

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL  
OCTOBER 9, 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 October 9, 2012 at 6 pm in Council Chambers. In attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Council Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, 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 Dave Olson and Rick Kelly with Savannah River Remediation, Clerk of Court Rhonda McElveen, Sheriff Ed Carroll and Jonathan Vickery with the People Sentinel.

**Call to Order / Invocation / Declaration of a Quorum**

Chairman Black called the meeting to order and declared a quorum. Councilman Smith gave the invocation.

**Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the minutes of the September 11<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Council meetings. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

**Welcome / Public Comments**

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no public comments.

**Updates**

Savannah River Remediation

Dave Olson, President and Project Manager, with SRR said that SRR had been cleaning waste tanks that had been at the Savannah River Site since 1951 and the projected completion date was in the 2030's. He said SRR has 2000 employees with 145 of those from Barnwell County.

Clerk of Court

Rhonda McElveen distributed a report. She said that the Court had, year to date, received 200 additional filings compared to the previous year and that the Court was beginning to receive money due to debt set off letters being mailed. Councilman Sloan requested that future reports include the number of cases (monthly) filed for the previous year.

Sheriff

Sheriff Carroll distributed a report and discussed the City of Barnwell's new policy wherein its police officers, except in cases of a combative patient, would only stay to monitor mental patients at the Hospital up until the initial evaluation was performed. He said the doctors were working with Mental Health to evaluate the patients more quickly so that they could be moved to Mental Health or released. Sheriff Carroll said that the Sheriff's Office would be purchasing additional vehicles with part of the Federal narcotics money the Department had received. Sheriff Carroll said that 911 regulations required Dispatch to have an ice machine. The Department received a donation of a large ice machine and a 500 pound tub used for excess ice. Due to its size, the Building and Grounds Department was making necessary changes to non load bearing walls where the machine would be located.

County Administrator

Administrator Williams said that the punch list for the Administration building was almost complete. The Court House, particularly the North side, was being evaluated as to the repairs needed and that he would be receiving a quote on having the Agricultural building re-covered to match the Administration building. The photographer would be at the December Council meeting to take two photographs of Council. Under Solid Waste, tonnage had decreased and commodity prices were down so the Landfill would keep the recyclable material to see if prices would increase. Councilman Sloan recommended, in an effort to deter serious problems, that the County buildings be put on a preventative maintenance schedule and that money be designated yearly for the upkeep of all County buildings, particularly the Court House and Annex. Councilman Houston asked if Voter Registration would have an article in the paper concerning the district changes and if maps would be available at the different polling locations. Jonathan Vickery said that the district changes had been published in the paper twice and Administrator Williams said that Naomi DeFrenn had ordered maps for the polling locations. Councilman Sloan urged Council to consider implementing a Drug and Gang Taskforce as had been discussed in previous years. He said he had spoken with Sheriff Carroll about providing a cost estimate. Councilman Sloan moved that Council would instruct Administrator Williams to begin listing

the Science/Technology/Regulatory Matters Committee, the Economic Development Committee and the SC RDA Committee on the "Committee Reports" portion of the Agenda on a monthly basis. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Boards and Commissions

Councilman Houston moved to approve the nomination of Roxanne Inabinett to serve on the Animal Shelter Board for district 7. Ms. Inabinett resides in district 6 and was nominated by Chairman Black to serve in district 7 at the September 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

#### Finance

Councilman Sloan said the Finance Committee would meet in November. Councilman Sloan moved that Council authorize a change in the Quad County Park revenue agreement to reflect a 70/10/10/10 split (without a 20 million dollar threshold) of tax revenues for future projects with Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton County with the host County receiving 70 percent of the revenues and that the provision for the 10% tax money for Southern Carolina Alliance be deleted. Also, the contract should contain a provision wherein if any municipality or other taxing entity authorized by law, refused to agree to a Multi County Park Agreement, that the County in question would bring it back to the Quad County Park Members to see if that specific FILT agreement could be re-negotiated at a different rate or the County would be authorized to enter into a contract with another County. That the Southern Carolina Alliance develop a program for each County in the region and submit a budget for funding to each of the County Council's for approval. A revised contract will be prepared to send to the other 3 counties for their review and consideration.

Councilman Houston moved to amend Councilman Sloan's motion by proposing that the split be 70/10/10/10 (without a 20 million dollar threshold) of any industry coming into the County and a 55/15/15/15 split for the SCAT Park. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion to amend. A roll call vote was requested on the amended motion.

Chairman Black-No	Councilman Kenner-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-No	Councilman Sloan-No
Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Smith-No
Councilman Jowers-Yes	

The motion to amend the original motion did not pass.

A roll call vote was requested on the original motion.

Chairman Black-Yes	Councilman Kenner-No
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Houston-No	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Jowers-No	

The original motion passed.

#### Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the August 2012 Revenue and Expenditure Statement. Administrator Williams said that County had not yet received the first quarterly payment of the FY '12-'13 local government money from the State Treasurer.

#### Government, Services and Transportation Committees

There were no reports for the above Committees.

#### HealthCare Committee

Councilman Jowers said that on October 1<sup>st</sup> he had met with John Hopfensperger with Resurgence Management and Mary Valliant and that on October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> a tour of the Hospital was scheduled to review Hospital records. The next Hospital Board meeting would be October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Housing Committee

Councilman Kenner moved to approve using the remaining \$5,000 of '12-'13 Grant Match Funds to assist in funding the Blackville CDC's request of \$9,500 to rehab a house owned by the CDC. 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.

Councilman Houston moved to approve using \$4,500 from the pooled interest account to fund the remaining portion of the \$9,500 request from the Blackville CDC. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. *Councilman Sloan emphasized to Council that approving the additional \$4,500 for Blackville CDC grant match request was a "Direct" grant to the agency that was not consistent with actions taken by Council on similar requests in the past and that this action should not be viewed as establishing a new precedent for similar requests in the future.* A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Black-No  
Councilman Buckmon-Yes  
Councilman Houston-Yes  
Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Yes  
Councilman Sloan-Yes  
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

Judicial Committee

Councilman Kenner asked everyone to remember the condition of the jail and said that the Judicial Committee was continuing to look for funding for the replacement of the old jail building.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner said that a Solid Waste employee had earned the Class II Landfill Operator Certification and he moved to approve changing the employee's grade of 11 to a grade of 14. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion. Discussion was held that not only would the grade increase but the pay would increase also since it fills the requirement of having a certified operator on site in the absence of the department head and that the motion should reflect that. Councilman Houston moved to amend the original motion to change the employee's grade of 11 to a grade of 14 with pay. Councilman Sloan seconded the amended 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.

Safety Committee

Councilman Jowers said he received a call of concern from Phil Clarke, Manager of the Williston Rescue Squad, regarding an article in the newspaper referencing the Hospital sale LOI. Councilman Jowers said that the article was inaccurate and that he cleared up the misunderstanding with Mr. Clarke.

**Old Business**Request from Blackville CDC

This agenda item was voted on and approved during the Housing Committee Report.



**New Business**Resolution Approving Financing Terms

Administrator Williams said, because of changes in the banking industry, BBT requires resolutions for the approval of financing terms. The Resolution before Council was for the purchase of five vehicles for the Sheriff's Department which had been included in the FY '12-'13 budget. Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Resolution Approving Financing Terms. 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.

Resolution to Authorize Opening Account at Enterprise Bank

Councilman Sloan moved to approve the Resolution to Authorize Opening an account at Enterprise Bank. 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.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Land Development Regulations

Administrator Williams said that the Planning Commission had been reviewing the current Land Development Regulations for two years and was asking Council to approve the revisions. He added that section 9-1 of the Regulations regarding the approval of street names would be replaced by County Ordinance 91-52, which provides the method of naming streets and roads. The Ordinance was read in name only.

A motion was made and seconded to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. The motion passed.

**Executive Session**

Personnel Matters

**Open Session**

No action was taken during Executive Session.

A motion was made and seconded to deny a request that was received for reinstatement of paid time off. 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 adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell  
Clerk to Council



Travis Black  
Council Chairman