

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
MAY 8, 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 May 8, 2012 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Vice Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., Clerk to Council Kim Futrell and County Attorney J.D. Mosteller. Also in attendance were Frank Hribar with Dennis Corporation, Sheriff Ed Carroll, Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, and Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel.

Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum

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

Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded and it passed.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 10th Council meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Welcome / Public Comments

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no public comments. Councilman Houston welcomed Berline Shipes, who is a senior at the Williston Elko High School and the student body President. Councilman Houston presented Ms. Shipes with a letter her father had written to the School Board in 1997.

Special Presentations

Councilman Smith read a Resolution of Appreciation in recognition of Mrs. Anne Hagood for her 36 years of service on the Museum Board. Mrs. Hagood was unable to be present. Administrator Williams presented Ms. Carolyn Neal with a plaque and a watch in recognition of her 30 years of employment at the Detention Center and retirement from Barnwell County.

Updates

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll distributed a written report and said that as of June 12th, Law Enforcement would need to begin providing security at the Magistrate's Offices due to a recent Court Order from Chief Justice Tolal.

Clerk of Court

Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen distributed a written report to Council and said \$6,000 had been collected from the debt set off program. The Cherokee Garden Club in conjunction with the Building and Grounds Department were making improvements to the Sundial Courtyard at no cost to the County.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams said that Public Works had made improvements to the Snelling Town Hall/Fire Department by pouring a sidewalk and by prepping the driveway for a contractor to pave the lot. The bid opening date for the Curtis Drive Phase II project will be May 18th at 2:00 pm.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the nomination of Jerry Morris to District 5 of the Museum Board. The motion was seconded and it passed.

At the recommendation of Mary Ann Keisler with the LSCOG, Councilman Houston moved to reappoint Lynn Cox to the Thoroughbred Country Tourism Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Councilman Sloan moved to appoint Leroy Robinson to represent the Private Sector on the Workforce Development Board. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Sloan reappointed the following persons for District 3: Don Bodiford with the Building Code Appeals Board, Mary Cothran with the Building Naming and Land Use Board, Faith Zeigler with the Equalization Board of Appeals and Willie Walker with the Transportation Committee.

Finance Committee

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee met on April 27th for preliminary reviews of the budget requests and would meet again on May 16th at 10 am. He encouraged everyone's attendance.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the March 2012 Revenue and Expense Statement giving clarification on Revenue Accounts 0540, 0720, 0825 and 0930 and Expense Account 7002.

Government, Housing, Personnel, Safety and Transportation Committees

There were no reports for the above Committees.

HealthCare Committee

Councilman Jowers said the Medicare Settlement Agreement with CMS will be about \$50,000, which was considerably less than the initial amount.

Judicial Committee

Councilman Kenner moved to approve the Resolution and Mutual Aid Agreements with the City of Aiken Department of Public Safety and Bamberg County. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Kenner asked for everyone to keep the dilapidated condition of the Detention Center in mind as the new fiscal year approaches.

Services Committee

Councilman Smith advised Council of recent conflicts between Animal Shelter employees and the Animal Shelter Board. He said that Debbie Fickling was assisting in the oversight of possible areas of concern at the Animal Shelter. Councilman Smith advised that Council may need to take further action if the conflict between Animal Shelter Staff and the Animal Shelter Board continued.

Old Business

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to a Multi-County Regional Healthcare Park Between Barnwell County and Bamberg County.

This agenda item was tabled until the June 12th, 2012 Council meeting.

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

This agenda item was tabled until the June 12th, 2012 Council meeting.

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Hospital Pension Plan.

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Hospital Pension Plan. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call voted was requested.

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

Councilman Jowers-Yes
Councilman Kenner-Yes

Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Provision of Economic Development Incentives for a Regional Healthcare System and Other Related Matters.

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to the Provision of Economic Development Incentives for a Regional Healthcare System 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-Yes

Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

New Business

1st Reading of FY '12-'13 Budget Ordinance.

This Ordinance was read in name only.

Mutual Aid Agreements.

Council voted on and approved this agenda item during the Judicial Committee portion of the Agenda.

Conceptual Plan, Price Estimate for Williston-Elko Wellness Center

Councilman Houston said that the Williston-Elko Wellness Center would be a 501C3 which would mean the County would have ownership of the property until it is paid for. It was discussed that the County would be required to retain ownership of the Center if the loan is through USDA and also because it will be paid for through a Special Interest District which can only be created by a County. Administrator Williams said the proposal from Dennis Corporation for estimated construction costs also includes the provision of an estimate of operating costs which will be part of the petition that would need to be circulated. Councilman Sloan moved to continue keeping the previously approved compact funds, set aside for use for the Williston-Elko Community Center, and to allow for up to 10% (\$12,500) of those funds to be used for costs necessary to have the referendum placed on the ballot. Councilman Buckmon seconded the 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 motion passed.

Councilman Houston moved to approve the use \$5,660 out of the %10 percent set aside to be paid to the Dennis Corporation to complete their study. Councilman Buckmon seconded the 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 motion passed.

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

Executive Session

There was no action taken in Executive Session.

Open Session

Councilman Sloan moved to authorize Administrator Williams to provide funding to the Hospital in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to settle the CMS claims against Barnwell County Hospital. The motion was seconded. A roll call voted was requested.

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

Councilman Jowers-Yes
Councilman Kenner-Yes

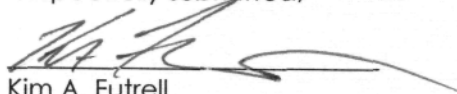
Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council


Travis Black
Council Chairman