

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL

May 13, 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 May 13, 2014 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Freddie Houston, Vice-Chairman David Kenner, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Lowell Jowers, 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 David Berry, Danny McConnell with the YMCA, Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, Sheriff Carroll and Will Whaley with the People Sentinel.

Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum / Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order, the invocation was given and a quorum was declared. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and it passed. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the minutes for the April 8th Council meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Special Presentation/Welcome / Public Comments

Vice-Chairman Kenner presented David Berry with a Resolution of Recognition for his being a 2014 Inductee to the SC Coaches Hall of Fame. Chairman Houston welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. Jim Arnold expressed concerns that the Career Center did not make openings available for students that are homeschooled or that attend private school. Justin Bamberg, who is running to be the next Representative for House District 90, introduced himself to Council.

Updates

YMCA

Danny McConnell, CEO for the YMCA said the Corporate Board approved the Barnwell County YMCA as its 10th branch and commended Councilman Creech for his hard work. A temporary director would be hired and would have an office in the SCA building. They would continue to look at facilities in Barnwell County for the YMCA.

Clerk of Court

Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen distributed a report and gave an update on upcoming Court sessions.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Carroll distributed a report and asked Council to approve proceeding with the Drug/Gang Task Force. He said dispatch needed new software as the software currently in use was outdated.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams introduced the new Building Inspector, Mike Grubbs. In the Business Office, there had been a decrease in workers' comp claims which would likely reduce premiums. In Emergency Management, a FEMA representative had been assisting Roger Riley with expense reimbursement forms. In Voter Registration, Naomi DeFrenn was one out of eleven of the forty-six counties that had already received her certification.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Axis 1 – Councilman Sloan nominated Ronnie Brown to Seat 5, District 29.

Generations Unlimited – Councilman Sloan nominated Donnie Dunaway for District 3. Mr. Dunaway resides in District 1.

Museum Board – Councilman Buckmon moved to appoint Julia J. Woods for District 4. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Jowers moved to appoint Sandra Knight for District 6. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Capital Project Sales Tax Committee for District 45 – Councilman Creech said he would contact Adam Altman to see if he would be willing to serve. Councilman Sloan moved to appoint Mr. Altman if he agreed to serve. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Economic Development, Government, Healthcare, Housing, Personnel, Safety, Science/Technology/Regulatory Matters, and SCRDA

There were no reports for the above Committees.

Finance Committee

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee met on April 23rd to review the budget and there was a deficit of \$550,000 in the budget, adding that a large portion of the deficit would depend on the amount of available funding for the ice storm cleanup. The next meeting would be May 20th at 10 am.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the March's financial report.

Judicial

Councilman Buckmon said minor changes, including the Sheriff wanting an office on site, were being made to the plans for the new Detention Center.

Services

Councilman Smith said that 3 Rivers had increased their prices and moved that the County increase its landfill fees by \$2.00 per ton to match the 3 Rivers price increase. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Transportation

Councilman Creech said progress on some C Fund projects was at a standstill as the Committee was waiting on legal services to proceed.

New Business**Resolutions of Appreciation to Abbeville, Anderson, and Jasper Counties**

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the resolutions which were in appreciation for the volunteer assistance given to Barnwell County by these Counties after the Ice Storm Pax. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed. Roger Riley would present the resolutions to the three Counties at their upcoming Council meetings.

Memorandum of Agreement – Airport Fencing Project

James Stevens with the SC Aeronautics Commission said two grants from the SC Aeronautics Commission and the FAA were available for use in Barnwell County for the Airport Fencing Project. The State portion of the grant would be \$32,002, the local match would be \$32,001 and the balance would be funded by the Federal government. The Airport had the local match in its budget and was not requesting funding from the County. Councilman Jowers moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the Airport Fencing Project. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Provision of \$500 for Fireworks Show

Coming from a recommendation of the Finance Committee, Councilman Sloan moved to approve the City of Barnwell's funding request of \$500 to be paid out of the current year budget to assist with the fireworks show. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Request to Begin the Drug/Gang Task Force Program

Councilman Buckmon moved that the Sheriff proceed with the Drug/Gang Task Force once all the Intergovernmental Agreements were received from the municipalities. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Discussion was held that all of the municipalities had verbally agreed to the Drug/Gang Task Force and that Council should approve having the Sheriff begin implementation. Councilman Buckmon amended his motion and requested that the Administrator send a letter to the municipalities billing them for the first quarter and requesting they return the Intergovernmental Agreement. Councilman Kenner seconded the amended motion and it passed.

Consideration of Date for June Council Meeting

Due to the election being held on June 10th, Council discussed rescheduling the regular June Council meeting and eliminating the regular July Council meeting. Councilman Jowers moved to approve having the Council meeting on June 30th, eliminating the regular July 8th Council meeting and having a Special Called Council meeting in July to proceed with the Capital Project Sales Tax. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Chairman Houston asked that a Town Hall meeting be scheduled on May 27th from 6 to 8 pm in the County Library.

Landfill Fee Increase

This agenda item was approved during the Services Committee Report.

Capital Projects List

After discussion, Council determined the order of priority for projects using revenues from the Capital Project Sales Tax: 1) Courthouse repairs 2) Constructing a new scale house at the Landfill 3) Agricultural Building repairs.

Regional Planning Grant: Intergovernmental Agreement

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Regional Planning Grant. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Old Business**Proposed Changes and 2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Reorganization of the EDC**

Council discussed the version of the ordinance related to the reorganization of the EDC which contained the proposed changes. There were concerns as to the wording of Section 1 regarding who could be appointed to the Committee, if County Council's Standing Committees would be affected, the purposes of the Board and who would have voting privileges. Councilman Smith moved to approve the 2nd Reading of the Ordinance (with proposed changes) upon the condition the clarification to Section 1 be added: "This paragraph it is not intended to have any effect on any Standing Committee of County Council or the Municipalities." Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Houston-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Creech-No

Councilman Jowers-No
Councilman Kenner-Yes
Councilman Sloan-Yes

Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

Councilman Sloan asked that the ordinance, once modified, be sent to the communities involved for them to have it for their 1st and 2nd readings before County Council had its 3rd reading.

2nd Reading of an Ordinance to Sell a Lot on Charles Street

Councilman Smith moved to change the ordinance by including the piece of property which was being used by a local business. Because the ordinance was specific to Charles Street and had already been purchased, the ordinance could not be modified and the other property would need an ordinance prepared for that property alone. Councilman Smith withdrew his motion and made a new motion to approve the 2nd reading of the ordinance to sell a lot on Charles Street. The motion was seconded and it passed. Councilman Buckmon abstained from voting as he was a member of the Church purchasing the property.

2nd Reading of FY '14-'15 Budget Ordinance

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the 2nd Reading of the FY '14-'15 Budget Ordinance. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Authorization to Transfer Property from the EDC to the Airport

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Transfer of Property from the EDC to the Airport. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Sloan moved to approve giving authority to Councilman Creech or Councilman Jowers to sign necessary papers for the Transfer of Property. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

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

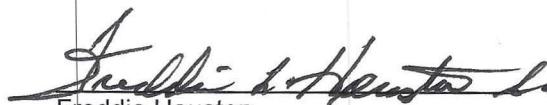
A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council



Freddie Houston
Council Chairman