

# BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL

September 9, 2014

## 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 September 9, 2014 at 6 pm for its regularly scheduled meeting. In attendance were Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Vice-Chairman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, Attorney JD Mosteller, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr. and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, William Crawford, and Will Whaley with the People Sentinel.

### ***Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum / Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes / Welcome / Special Presentation / Public Comments***

The meeting was called to order, the invocation given and a quorum declared. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the agenda and Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Councilman Creech objected saying the EDC Ordinance had been rewritten and needed a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. He moved to amend the agenda by having a 1<sup>st</sup> reading and tabling the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion. After discussion, Attorney JD Mosteller said the Ordinance was substantially the same and Council could proceed with a 3<sup>rd</sup> reading if they chose to. A roll call vote was requested.

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

The motion to amend the agenda did not carry.

A vote on the original motion to approve the agenda was taken and passed. Councilman Jowers opposed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the August 12<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Councilman Smith presented a Resolution to William Crawford recognizing his retirement and 15 years of service.

Chairman Houston welcomed everyone and asked for public comments. Rodney Peeples, representing the BBC, and Roland Brant spoke in opposition of the Ordinance related to the EDC. There were no other comments.

### ***Updates***

#### Clerk of Court

Rhonda McElveen distributed a report, updated Council on upcoming Court sessions and requested a meeting with the Judicial and Personnel Committees regarding additional personnel being necessary due to an increased workload caused by mandates from the Chief Justice.

#### Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Carroll was unable to attend. A report from the Sheriff was distributed to Council prior to the meeting.

#### County Administrator

Administrator Williams gave an update on the Departments and displayed the 2014 Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation award that had been presented to Barnwell County for cooperation displayed between Abbeville, Anderson, Barnwell, and Jasper Counties following the Pax ice storm.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### Boards and Commissions, Economic Development, Finance, Healthcare, Housing, Science Technology & Regulatory Matters, Services, and Transportation

No appointments were made and there were no reports for the above Committees.

#### Government

Chairman Houston said the Government Committee met on September 5<sup>th</sup> to revise the EDC Ordinance using the suggestions sent via email from Council to the County Administrator.

#### Judicial

Councilman Buckmon said the Judicial Committee would meet with the Clerk of Court regarding additional personnel.

#### Personnel

Councilman Kenner said the Personnel Committee would meet with the Clerk of Court regarding additional personnel.

Safety

Councilman Creech said the SCDOT would not approve use of CFunds to pave the driveway at the fire department as the use of CFunds required that the public have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Council discussed alternate methods to pave the driveway.

SCRDA

Councilman Jowers said that Council had received a report from the SCA prior to the meeting.

Services

Councilman Smith urged attendance at the the Animal Shelter Board meetings as new regulations were being developed which would affect all dog owners

New BusinessResolution Related to the 2014 DOE PILT

Administrator Williams said the DOE had contacted him wanting to make an advanced partial payment for the 2014 PILT. Councilman Sloan moved to approve this Resolution. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Approval of Grant for Spec Building – Clarification

Councilman Jowers said the SCA was doing a grant match of \$150,000 and would be financing \$1,500,000. Administrator Williams said the grant had previously been approved by Council, but the amount being financed had increased and the Department of Commerce had asked if Council was aware of the increase. Councilman Jowers moved for approval of the updated amount. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Able Green Solutions Inc

Louis Claytor and George Robertson detailed how Able Green Solutions converted trash into energy and how it might save the County money.

Old Business3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Related to the EDC

Councilman Sloan moved to approve this Ordinance. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Councilman Jowers said the Ordinance was previously tabled until the investigation was complete. Chairman Houston said it had been clarified at the August 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting that anyone on the prevailing party could put the Ordinance back into discussion. Councilman Jowers asked Attorney JD Mosteller for clarification on parliamentary procedure. Attorney JD Mosteller said the Ordinance had been placed on the agenda by the Chair and added that he did not know if Councilman Sloan would be the appropriate person to make the motion. Councilman Sloan clarified that his motion was not for the Ordinance to be put on the agenda for discussion, but was to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the Ordinance which had already been placed on the agenda by the Chair. Councilman Jowers read a portion of the minutes from the August 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting and said Council had not voted to have the Government Committee rewrite the Ordinance and that Attorney Mosteller had not seen the Ordinance. Discussion was held regarding the manner in which the suggestions were received, clarification on who had received the reworded Ordinance, the Government Committee meeting, and the meetings with the Mayors. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Houston-Yes  
Councilman Buckmon-No

Councilman Creech-No  
Councilman Jowers-No

Councilman Kenner-Yes  
Councilman Sloan-Yes

Councilman Smith-Yes

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kim A. Futrell, Clerk to Council  
Freddie Houston, Council Chairman