finance Committee was able to determine areas from within the Airport's budget that the Airport could adjust, making money available for salaries. The Finance Committee shared these recommendations with the Airport. Councilman Houston said that if later in the fiscal year, the Airport needed assistance and had acted on the recommendations given to them, the Finance Committee may need to review their request.

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee met with Denmark Tech and was unable to provide for their budget request of \$24,000 toward deferred maintenance on their campuses. He made a motion that Council Chairman Black send a letter of support to the State Technical Educational System emphasizing the importance of Denmark Tech to Barnwell County and requesting that the State Technical Education System provide the additional funding for their maintenance. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the 3rd Reading of the FY '12-'13 Budget Ordinance. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Sloan expressed his appreciation for Council's input, Councilman Houston's attendance at all of the Finance Committee meetings, Treasurer Wendy Gibson and the Department Heads and Elected Officials striving to keep their budget down to the previous years level. He commended Administrator Williams and attributed his hard work as key in pulling the budget together with no increase.

Councilman Houston moved to approve the Fire Commission Budget. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the County to Create a Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park Between Barnwell County and Bamberg County and other Related Matters

Attorney Ray Jones addressed Council giving a thorough explanation of the purpose of each of the Ordinances. Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 3rd Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the County to Create a Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park Between Barnwell County and Bamberg County and other Related Matters. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Black-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes
Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Absent
Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Creation of a Master Park Agreement Governing the Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park Between Barnwell County and Bamberg County and Other Related Matters

Councilman Houston moved to approve the 3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Creation of a Master Park Agreement Governing the Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park Between Barnwell County and Bamberg County and Other Related Matters. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Black-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes
Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Absent
Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Provision of Economic Development Incentives for a Regional Healthcare System and Other Related Matters.

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the 3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Provision of Economic Development Incentives for a Regional Healthcare System and Other Related Matters. Councilman Houston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Black-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes
Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Absent
Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

Chairman Black noted that Council would be entering into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters involving the Quad County FILOT split and a personnel matter.

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Executive Session

There was no action taken in Executive Session.

Open Session

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council



Travis Black
Council Chairman

