

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL

June 29, 2011

Special Called Meeting

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 for a Special Called meeting on June 29, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Vice Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, County Attorney JD Mosteller, County Administrator Pickens Williams Jr, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Councilman Harold Buckmon was unable to attend. Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel was also in attendance.

A public hearing was held to receive comments prior to the 3rd reading of an ordinance related to the FY '11-'12 County budget. Chairman Black called for public comments. Bobbie Padgett said she was not in favor of the tax increase. There were no other public comments.

Chairman Black called the meeting to order, Councilman Jowers gave the invocation, and Chairman Black declared a quorum. Councilman Jowers made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Chairman Black welcomed everyone and asked if there were any public comments concerning other items on the agenda. There were none.

3rd Reading of the FY '11-'12 Budget Ordinance

Councilman Sloan gave a brief review of the budget and made a motion to approve. Councilman Houston seconded the motion. Discussion was held by Council on any other possible cuts available in the budget or funds that could be used to avoid the 2 mill tax increase. Councilman Sloan and Chairman Black expressed appreciation for those who had worked on the budget. Councilman Sloan requested a roll call vote.

Chairman Black-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Absent	Councilman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes		

The motion passed.

Recommendation Concerning Retiree Insurance

Councilman Kenner made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Personnel Committee that the County's policy of paying retiree' Insurance premiums not be offered to new hires after January 1, 2012. The motion was seconded and it passed. Councilman Sloan said he, on behalf of the Finance Committee, requested that the Personnel Committee explore giving the Administrator flexibility in reviewing salaries and merit increases.

Consideration of the FY '11-'12 Fire Commission Budget

Councilman Jowers made a motion to approve the FY '11-'12 Fire Commission Budget. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. Discussion was held by Council concerning the purchase of a new fire truck, the rotation of the older trucks, and putting the highest mileage truck on the Gov Sale website. The motion passed.

Request from Generations Unlimited

Councilman Smith said Generations Unlimited wanted to create a tax exempt status so that donations could be tax deductible and he made a motion to approve. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. Discussion was held by Council that this would be a 5013C and that board members would need to be appointed by Council. The motion passed. County Attorney Mosteller asked Chairman Black if Council would want him to draft bylaws similar to the ones he prepared for the Library Foundation. Chairman Black responded yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Futrell
Clerk to Council



Travis Black
Council Chairman