

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
October 8, 2013
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 October 8, 2013 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, 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 Sheriff Carroll, Clerk of Court McElveen, and Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel.

Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum

Chairman Houston called the meeting to order, Councilman Jowers gave the invocation and a quorum was declared.

Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes

Councilman Smith moved to amend the agenda to have personnel matters included in the executive session. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Jowers moved to approve the amended agenda. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Welcome / Public Comments

Chairman Houston welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. Sherman Brady expressed his concerns about the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and asked Council to table the passing of the Ordinance until the amended flood zone maps from the Department of Natural Resources were received.

Updates

Clerk of Court

Clerk of Court McElveen distributed a report apprising Council of upcoming sessions of Court and said that filings had increased from last year.

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll distributed a report and said that in order to be in compliance with PREA standards, the Detention Center was required to have a separate cell for 17 years old inmates. He thanked Administrator Williams and the Building and Grounds Department for their work in making one of the showers PREA compliant. He said that the correctional officers were pleased to have medical staff on duty at the Detention Center and that it saved money by not having to transport inmates to the hospital. Additionally, inmates were required to pay \$5 for appointments with the medical staff. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of increasing the use of inmates for litter pick up and in other areas of work for the County.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams said Roger Riley and his assistant in the Emergency Management Department had attended state planning exercises, were updating the Plant Vogtle Plan and had also participated in a conference call with DHEC concerning special needs shelters. Under the Fire Commission, three departments had responded to a fire at the Horsehead plant in Snelling. Fire Coordinator Timbo Williams talked to kindergarten, first and second graders in Williston about fire prevention. The Public Works Department had been busy with road projects and had met with an engineering firm about the Rainbow Drive design which would start in 2016. Discussion was held regarding the best way to dispose of the old pallets which had accumulated at the Landfill. Councilman Sloan suggested that Administrator Williams contact DHEC to see if the pallets could be burned at an off site location.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Councilman Buckmon moved to appoint Sybil Horton to the Library Board for district 6. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Smith moved to re-appoint Ernestine Gillam and Terri Smith to the two at large seats on the Library Board and Eleanor Jenkins and E. Mitchell Lebbby to the two at large seats on the Museum Board. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Smith moved to dissolve the Building Name and Land Use Board. The motion was seconded and it passed. Discussion was held concerning dissolving the Building Code of Appeals Board but it was determined that there were time requirements on hearing appeals and that Board Members were required to have training. Discussion was also held regarding new appointments to the Grievance Committee as the

current members on the Committee did not meet the criteria as listed in the personnel manual's amended grievance procedure which was approved by Resolution 2012-3-374-R at the March 12, 2012 Council meeting. The matter was tabled until the November 12th Council Meeting.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Jowers said that NK Newlook had closed. Councilman Creech moved that the County pay for one of the two Airport salaried positions (approximately \$27,000) per year. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Councilman Sloan said a budget had been established and the Airport Commission was told they could meet with the Finance Committee in January to review their budget and needs. Councilman Sloan said the Airport had reimbursed only approximately \$80,000 of the \$500,000 invested by the County and had been given credits allowed in a settlement with the FAA for which the Airport still owed the County approximately \$70,000 as well as reimbursement for Airport salaries that the County has already funded in previous years. He said the County's revenue streams and outflows needed to be analyzed before the County would know if they could allocate the funds requested in Councilman Creech's motion. He moved to amend the original motion by having the matter tabled until January so the Finance Committee could meet with the Airport Commission. Councilman Kenner seconded the amended motion. Councilman Creech said the fuel sales were down and the County would be paying the salary regardless of the outcome of the vote. Councilman Smith said the matter should be tabled and passed to the Finance Committee so Council would know if the funds were available. Councilman Sloan said the County did not know what Airport funds were available as the Airport managed their own funds and that the Airport was asking Council to bypass the budget process by making a supplemental budget appropriation which would have a financial impact on other departments. A roll call vote on the amended motion was requested.

Chairman Buckmon - No
Councilman Creech - No

Chairman Houston - No
Councilman Jowers - No

Councilman Kenner - Yes
Councilman Sloan - Yes

Councilman Smith - Yes

The amended motion did not pass. A roll call vote on was requested on the original motion.

Chairman Buckmon - Yes
Councilman Creech - Yes

Chairman Houston - Yes
Councilman Jowers - Yes

Councilman Kenner - No
Councilman Sloan - No

Councilman Smith - No

The original motion passed.

Finance Committee

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee would meet in October and invited Council to attend.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the financial report for August 2013 and said that much of the revenue showing on the report was from the previous fiscal year. Councilman Kenner asked if the approval of funding for the Airport salaried position was for an indefinite amount of time or for one year. Councilman Creech said it was for 2014 only.

Government Committee

Chairman Houston said that a Government Committee meeting was scheduled for October 23rd at 11 am and that Kelly Deitemeyer would be speaking on what the County would need to do ready its employees and citizens for healthcare reform.

Healthcare Committee

Councilman Jowers said that after contact with attorneys for the County and having received a letter from Mary Valiant, CMS determined that the County did not owe \$1,500,000 in "hi-tech" money.

Housing, Science/Technology/Regulatory Matters, and SCRDA Committees

There were no reports for the above Committees.

Judicial Committee

Councilman Buckmon said the Judicial Committee had met with the City of Barnwell and School District 29. The City of Barnwell had committed to the Drug and Gang Task Force provided that all of the cities participated and that the Sheriff's Office provide reports. Councilman Sloan added that the Town of Williston had committed and that they were waiting on a commitment from the Town of Blackville. Councilman Jowers verified that the report from the Sheriff's Office would not include the identities of the officers on the Force. Councilman Buckmon moved to have the County Attorney prepare an intergovernmental agreement. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Sloan said that the County had or would be receiving approximately \$90,000 in tax penalties from a local industry and moved that the County would set that money aside specifically to pay toward the County's portion of the Drug and Gang Task Force. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Chairman Houston asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was requested and Chairman Houston called for a vote on the motion for all funds from the tax penalty being set aside specifically for the Drug Gang Task Force.

Chairman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Creech -Yes

Chairman Houston - Yes
Councilman Jowers - Yes

Councilman Kenner - Yes
Councilman Sloan - Yes

Councilman Smith - Yes

The motion passed.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner said that the Personnel Committee would be meeting regarding health care reform which could possibly necessitate changes in the Personnel Manual.

Safety Committee

Councilman Creech asked that the plaques to be given in honor of those serving on the Fire Departments and in Law Enforcement who had died during 2013 be listed on the November Council agenda.

SCRDA Committee

Councilman Jowers said there were a lot of industries interested in coming into the area and that Danny Black had shown a property in Blackville to a company from India.

Services Committee

Councilman Smith said that the Recycling Committee had met on September 26th discussing different items that were recyclable and that there would be a display on recycling set up on the circle on October 17th. The next meeting would be on October 24th.

Transportation Committee

Councilman Creech said there were several C Fund projects that were almost complete. In recreation, Councilman Creech said he and Councilman Jowers had met with the YMCA in Aiken and they had a lot of positive programs available. He said there would be a meeting at the SCA on November 11th at 3:30 pm to discuss what programs could be available in Barnwell. Councilman Jowers said there were scholarships for families that could not afford the programs and that they had a childcare center at a low cost for families.

Old Business

3rd Reading of an Ordinance to Provide an Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Barnwell County and Barnwell County Hospital Acquisitions Group, LLC

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 3rd Reading of the above Ordinance. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Creech -Yes

Chairman Houston - Yes
Councilman Jowers - Yes

Councilman Kenner - Yes
Councilman Sloan - Yes

Councilman Smith - Yes

The motion passed.

3rd Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Hospital Board Membership

Councilman Jowers moved to approve the 3rd Reading of the above Ordinance. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Creech -Yes

Chairman Houston - Yes
Councilman Jowers - Yes

Councilman Kenner - Yes
Councilman Sloan - Yes

Councilman Smith - Yes

The motion passed.

2nd Reading of a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

Councilman Jowers moved to table the 2nd Reading of this Ordinance. Councilman Creech seconded the motion. Because there was a suspense date required by FEMA, Councilman Sloan moved to amend the original motion to allow the 2nd Reading of this Ordinance with the understanding that the 3rd Reading of the Ordinance would be deferred until information from the Department of Natural Resources was received and reviewed. Councilman Kenner seconded the amended motion. The amended motion passed.

New Business**1st Reading of an Ordinance Related to Multi-County Park Revenues**

This Ordinance was read in name only. Councilman Sloan said that the Capital Bond proposal was structured so that a millage increase would not be necessary and that this Ordinance requires that 100% of funds coming into the County from other counties would be applied to the Capital Bond debt further ensuring that there would be no reason for a millage increase.

Resolution of Recognition for Cora Lee Bush Quattlebaum

Chairman Houston moved to approve the above Resolution recognizing Ms. Quattlebaum's 100th birthday. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Resolution Opposing the Solid Waste Flow Control Bill

Councilman Smith moved to approve the above Resolution. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Sloan stressed that the passing of the Solid Waste Flow control Bill would have a very negative impact on Barnwell County and the other eight counties in the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority.

Additional Funding for Libraries

Chairman Houston explained that the request for additional funding would be used to extend the Libraries hours of operation to allow citizens to register for Healthcare and would only be used if the money was needed. Councilman Sloan moved that the County provide a grant not to exceed \$2,500 from the grant match fund if the funds were necessary to extend the Libraries hours to allow for citizens to sign up for Healthcare. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Councilman Buckmon-Yes

Chairman Houston - Yes

Councilman Kenner - Yes

Councilman Smith - Yes

Councilman Creech -Yes

Councilman Jowers - Yes

Councilman Sloan - Yes

The motion passed.

Resolution Approving Financing Terms for 2013 S570 Bobcat

Councilman Smith moved to approve the above Resolution. Councilman Creech seconded the motion and it passed.

Appointments to Grievance Committee

Council approved, during the Boards and Commissions portion of the Agenda, to table this item until the November 12th Council meeting.

Appointments to Barnwell Facilities Corporation

Councilman Sloan recommended that this matter be tabled until the November 12th Council meeting.

Intergovernmental Agreement Related to the Appraisal of Property Condemned by DOE

Administrator Williams said the cost of the appraisal would be split between Allendale, Aiken, and Barnwell County in proportion to the properties condemned in each County. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Sloan moved 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 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council



David Kenner
Council Vice-Chairman