

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
JULY 6, 2010
MINUTES

Barnwell County Council met on July 6, 2010 in Council Chambers in the Agricultural Building at 6:00PM. Those in attendance were Chairman Thomas Williams, Vice Chairman Travis Black, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, County Attorney J.D. Mosteller, and County Administrator Pickens Williams, Jr. Councilman Freddie Houston was unable to attend.

Call to Order, Invocation, and Quorum

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

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and passed that the following item be added to the agenda:
Waiver of 60-day hiring freeze for the payroll clerk position

The agenda was approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 1, 2010 meeting were approved.

Welcome.

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

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Updates

Census Bureau

Ms. Terry Seabrook, Partner Specialist with the US Census 2010, provided an update and positive highlights from the 2010 census. She stated that South Carolina's reporting percentage increased from 49th in the nation in the last Census to 23rd in the 2010 Census. Barnwell County had a 75% reporting rate, which is above the national rate of 72%. She stated that redistricting information would be available in 2013.

SCRDA

Danny Black provided the SCRDA update. He said their prospect activity is pretty good, but companies are having trouble finding financing. The Hampton County park is 99% complete. About 185 people attended the SCRDA annual meeting in May. The Industry Appreciation Event will be held on October 21, 2010.

Clerk of Court

Clerk of Court McElveen provided an update on activity in her office for June 2010. There were two sessions of court in June. Several inmate pleas were taken in Bamberg recently.

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll presented a packet of information to update Council on activities of the Sheriff's office. He read a notification of grants that is required in the grant procurement process.

Administrator

Pickens thanked Sheriff Carroll for his pursuit of SRO grants. Pickens stated that the Assessor's office has looked at a website vendor that services Bamberg, Hampton, and other counties. This company will be used to place our GIS information on our website. Firemen are now having physicals done. Pickens said he has had several calls concerning re-assessment notices that were recently mailed.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Councilman Jowers nominated Vince Pagett to replace Brad Oliver on the AXIS I Board for District 45, Seat 1. Councilman Kenner re-nominanted Retha Corley to the AXIS I Board for District 19, Seat 12. Councilman Sloan moved for approval of the previous nomination of Tommy Boylston to the Career Center Board as a District 29 representative. Councilman Kenner seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Councilman Kenner moved that Kiffany Perlote be appointed to the Hospital Board to replace Michael Thomas for District 2. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

EDC Committee

Councilman Smith stated there is still some interest in the former Sara Lee building.

Finance Committee

The Committee will meet again on July 9, 2010.

Financial Update

Pickens reviewed the May 2010 Revenue and Expenditure report. It appears property tax revenue for the year will be under budget. We are still waiting for shared fee-in-lieu of tax revenue from Aiken and Orangeburg. Pickens will contact the County Administrators again concerning this. C-Fund revenue to offset County expenses was reviewed. Pickens expects the Fringe Benefit expense item will not be overspent as it has been in some previous years. The postage item in the Assessor's office was nearly depleted in June due to the mailing of re-assessment notices.

Government Committee

No report.

Health Care Committee

The Committee will be meeting with the Hospital Board at their next meeting. The upcoming sale of the Nursing Home was briefly discussed. Councilman Black made a motion to confirm that the Nursing Home Board is not required to approve the sale of the Nursing Home. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and the roll call vote resulted in a unanimous vote to approve the motion.

Housing Committee

No report.

Judicial Committee

Committee Chairman Sloan stated that the Committee will meet with the Sheriff to discuss noise complaints related to activities at the Cotton Club between Barnwell and Williston.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner said the Committee met on June 17, 2010. The Personnel Manual will be reviewed at upcoming meetings.

Services Committee

Committee Chairman Smith stated that the 3rd reading of the Animal Control Ordinance will be included on the August 10, 2010 agenda.

Safety Committee

No report.

Transportation Committee

The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held in September. A pre-bid conference related to Road Project 2010 will be held later this month.

Old Business

2nd Reading of Quad County Park Ordinance

2nd Reading of Quad County Park Ordinance was approved as presented. There was some discussion concerning the need for a formula that could be used to adjust the project costs with an inflation factor. Attorney Michael Kozlarek will attend the August meeting to answer questions.

New Business

Consideration of FY '10/'11 Fire Commission Budget

The FY '10/'11 Fire Commission budget was approved in the amount of \$380,772 as presented in the packet.

Recommendation Concerning Proposed Computer Policy

Councilman Kenner moved for approval of the Computer Use Policy and Councilman Jowers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Amend the Personnel Manual

Councilman Kenner moved for approval of a resolution to reinstate six (6) holidays as paid holidays for FY '10-'11. The resolution also clarifies holiday pay for part-time employees. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

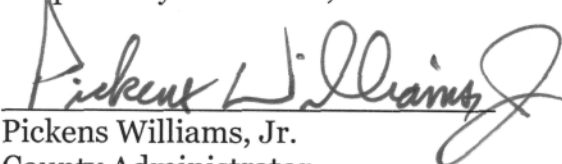
Waiver of 60-Day Hiring Freeze for Payroll Clerk Position


Councilman Kenner moved that the waiver be approved. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the roll call vote resulted in a unanimous vote to approve the motion. Councilman Sloan suggested that the job description be amended to include duties related to assisting the Finance Department.

The date of the August Council meeting was changed from August 3rd to August 10th. Also, the November Council meeting was changed from November 2nd to November 9th due to elections being held on the 2nd.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Pickens Williams, Jr.
County Administrator


Thomas L. Williams
Council Chairman