

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
MARCH 1, 2011
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 March 1, 2011 in Council Chambers at 6:00 pm. 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, County Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney J.D. Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell.

Call to Order, Invocation, and Quorum

Chairman Black called the meeting to order, the invocation was given and a quorum was declared.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Sloan to amend the agenda to include the Intergovernmental Agreement under New Business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and it passed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Sloan to approve the minutes of the February 1st Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jowers and it passed.

Welcome

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment

Chairman Black asked if there were any public comments. Evelyn Coker, with the Blackville CDC, gave an update of the CDC's plans for Blackville and requested that Council consider adding the CDC as a budget line item. She requested \$30,000 for the FY'11-12 budget year. There were no other public comments.

Updates

Generations Unlimited

Lisa Firmender, the new Executive Director of Generations Unlimited, gave an update of some of the activities in which Generations Unlimited is involved.

- Providing senior citizens a daily meal
- Packaging and delivering frozen meals to rural areas
- Transporting seniors to the Senior Center, medical appointments and leisure activities
- Operating a wellness center
- Working on community awareness and developing a website

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll said the 911 Center was progressing well and that on March 2nd he and Administrator Williams would be meeting with Motorola and Kelly Communications.

Clerk of Court

Rhonda McElveen said that in March there would be a week of Family Court, a week of Common Pleas, and she would be going to Bamberg to hear Barnwell cases. She said an additional \$13,000 to \$15,000 needed to be added to her budget for juror expenses and court costs. Councilman Sloan requested a breakdown of the request.

Administrator

Administrator Williams gave the following update:

- Some smaller departments have moved in preparation for the upcoming repairs to the Administration Building.
- The Fire Commission is considering the purchase a demo truck for Long Branch. A firefighter class and an emergency vehicle driving class are being held.
- In the Solid Waste Department, approximately 200 to 250 tons of scrap metal will be picked up soon which will enable the County to reach its budgeted goal of \$80,000.

Committee Reports

Councilman Jowers re-appointed Rick Grimes to the Airport Commission, Don Alexander to the Hospital Board, Claudia Peeples to the Library Board, Jennings Owens to the Museum Board, and Julie Jowers to the Nursing Home Advisory Board. Councilman Buckmon appointed Henry Smith to the Transportation Committee. Councilman Sloan re-appointed Eileen Theresa Hajdu to the Library Board, and James Lawrimore to the Fire Commission. He appointed Andy Hogg as an alternate to the Fire Commission. Councilman Kenner re-appointed Shellree Gaines to the Airport Commission and Marlana McCario to the Recycling Committee. He appointed LaCinda McCormack to the Transportation Committee and Sandy Smalls to the Equalization Board of Appeals. Chairman Black re-appointed Betty Everett to Generations Unlimited, James Creech to the Grievance Committee, Lori Smith to the Planning Commission, and Travis Hooper to the Recreation Commission. A motion was made by Councilman Houston to re-appoint Elizabeth Ringus to the Thoroughbred Country Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and it passed.

EDC, Government, Housing, Judicial and Services Committees

There were no reports for the above committees.

Finance Committee

Councilman Sloan said that the Finance Committee would be meeting in March and he would like for Council to attend to provide input as the FY 11-'12 budget preparation begins.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams said that the revenue report line item for insurance premium reimbursements was budgeted for \$360,000 but showed only \$47,000 received. This is due to the line item being budgeted to include \$20,000+ each month from the Nursing Home, which was sold in July.

Health Care Committee

Councilman Jowers said that the Health Care Committee had met on February 24th with Michael Morgan and that the Regional Hospital Concept was progressing well.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner said that the February 18th Personnel Committee meeting produced many recommendations and that they would be meeting again on March 18th.

Safety Committee

Councilman Jowers said that he and Councilman Houston met with EMS personnel and had a good meeting. Councilman Houston said that the Long Branch and Williston Fire Stations had exchanged trucks to better suit both of the station's needs and that sites on Highway 300 and Highway 278 were being considered so that the County would receive a better fire code rating.

Transportation Committee

Councilman Houston said that he and Councilman Jowers had met with the Transportation Committee in February. He expressed concern that the Transportation Committee had approved the City of Barnwell's request for the County to put down crush and run in the City's parking lot which would only be used for overflow parking but had not approved the request to put down crush and run on Still Family Farm Road, which is used regularly for people attending Shrub Branch Church. Councilman Houston made a motion that a letter be sent to the Transportation Committee recommending that crush and run on be put on Still Family Farm

Road. The motion was seconded and passed. After the vote, Councilman Houston added that he wanted to be clear that crush and run be put on Still Family Farm Road before being put on the City's parking lot. Council agreed. Councilman Sloan made a motion that an addendum be added to Councilman Houston's original motion that the letter being sent to the Transportation Committee express Council's wishes that they approve the City of Barnwell's request and make it priority number two to the Still Family Farm Road. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Old Business

2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to Curfews for ABC Licensed Businesses

Motion was made to accept the 2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to Curfews for ABC Licensed Businesses. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Use of Contractors Without Workers' Compensation Insurance

Administrator Williams said that the SCAC Worker's Compensation Coverage Office had provided a Statement of Independent Contractor form, which was included in the Council's packet. He said the SCAC Office said that if the form was used it could not be changed and should be used only for contractors performing low risk jobs. The form would not prevent a suit from being filed in the event an accident occurs. The SCAC's recommendation for higher risk jobs was that the County only use contractors carrying workers compensation coverage. The use of the form would prevent the County being charged additional premiums when using contractors not required by law to carry workers compensation coverage. Administrator Williams said the amount of additional money charged varied and was dependent upon many factors. Council discussed determining the highest rate of additional money charged to the County for use of a contractor not carrying workers compensation and giving those contractors the option of buying workers compensation coverage or being charged the additional money. Council requested that Administrator Williams determine the highest rate that would be charged for risky jobs and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

New Business

1st Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Rules of Procedure

This Ordinance was approved in name only.

Executive Session

A motion was made to move into Executive Session. The motion was seconded and it passed. There was no action taken in Executive Session.

Open Session

2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to a FILT Agreement for Project Tissue

The Business and Economic Development representatives are still in discussion concerning deal points. A motion was made and seconded to table the 2nd Reading of an Ordinance Related to a FILT Agreement for Project Tissue. 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

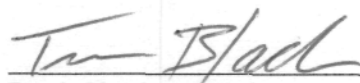
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council/Admin. Asst.



Travis Black
Council Chairman