

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 2, 2010**

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 in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 6:00PM in Council Chambers in the Agricultural Building. Those in attendance were Chairman Thomas L. Williams, Vice Chairman Travis Black, Councilman Freddie Houston, 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 Debra Fickling.

**Public Hearing**

To receive comments prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of an ordinance to provide for a Hospital Revenue Bond not to exceed \$1.6 Million.

There were no public comments. Councilman Sloan made a motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Call to order, Invocation, and Quorum**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams, the invocation was given by Councilman Jowers, and a quorum was declared.

**Approval of Agenda**

Administrator Williams stated that Auditor Jim Fickling had requested a waiver of the 60-day hiring freeze and made a request to add this item to the agenda. Councilman Jowers made a motion to refer this request to the Personnel Committee. Councilman Keith Sloan made a motion to add Pre-Contractual Matters under Executive Session. Council Houston seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The agenda was approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes (January 5, 2010)**

Councilman Sloan made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2010 meeting as presented. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Welcome**

Chairman Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged citizens to continue to attend.

**Public Hearing**

Reverend Wade Scott talked about his trailer being stolen and made a request to Council for their help. He had received a letter regarding the clean-up of his property. Mr. Scott needed to address this issue with the City of Barnwell.

County Administrator

The update was included in Council's packet. Administrator Williams reported on additional work performed by the Engineering Department due to heavy rain, and discussed solid waste tonnage and recycling revenues.

**Committee Reports**

Boards and Commission

Chairman Williams nominated Dwayne Eubanks from District 6 to the EDC Board. Due to Mr. Eubanks living in District 5, this nomination will be voted on at the March meeting.

Councilman Keith Sloan appointed Ray Drinnon to serve on the Nursing Home Board. Mr. Drinnon resides in District 3.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Joe Smith stated that there was no addition to the EDC Executive Director's report.

Finance Committee

Councilman Houston reported that the Finance Committee met on January 28, 2010. On-line payments in the Treasurer's office are going well and a request has been made for an estimated overtime cost for the Clerk of Court's office due to court cases being increased and training for the new system.

There was a request that all Council members be notified by e-mail of all committee meetings, and that the EDC and Southern Carolina be sent a copy of Council's monthly calendar.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams gave an update regarding the financial report. He commented that budgeted revenues are on target and noted that fuel expenses are less than projected.

Government Committee

Chairman Williams reported that the Government Committee was scheduled to meet on Friday in Council Chambers.

Health Care Committee

Councilman Black reported that he and Councilman Lowell Jowers met with the Nursing Home Board and felt that progress was being made. Tom Cuny resigned as Chairman of the Nursing Home due to health reasons.

Housing Committee

Councilman Kenner stated that the Housing Committee met prior to the Council meeting to discuss the regional concept of the Home Consortium Resolution and stated

**Open Session**

Councilman Houston made a motion that Curtis Drive Phase II be redesigned with the required 25' of right-of-way taken from property owners equally on both sides of the road with regards to the property that borders the Kean property only. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.


Councilman Sloan made a motion to give the County Administrator the authority to enter into a contingency fee contract to explore recovery under a construction bond. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Sloan made a motion to hold two (2) Council meetings in the Town of Williston and two (2) meetings in the Town of Blackville during the current calendar year. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The March Council meeting will be held in Blackville.

Councilman Houston made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Sloan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas L. Williams, Chairman  
Barnwell County Council

TLW:df