

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**September 7, 2010**  
**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 September 7, 2010 in Council Chambers in the Agricultural Building at 6:00PM. Those in attendance were Chairman Thomas L. Williams, Vice Chairman Travis Black, Councilman Freddie Houston, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, County Administrator Pickens Williams, Jr., County Attorney J.D. Mosteller and Clerk to Council Latoya Shuler. Councilman David Kenner was not able to attend.

**Call to Order, Invocation, and Quorum**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams and an invocation was given by Councilman Jowers. A quorum was declared.

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the August 10, 2010 meeting were approved with the following amendments: Change the statements on pages 3, 4 and 5 from "Chairman Williams made a motion" to "a motion was made".

**Welcome.**

Chairman Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged the public's attendance at Council meetings.

**Public Comment**

Scott Neely introduced himself to the Council as the Economic Development Local Government Representative for the SCANA Corporation. Chairman Williams asked Scott to follow up on a contribution his company was considering for the Southern Carolina Boys and Girls Club.

**Sheriff**

Sheriff Carroll presented a packet of information to update Council on activities of the Sheriff's office. He briefed Council on gang activity in the County and confiscated items from a recent arrest.

**Clerk of Court**

Clerk of Court McElveen provided an update on activity in her office for August 2010. There were two trials from Common Pleas. Family court was held on August 23, 2010. Registration of Deeds will be online next month. She said her staff will be working with the Debt Offset Program to collect a portion of the \$29 million owed for past due fines and fees. Counties have

received from a small percentage up to 25% of the past due amounts in the first year of the program.

#### Administrator

- Pickens stated that the Assessor's office records are online on Q Public's website. They can be accessed by a link on the County's website by the end of the week.
- Rea Construction was awarded the 2010 Road Project Contract. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 9, 2010 at 2:00 pm.
- The tanker for the Long Branch fire station is in service.
- The agreement for the concrete crushing at the landfill has been signed.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### Boards and Commissions

Chairman Williams nominated Stephanie Eubanks to the Axis 1 Board for District 45, Seat 2. Councilman Houston made a motion to accept the nomination of Joyce Elkins to the Animal Shelter Board. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Houston made a motion to disband the Census Board, and that the Chairman send each member a letter thanking them for their service. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

##### EDC Committee

A workshop is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to discuss matters concerning the Quad County Park Agreement.

##### Finance Committee

Councilman Houston informed the Council that funds would need to be set aside for the Clerk of Court's Office and the Sheriff's Office for a murder case retrial. Additional funds will also need to be set aside for the Clerk of Court Office's staff working overtime to recover past due fines and fees.

The offices of the Auditor, Probate Judge and Treasurer have not provided the County Administrator a breakdown of their budgets reflecting the 3% reductions approved by Council for FY' 10 - '11.

##### Financial Update

A copy of the July Revenue and Expense Report was included in Council's packet. Pickens stated that the "Misc. Revenue item includes a portion of the Nursing Home Sale proceeds.

##### Government Committee

A meeting is scheduled for September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Health Care Committee

The Nursing Home Advisory Committee has agreed to meet quarterly with a meeting scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Housing Committee

No report.

Judicial Committee

A meeting is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Personnel Committee

A meeting is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The committee will be reviewing the Personnel Manual and will make recommended changes to Council for approval.

Services Committee

No report.

Safety Committee

No report.

Transportation Committee

A meeting is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to Authorize the Issuance and Sale of a Tax Anticipation Note Not Exceeding \$2,500,000.

Councilman Houston made a motion that the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Ordinance to Authorize the Issuance and Sale of a Tax Anticipation Note Not Exceeding \$2,500,000 be approved. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to Require Performance Bonding for Certain Demolition Projects

A motion was made to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Ordinance to Require Performance Bonding for Certain Demolition Projects. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the FY '10 – '11 Budget

This reading was held in name only.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Approving the Financing of Facilities for Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority

This reading was held in name only.

Resolution Concerning Proceeds from the Sale of the Nursing Home

Vice Chairman Black made a motion to approve the Resolution Concerning Proceeds from the Sale of the Nursing Home. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Request from Election Commission for Additional Space

Councilman Jowers made a motion to allow the Election Commission to use additional space in the Ag Building with the understanding that the walls shall remain and the County Administrator can use the space if needed during the repairing of the Administration Building. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Request for Waiver of 60-day Hiring Freeze – Administrative Assistant/Clerk to Council Position

Councilman Smith made a motion to waive the 60 hiring freeze for the Administrative Assistant/Clerk to Council position. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Council thanked Clerk to Council LaToya Shuler for her service and wished her well.

Suggestion Concerning American Legion Building at Veteran's Park

Councilman Sloan made a motion to create a resolution in support of the Marine Corps League and the Vietnam Veterans of America building a Veteran's building at Veteran's Park. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Possible Donation of Property to the County

No action was taken. Referred to the County Attorney.

**Executive Session**

Councilman Jowers made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Vice Chairman Black seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

There was no action taken in Executive Session.

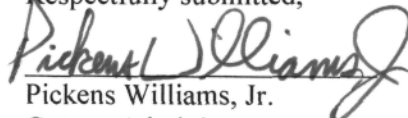
**Open Session**

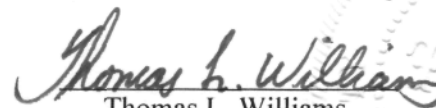
Councilman Sloan made a motion to approve an Inducement Resolution for Project Tissue. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Sloan made a motion that the County bear the cost of a traffic ticket for an overloaded dump truck in an amount not to exceed \$2,050. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Pickens Williams, Jr.  
County Administrator

  
Thomas L. Williams  
Council Chairman

