

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
January 12, 2016
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 January 12, 2016 at 6 pm. Attending were Chairman David Kenner, Vice Chairman Keith Sloan, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Freddie Houston Sr., Councilman Lowell Jowers Sr., Councilman Joe Smith, Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney JD Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were Attorney Michael Kozlarek, Sam Moses and Mark Simmons with Parker Poe, Leslie Williams representing Project Beacon and Laura McKenzie with the People Sentinel.

Public Hearing, Call to Order, Invocation, Declaration of a Quorum, Approval of Agenda & Minutes, Motion to Amend Ordinances, Welcome, Public Comments.

A public hearing was held prior to the third reading of an ordinance amending the mobile and manufactured housing ordinance. There were no public comments. The meeting was called to order, the invocation given, a quorum was declared and the agenda was approved. Councilman Smith moved to amend the scrivener's error in Ordinances 12-316-O and 12-317-O. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 8th Council meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed. Chairman Kenner welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. There were none.

Updates

Administrator

Administrator Williams said the ISO inspection for the County had been completed and it had gone well. Fire Coordinator, Timbo Williams was looking at possible grants through the Promise Zone for the fire departments. Due to the excessive amount of rain, the Public Works Department opened several cross line pipes and repaired washouts. In Voter Registration, Naomi DeFrenn and three Election Commission members had attended training for the Presidential Preference Primary on December 3rd.

Committee Reports

Science Tech. & Reg. Matters, SCRDA, Healthcare, Judicial, Finance, Personnel, Housing, Transportation, and Safety

There were no reports for the above Committees.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the financial report.

Boards & Commissions

Animal Shelter - Appointment of Mollie Harrison for District 7 (Residing in District 5).

Councilman Smith moved to recommend Lynn McEwen for re-appointment to the Thoroughbred Country Tourism Advisory Committee. Vice-Chairman Sloan seconded the motion and it passed.

Government

Attorney Michael Kozlarek reviewed the legal procedures necessary for the County to have a Capital Project Sales Tax on the 2016 ballot.

Services

Councilman Buckmon said the recycling containers would be at the schools before the end of the week.

Economic Development

Councilman Smith said the EDC Committee had accepted the '14-'15 EDC audit and it had been given to Council for review. The audit was paid for with EDC funds. Advertising was in progress to find a permanent EDC Director. Barrels of hazardous waste was being removed from the Sara Lee Building and the Committee was considering billing the last occupant.

Transportation

Councilman Smith said the Williston Road Project should be completed in the next few weeks.

Old Business

3rd Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Mobile and Manufactured Housing Ordinance

Councilman Houston moved to approve the 3rd reading of this ordinance. Councilman Jowers seconded the motion and it passed.

New BusinessInducement Resolutions for Project Beacon XIX (19), XX (20), XXI (21), XXII (22), XVII (27), & d XVIII (28)

Councilman Smith reviewed the site location for each of the solar farms. He said the EDC had met with different groups and confirmed that the farms would not produce any e-waste. Councilman Smith said the Company was requesting a FILOT keeping the tax at 6%. The taxes currently being collected on all of the properties was \$3,465. Under the new FILOT, the taxes would be \$1,000,337. Council discussed with Attorney Moses, the 20% special source revenue credit, the need for a provision of a bond or escrow to protect the County from potential clean up costs should the farms become decommissioned and the need for the municipalities to approve the projects as well. Councilman Smith moved to approve all of the above listed inducement resolutions as one action item. Councilman Creech seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed

1st Reading of Ordinances related to Project Beacon XIX (19), XX (20), XXI (21), XXII (22), XVII (27), & XVIII (28)

Attorney Moses said the FILOT in each of the ordinance was a 6% property tax for 30 years and a 20% special source revenue credit for 20 years. These ordinances were read in name only.

Inducement Resolution for Kronotex

Councilman Smith said Kronotex was expanding spending approximately 200 million and creating 130 jobs. Council discussed the extension of the FILOT and the special source revenue credit on the current agreement with Kronotex and on the expansion. Councilman Smith moved to approve this resolution. Vice-Chairman Sloan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Kenner-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes	

The motion passed

1st Reading of an Ordinance related to Kronotex

This ordinance was read in name only.

1st Reading of an Ordinance related to the Distribution of FILT Revenues

This ordinance could not be read in name only as Council had not yet received it. No action was taken.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


 Kim Futrell, Clerk of Council


 David Kenner, Council Chairman